

## Dana Brooks

### **Attorney**

Before Dana Brooks became an attorney, she was a paralegal, law firm administrator, mental health counselor and Florida Supreme Court certified family law mediator. Dana attended Pensacola Junior College and Tallahassee Community College before graduating Florida State University, cum laude, with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She later earned her Masters of Social Work from Florida State in 2003. Dana earned her law degree from Florida State, magna cum laude, in December 2007 and is a member of the Order of the Coif, signifying the top 10% of law school graduates.

Her experience and reputation as a medical malpractice defense paralegal combined with her law school performance provided the basis for the exceptional opportunity Dana was offered while still in law school. Dana was sworn in as an attorney in the morning and made a named partner of a thirty-year-old revered plaintiff's law firm that same afternoon.

Dana is a member of The Florida Bar, Tallahassee Women Lawyers, and the Tallahassee Bar Association. She is past-president of the Capital City Justice Association. She is a member of the Florida Justice Association and serves on its Medical Malpractice Committee. Dana is a Charter Member of the Democratic Women's Club of Leon County, a former Trustee of the Florida Democratic Party and is active in vetting and supporting candidates for political office.

Her awards and recognition are many. She was honored to be given the Distinguished Young Alumni Award from the FSU College of Social Work in 2013. In 2014, she was awarded the Alumni Service Award from FSU College of Law. 2015 found Dana being recognized by her peers for her excellence. She was named in the Top 100 Trial Lawyers from The National Trial Lawyers, a Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend, and a Million Dollar Advocate from the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. She enjoys a 10.0 rating on Avvo, the highest attainable.

Dana is committed to giving back to the community. She currently serves on the board of 2-1-1 Big Bend and is a former board member of America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend. She is a frequent – and winning – coach of the FSU Law School's Mock Trial Team. Under her leadership, Fasig Brooks supports Jazz for Justice, the Tallahassee Memorial Foundation, The Heart Association, Springtime Tallahassee, the Ronald McDonald House, Tree House, The Wakulla County Senior Citizen's Center, and many other local and national charities. With her support and encouragement, attorneys and staff at Fasig Brooks contribute thousands of volunteer hours to the community every year.

Helping people thrive in spite of their challenges has given Dana a unique perspective when advocating for her injured clients. Her experience in social work strengthened her desire to help at-risk persons and those most in need of an effective legal advocate.

She continues to be inspired and excited to work for justice for her clients. Fasig Brooks has won the Tallahassee People's Choice "Tally Award" for "Best Law Firm" for the last seven years in a row.

### **Presentations and Speaking Engagements**

- Presenter, "Gender Issues in the Workplace," Government Bar Association, January 2019.
- Presenter, "Why You Need to Join Professional Associations," Florida State College of Law, January 2019.
- Commencement Speaker, Florida State University College of Social Work Graduation, December 2018.
- Presenter, "Ladies Learning to Lead L3 Conference," Gainesville, Florida, May 2018.
- Presenter, "Millennials and How They Affect Your Law Practice," LAAT, June 2017.
- Presenter, "Leon County Summit on Women and Girls," Tallahassee Community College, April 2017.
- Presenter, "Women's Suffrage," Tallahassee City Hall, March 2017.
- Presenter, "Trending Issues in Women's Health," Florida State University College of Law, February 2017.
- Presenter and Panelist, "Women's Health Symposium," Florida State University, February 2017.
- Presenter, "Millennials and How They Affect Your Law Practice," Florida Justice Association, Workhorse Seminar 2017, February 2017
- Presenter, "Deposing the Defense Standard of Care Expert—Six Hot Tips and Things You Need To Know", Florida Justice Association, Continuing Education Program, March 2016.
- Co-Chair and Presenter, "Medical Malpractice Case Law Update 2015", Advanced Medical Malpractice Seminar, Annual FJA Masters of Justice Meeting, October 2015.
- Presenter, "Medical Malpractice Statute of Limitations and Statute of Repose," Florida Justice Association, Continuing Medical Malpractice Education Program, April 2015.
- Featured Speaker, FSU College of Social Work Women's Forum "Non-traditional Paths You Can Take With a Social Work Degree," March 2015.
- Presenter, "McCall Going Forward – Recent Florida Supreme Court's decision overturning non-economic caps in medical malpractice wrongful death cases and its application in personal injury malpractice cases," Annual Meeting of the Florida Justice Association, 2014.
- Panel Guest, "Was There, and Is There Now, a Medical Malpractice Crisis in Florida?" Annual Conference of The Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine and Law, Florida State University College of Medicine, 2014.
- Recurring Guest Lecturer, "Tort Practice in the Real World," FSU College of Law, Torts Class 2013, 2014, 2015
- Recurring Speaker, FSU College of Law Panel Discussions
- Featured Speaker, Tallahassee Paralegal to Attorney," 2009.

## **Organizations**

- Board of Trustees for the Florida Democratic Party, 2015
- Charter Member and Second Vice-President, Democratic Women's Club of Leon County
- Committee Chair, Judicial Reception Development Committee, Tallahassee Women Lawyers Association, 2015
- President, Capital City Justice Association
- Board of Directors, Florida Justice Association,
  - Nominating Committee and Medical Malpractice Committee, Florida Justice Association
- Tallahassee Bar Association

## **Media**

- Host, "Law Call", a weekly call in program about legal topics, CBS affiliate.
- Contributing Columnist, Tallahassee Democrat.
- Recurring Guest, Will Dance Show on 93.9 FM, Tallahassee, Florida.

## **Volunteer**

- Board member, 2-1-1 Big Bend (a social services hotline and referral service)
- Former board member, America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend
- Coach, FSU Law School Mock Trial Team, 2010 Award Winner
- Judge, Second Judicial Circuit's Teen Court (a diversion program where teens admit responsibility for their actions and are penalized by their peers in lieu of going through the court system)
- "Souls to the Polls", a program designed to assist potentially marginalized voters in exercising their constitutional right to vote.
- Mentor, FSU College of Law women students through Tallahassee Women Lawyers
- Pledge Drive Host, WFSU for National Public Radio

## **Pro Bono Work**

- "Ask A Lawyer," Free Legal Advice Workshops around the Big Bend Area for underserved communities
- "Law for All," Leon County Courthouse
- Family Law pro bono cases