



Ms. Jerilynn Yenne currently serves as the Elected Criminal District Attorney for Brazoria County, and has held that position since January, 1999. For a couple of years prior to her election, Ms. Yenne was engaged in the private practice of law, concentrating in the primary areas of criminal, family, and juvenile law. She also served as the special prosecution for drug cases in Matagorda County and worked as the City Attorney for the City of Richwood for a few years before becoming the Assistant Criminal District Attorney for the Brazoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. While working as the ADA, she served in numerous capacities.

Ms. Yenne's launch into law school began after she started her career in Brazoria County by working as a Skills Trainer with the Brazoria County Youth Home, helping youngsters enhance their abilities and coping skills. She went on to serve as a dispatcher with the Lake Jackson Police Department, and later with the Texas Department of Public Welfare, now known as Children's Protective Services, as a Child Abuse Caseworker, where her duties included supervising families in need for issues such as abuse and child neglect. She was charged with making decisions regarding removal of children from their family home and monitoring those individuals with open cases where child abuse and neglect had been validated.

She transitioned her experience from CPS to the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles as a Parole Officer supervising convicted felons. Working as a parole officer Ms. Yenne was responsible for closely monitoring convicted felons who had been released from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Institutional Division. She monitored those who reported to the office, handled field monitoring which included home visits and employment visits, and monitored dangerous ex-offenders for a myriad of offenses including, but not limited to, violent offenses and sexual assaults. It was while working at this job that she managed to earn her *juris doctorate* degree from South Texas College of Law.

Her cumulative experience with social and human services helped prepare her for a successful career as a prosecutor in the criminal legal system. Early in her career, Ms. Yenne handled CPS cases including civil litigation before a jury regarding numerous termination of parental rights and numerous juvenile prosecutions. These cases included certification of juveniles to stand trial as adults and determinate sentencing matters concerning juveniles, including, but not limited to, numerous other juvenile matters ranging from adjudication and disposition hearings to detention hearings. She prosecuted misdemeanor offenders in Brazoria County Court at Law Number Three and also prosecuted

numerous felonies ranging from capital murder, murder, and concentrating primarily in aggravated sexual assault of children cases, resulting in extensive trial practice of criminal cases before juries.

She served as an Administrative Assistant to the District Attorney's Office for numerous years, with job duties including overseeing the intake of misdemeanor and felony cases, pre-indictment recommendations, and dispositions of cases. Additionally, Ms. Yenne has held seminars for training of numerous law enforcement agencies throughout Brazoria County. She has delivered learning opportunities by way of presentations to the Citizens Police Academy in Lake Jackson, Texas. She has also presented seminars to law enforcement officers for training purposes in the areas of family violence, juvenile law and criminal law. Ms. Yenne has completely redrafted juvenile forms and proceedings for the Brazoria County Juvenile Court system.

Ms. Yenne is involved in her community and Brazoria County. She has formerly served as a board member of various organizations including the Women's Center of Brazoria County, and as a member of the Domestic Violence Task Force of Brazoria County. She is also noted for being a former Board Member of the Brazoria County SPCA, Brazoria County Youth Home, and the Brazoria County Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Jerri Yenne obtained Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee campus in 1976.