

ROLAND GARCIA

Roland Garcia is a founding Shareholder of the Houston office of Greenberg Traurig, LLP, an international law firm with over 2,800 attorneys in 48 locations around the world. He received his BBA from Baylor University with Honors in 1981 and his JD from South Texas College of Law in 1986 as Assistant Editor of the Law Review. He attended the United States Marine Corp., OCS/PLC Officer Training Program and served in the reserves. He served as a Briefing Attorney for the Texas Supreme Court. He worked his way through law school at night while working full time as a Programmer Analyst at Shell Oil Company. He is licensed to practice law in the State of Texas, in the Southern, Northern, Eastern, and Western Districts of Texas, in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and in the United States Supreme Court. He handles civil trial and appellate matters, governmental relations and compliance, and commercial and copyright cases. He has tried lawsuits in state and federal trial courts, and has argued appeals in state and federal appellate courts. He was lead counsel in a successful jury verdict in a case featured by *Texas Lawyer Magazine* as a Top 20 Verdict in Texas for 2018, and the No. 2 Contract case verdict for 2018. He has handled many high-profile cases and has been quoted regarding these cases by the *National Law Journal*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Austin-American Statesman*, *Corpus Christi Caller Times*, *Texas Lawyer Magazine*, *Law360* and others. He is recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Texas Super Lawyers Magazine*. He was named "Appellate Lawyer of the Week" by *Texas Lawyer Magazine*, "Top 25 Latino Lawyers" by *Latino Leaders Magazine*, and Top 20 Verdicts by *Texas Lawyer*. He is rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale Hubbell, its highest rating of legal ability and ethical standards.

Garcia is active in the legal profession. He was the first minority elected President of the Houston Bar Association, the fifth largest voluntary bar in the country, with over 11,000 members. He was elected state-wide as President of the Texas Young Lawyers Association, with over 22,000 members. He was President of the Hispanic Bar Association and the Dispute Resolution Center. He was a Director of the State Bar of Texas, and Trustee of the Texas Bar Foundation. He is a Fellow of the ABA, Texas and Houston Bar Foundations. He served on the Texas Supreme Court's Judicial Selection Task Force, Gender Fairness Task Force, and Rules Advisory Committee.

Garcia is a community leader. President Barack Obama appointed him to the prestigious Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy, calling him "experienced and committed." He is Co-Chair of the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Board. He is Chairman of Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia's Federal Review Appointments Committee. He also serves on the boards of the Greater Houston Partnership, Hermann Eye Fund, Harris County Hospital District Foundation, and was Chairman of the Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital Committee. He was unanimously appointed by the Mayor and Houston City Council to the Board of Pilot Commissioners of the Ports of Harris County, and is Chairman of the Transition Committee. He has traveled internationally as a Delegate on International Trade and Economic Development and Investment Missions to China (2010), Panama and Colombia (2014), India (2018) and Peru, Chile, and Argentina (2018). He traveled to Israel as part of the AIEF Latino Leaders Mission in 2011. He hosted countries Thailand (2017), Georgia (2016), and Austria (2014) at the Houston Consular Ball, Mayor's Office of Trade & International Affairs. He was Honorary Chair of the GHP International Soiree in 2010. He served as a board member of the Houston Arts Alliance and Harris County-Houston Sports Authority. He is President of the Houston YET Center, Inc., charged with building and operating two youth education centers in Houston as part of the NFL's legacy gift to the City of Houston for hosting Super Bowl XXXVIII. He is a graduate of Leadership Houston, the American Leadership Forum, and the Center for Houston's Future. He is a Past President of the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), a non-profit social service and educational agency in Texas dedicated to assisting low-income Hispanic youth and families. He has volunteered his services to many nonprofit organizations and numerous mentoring programs for elementary, middle school and high school youth. He was appointed by HISD to its Task Force on Magnet and Vanguard Programs, its CareerFest 2000 to address technological challenges of the new millennium, and the HISD Foundation. He was a member of the Community Commission of the Houston Community College System to help meet the higher educational needs of the community. Garcia is active in local, state and national politics, serving on numerous finance and steering committees of office holders and candidates.

He is a frequent writer and speaker on topics such as expert witnesses, discovery, public law, governance and compliance, volunteerism, education, diversity and inclusion, and minority opportunities. He has received numerous honors including the *Texas Lawyer's* Hall of Fame of highest grossing verdicts in Texas from 2014 to 2018, Leadership Houston's Leadership in Action Award, the Hispanic Bar Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, Cadillac Texas Legends Award, South Texas College of Law Alumni of the Year Award, AAMA Hero Award, Bikur Cholim Hospital Jerusalem International Brotherhood Award, Savvy Award, NAACP ALEX Award, United Way Project Blueprint Leadership Award, Center for Houston's Future Leadership Award, Baylor University Outstanding Young Alumni Award, Five Outstanding Young Houstonians Award, and awards from the State Bar of Texas, HBA, TYLA and Houston ISD.

Garcia and his wife Karen have two children and three grandchildren. He enjoys tennis, snow skiing, hunting, politics and scuba diving. They raise peacocks, chickens, bees, and monarch and swallowtail butterflies.