

Ann KEELE

Class of 1993

Judge Ann (Hawkins) Keele graduated from Broken Arrow High School in 1993. During her senior year, Ann played first trumpet as a member of the Broken Arrow Pride marching band. They won the 5A division of the Oklahoma Bandmaster's Association marching band competition, took first place at the Fiesta Bowl Parade, and was selected to represent the State of Oklahoma at the Presidential Inauguration parade in Washington, D.C.

Judge Keele graduated magna cum laude from the University of Texas at Brownsville with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, and then earned a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law. She was admitted to the Oklahoma Bar in 2006.

When Judge Keele entered law practice she focused on family law, criminal defense and civil rights litigation in state and federal courts in Oklahoma. She was recognized as the 2017 Oklahoma Bar Association's Family Law Attorney of the Year.

Judge Keele transitioned from private practice to public service by serving as a Special Judge for the Fourteenth Judicial District Court for the state of Oklahoma in Tulsa County from February 2013 through June 2023 and presided over four different family and criminal dockets during her tenure. She was recognized as the Oklahoma Bar Association's Judge of the Year. As a trial lawyer previously for 13 years, she brought a perspective from both sides to better understand difficult situations.

Judicial temperament is another attribute which sets a high bar to obtain, which Judge Keele embodies. Her ability to make each client and attorney feel heard, allows her to efficiently control the courtroom climate.

Judge Keele returned to private practice in July 2023 by joining Hall Estill as a Shareholder in the firms' family law group. Throughout her career, Judge Keele has been dedicated to helping people and improving the legal community. She has served as President of the Tulsa country Bar Association, President of the Tulsa County Bar Foundation, and Member of the Executive Council for the National Conference of Bar Presidents. She is currently serving as President Elect of the University of Tulsa College of Law Alumni Board.

She mentors students, volunteers at World Outreach Church in Tulsa and serves on the Susan G. Komen Foundation Executive Council for Oklahoma.

Last month, Judge Keele received the Neil Bogan Professionalism Award from the Tulsa County Bar Association. The award is presented to a lawyer who exemplifies the high ideals of the profession, someone who served the public and clients ethically, diligently and competently. The characteristics of a true professional are exemplified by scholarship, honor, personal integrity, leadership, independence, pride in our system of justice and generous pro bono public service.

Judge Keele and her family have lived in Broken Arrow for more than 20 years. She is married to her beloved husband, Tom. They have a wonderful son, Ryan, a 5th grader at Broken Arrow Highland Park Elementary. Together, they care for Ann's 92-year-old father who has lived with them for the past 10 years. The whole family adores their labradoodle, Bella.

