



## Lynn Rossi Scott

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### Practices

School Law

Employment

Construction

### Education

**J.D.** University of Texas  
School of Law, 1985

**M.S.** University of  
Houston, 1980, *cum  
laude*

**B.A.** Texas A&M  
University, 1977, *magna  
cum laude*

**A.A.** Alvin Community  
College, 1975, *summa  
cum laude*

### Bar Admissions

State of Texas, 1985

U.S. Supreme Court

**Lynn Rossi Scott** has practiced in the area of school law for over 35 years, representing boards of numerous independent school districts, charter schools, universities, community colleges, education foundations, and private and independent schools. She advises public and private educational entities in all aspects of school and public law, including employment, student discipline, special education, competitive purchasing, construction, real estate, policy development, elections, and open government. She has substantial experience defending educational entities before the Texas Commissioner of Education and other state and federal agencies as well as before federal and state courts.

Ms. Rossi Scott was instrumental in drafting the model construction contract amendments used by school districts throughout the United States. She is also a frequent speaker at state and national education conferences and regularly provides training for school boards, school administrators, and staff.

Ms. Rossi Scott served as chair of the State Bar of Texas School Law Section, as chair of the Texas Association of School Boards' Council of School Attorneys, and as President of the national Education Law Association in 2017.

Ms. Rossi Scott was selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* by Woodward White from 2009-2023 for Education Law. In 2008, she was honored as

U.S. Court of Appeals,  
Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court,  
Northern District of  
Texas

U.S. District Court,  
Western District of  
Texas

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**Memberships**

State Bar of Texas

School Law Section,  
State Bar of Texas

Tarrant County Bar  
Association

Dallas Bar Association

Texas Association of  
School Boards, Council  
of School Attorneys

National School Boards  
Association, Council of  
School Attorneys

Education Law  
Association

Fellow, Texas Bar  
Foundation

Fellow, Tarrant County  
Bar Foundation

National Association of

one of thirty Extraordinary Women in Texas Law by *Texas Lawyer*. In 2019, she was awarded by the ELA the Marion A. McGhehey Award for outstanding service to the field of education law and to the ELA. She is rated AV Preeminent by *Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review*, signifying the highest level of professional excellence and adherence to the highest ethical standards – a distinction achieved by fewer than 5% of attorneys nationwide, and a distinction she has held for over a decade. Ms. Rossi Scott was recognized by Thomson Reuters in *Texas Monthly* in 2004 and from 2006–2022 as a Super Lawyer in Schools and Education Law – signifying a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement in her practice area.

**Professional Recognition**

President, Education Law Association (2017), 2019 Marion A. McGhehey Award recipient

Chair, Texas Association of School Boards, Council of School Attorneys (2012-2013)

Chair, School Law Section, State Bar of Texas (2003-2004)

Co-Chair, State Bar of Texas Council of Chairs (2004-2005)

Rated AV Preeminent, *Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review*

*The Best Lawyers in America* by Woodward White for Education Law (2009-2023)

Extraordinary Women in Texas Law, *Texas Lawyer* (2008)

Super Lawyer in Schools and Education Law by Thomson Reuters, *Texas Monthly* (2004, 2006-2022)

**Experience**

*Jane Doe Lago Vista et.al. v. Lago Vista ISD, et. al., Civil No. 1:21-CV-862-LY in the U.S. District Court for the*

College and University  
Attorneys

*Western District of Texas, Austin Division.*

Successfully obtained an agreed dismissal of claims against client school districts related to use of masks during the COVID pandemic. September 12, 2022.

*Turner v. Mansfield ISD; Dkt No. 005-R10-10-2021, Before the Texas Commissioner of Education, July 29, 2022.*

Successfully defended the District against a teacher's claim for assault leave after recovery from an assault.

*Parent A/N/F Student v. HEB ISD; Dkt No. 005-R10-10-2019 Before the Texas Commissioner of Education, March 10, 2020.*

Successfully defended the District and obtained a dismissal on jurisdictional grounds related to a student discipline matter.

*Bushman v. HEB ISD; Dkt No. 010-R10-10-2019, May 1, 2020, and Bushman v. HEB ISD; Dkt No. 041-R10-08-2019, January 27, 2020, Before the Texas Commissioner of Education.*

Successfully defended the District in two appeals stemming from a teacher nonrenewal and the teacher's grievance regarding administrator conduct.

*Young v. Midlothian ISD, No. 3-11-CV-0123-BD (N.D. Tex. 2012)*

Successfully defended school district in litigation alleging discriminatory termination of employment based on race, national origin, sex, and sexual orientation. Obtained summary judgment on all claims.

*Moore v. Duncanville ISD, 358 Fed. Appx. 515 (5th Cir. 2009)*

Successfully defended school district in an employment matter alleging discriminatory discharge from employment.

*Nassar v. Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD, Tex. Commissioner of Education, No. 069-R2-404 (2008)*

Obtained dismissal on jurisdictional grounds related to

teacher's mid-contract termination.

*Rodgers v. Dallas ISD*, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40682 (N.D. Tex. 2007)

Successfully obtained dismissal of parent's claims against school district related to his son's request for enrollment in a specific school and treatment of his son at school.

*Gier v. Lake Worth ISD*, Commissioner of Education, No. 084-R10-7031 (2006)

Obtained judgment affirming District's right to terminate probationary contract of employee's employment for poor job performance after the conclusion of assault leave.

*Hernandez v. Duncanville ISD*, No. 3:04-CV-2028-BH (N.D. Tex. 2005)

Successfully obtained summary judgment dismissing claims against a school district, in which a former employee alleged that his contract termination was in retaliation for speaking on matters of public concern.

*Rodgers v. Duncanville ISD*, 2005 WL 955026 (N.D. Tex. 2005)

Successfully defended school district in parent's lawsuit resulting from the district's decision to remove a disruptive parent from campus. Obtained dismissal of all federal discrimination and retaliation claims.

*Andrew S. v. Dallas ISD*, 2004 WL 2997477 (N.D. Tex. 2004)

Successfully defended school district in a lawsuit resulting from discipline due to a male student's inappropriate internet access at school. Obtained a dismissal of all claims.

*Rosencranz v. Altschuler & Texans Can*, 161 S.W. 3d 517 (Tex. App.—Eastland 2004)

Successfully defended charter school in multi-party litigation that resulted in affirmation of a grant of immunity for a charter school and its employees.

*Garrett v. Dallas Independent School District*; 3:02-CV-

1015-L (N.D. Tex. 2002)

Obtained denial of Temporary Restraining Order against school district related to student's request to participate in graduation without completing graduation requirements.

*Carter-Thomas v. Dallas ISD*, No. 3:02-CV-1853-P (N.D. Tex. 2003)

Obtained dismissal of special education complaint against a school district.

*Sportec International, Inc. v. Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD*, No. 02-89-00188-CV (1991)

Obtained judgment in favor of school district related to the district's selection of artificial turf at football stadium.

### **Publications**

Sun, Jeffrey C. and Rossi Scott, L. "Understanding Campus Obligations for Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment," *Legal Links*, Education Law Association, NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (2014)

"Evaluations," Chapter in *The Principal's Handbook of Current Issues in School Law* (2013 and 2017)

"Students and Social Networking," *Texas Bar Journal* (2011)

Rossi Scott, L. and Bubert, J. "Legal Issues Related to School Nursing Practice: The Foundation," Chapter in *School Nursing: A Comprehensive Text* (2010)

"Legal Developments in School Law," *Texas Bar Journal* (2003)

"Of Sausages and Laws: What You May Not Remember or May Have Never Known from the 1999 Legislative Session," *State Bar of Texas School Law Section Report* (2000)

“Education Law,” *SMU Law Review* (2000)

“Statutory Parental Rights Afforded Parents In Dealing With School Districts,” *Dallas Bar Association Headnotes* (October 1998)

“The Legal Implications When Students Request Transfers,” *Texas Bar Association School Law Section Newsletter* (July 1996)

“Taking the Teeth Out of the Nepotism Statute -- It's Losing Its Bite,” *Texas School Administrators' Legal Digest* (May 1989)

“Copyright,” Chapter in *The Principal's Handbook: Current Issues in School Law* (1993)

“Income Tax Deductions for School Board Trustees,” *Texas Association of School Boards* (1987)

“When is an Employee's Speech Constitutionally Protected?” *Texas School Administrators' Legal Digest* (March 1987)

“Income Tax Deductions - Employee Business Expenses,” *Texas State Property Tax Board Statement* (April 1985)

### **Presentations**

*Legal Ethics for School Attorneys: Board Member Misconduct*, NSBA COSA Webinar

*Americans With Disabilities Act Amendments*, Region XI and UNT Higher Education Law Conference

*Avoiding Discriminatory Discipline*, UT School Law Conference, NSBA Annual Conference, and ELA Fort Worth Conference

*Avoiding Unlawful Race Discrimination, Public School In-Service Training*

*Critical Steps to a Successful School Construction Project, Texas Association of School Business Officials Annual Conference, NSBA/COSA Annual Conference*

*Documentation of Employee Discipline, School District In-Service Training, Region 11 Superintendent's Academy, ELA*

*Employee and Student Misconduct Issues Related to Technology, Texas Association of Secondary School Principals, Texas Association of Elementary School Principals, UT School Law Conference, TASB Council of School Attorneys, Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators, Texas Higher Education Law Conference, Education Law Association, Independent Schools Association of the Southwest, Public School and Charter School In-Service Training*

*Enrollment Contracts in Private, Religious and Independent Schools, ELA Fort Worth Conference*

*Evaluations and Transfers of Administrators, UT School Law Conference*

*Ethical Issues related to Board Member Misconduct, Texas Association of School Boards Council of School Attorneys, National School Board Association Council of School Attorneys, and Education Law Association*

*Fair and Effective Documentation, Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators, School District In-Service Trainings*

*How Social Media is Impacting the Law Related to College Students, Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators*

*Implementing a Meaningful Grievance Process, Texas*



Association of School Personnel Administrators, Region XI  
Educational Service Center

*Keeping Schools Safe When Parents Are the Problem*, Texas  
Association of School Boards, Texas Association of School  
Administrators

*Law School for Educational Administrative Assistants*,  
Region 11

*Legal Ethics for School Attorneys: Board Member Criminal  
Conduct*, National School Board Association, ELA

*Legal Issues Affecting Troubled Students*, Independent  
Schools Association of the Southwest

*Legal Update on Court Cases in Higher Education*, UNT  
Higher Education Law Conference

*Legal Issues for Educational Foundations*, Texas School  
Public Relations Association, Board2Board, National  
Organization for Educational Foundations

*Office for Civil Rights Investigations: From the Inside and  
the Outside*, for TASB Council of School Attorneys, UNT  
Higher Education Law Conference, ELA Fort Worth  
Conference.

*Open Meetings Act*, Training for School Board Members,  
Region 11

*Professionalism*, Texas A&M Black Law Students  
Association, Public School In-Service Training

*Responding To The EEOC's Guidance On Criminal  
Background Checks*, Texas Charter Schools Association,  
National School Board Association, Texas Association of  
School Boards Council of School Attorneys

*Responding to the U.S. Department of Education's Guidance*



*on Sexual Violence*, UNT Higher Education Law Conference

*School Board Governance*, Training for School Board Members

*School Construction Contracts*, Texas Association of Community College Attorneys, Texas Association of School Boards, Texas Association of School Business Officials, National School Board Association

*School Security & Safety Issues After Virginia Tech*, University of North Texas Higher Education Law Conference, Education Law Association

*Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*, Public School In-Service Training for Staff

*Sexual Harassment in the K-12 Environment*, Education Law Association

*Sexual Harassment of Students or Employees*, Education Law Association, UNT Higher Education Law Conference, College and Public School In-Service Training for Staff, LSU Higher Ed Law Conference

*Student Bullying Issues*, Education Law Association, UNT Higher Ed Law Conference, UT School Law Conference, Region XI

*Student Discipline Training*, Public School In-Service Training for Administrators and Staff, Region XI Educational Service Center

*Student Free Speech Rights*, Education Law Association, Texas Association of School Boards Council of School Attorneys

*Student Technology Issues*, Fort Worth Country Day School, Tarleton State University, Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators, University of

Texas at Arlington

*Understanding Sexual Harassment, Strategies To Prevent Sexual Harassment, And Investigation Strategies*, Education Law Association, Texas School Administrators Legal Digest Conference

*Understanding Campus Obligations for Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment*, NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

*Waivers and Indemnifications for Private, Religious, and Independent Schools*, ELA Fort Worth Conference.

**Community**

Director, Uplift Education Advisory Board, Summit Arlington (2008-2015)

Director, Gladney Center for Adoption (1995-2003 and 2004-2012)

Director, Alvin ISD Education Foundation, Advisory Board Member

Director, Arlington Chamber of Commerce (1993-1996)

Chair, Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Education Committee (1993-1996)

Director, Theatre Arlington Board (2019-present); Chair, Governance Committee