

HARRIET MIERS

Recipient, Achievement in the Pursuit of Justice for All Award

Harriet Miers, whose trailblazing career has shaped the legal profession at the highest levels, is a distinguished attorney and public servant with a legacy spanning government, private practice, and legal education.

A graduate of Southern Methodist University, Miers is senior counsel at Troutman Pepper Locke. She is the first woman to lead a major Texas law firm, serving as Managing Partner of Locke Purnell Rain Harrell and later as Co-Managing Partner at Locke, Liddell & Sapp. She was also the first woman to serve as president of both the Dallas Bar Association (1985) and the State Bar of Texas (1992).

In public service, she served as an at-large Dallas City Council member (1989–1991) and chaired the Texas Lottery Commission (1995–2000) under Governor George W. Bush. She later joined the White House as Staff Secretary, then Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, and ultimately served as White House Counsel (2005–2007). Her national contributions to justice and security have been recognized with the Department of Justice's Edmund J. Randolph Award and the CIA's Agency Seal Medal.

Miers has long supported access to justice causes, including serving as chair of the Texas Access to Justice Commission and the Legal Services Corporation Leaders Council. In 2005, Harriet received the Sandra Day O'Connor Award from the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism. In 2020 she received the Louise Raggio Women's Advocate Award from Legal Aid of Northwest Texas. During her distinguished career, Miers has received numerous other professional and public service awards, including the Robert G. Storey Award for Distinguished Achievement from the SMU Dedman School of Law. Miers was also inducted into the prestigious Texas Legal Legends, the highest award bestowed by the State Bar of Texas.

For more than 30 years, Miers has been a driving force behind The Center for American and International Law (CAIL), helping advance its mission to promote justice and the rule of law. As Chair of CAIL's Board of Trustees (2014–2021), she led the organization through a period of growth and impact, strengthening its educational programs and expanding its influence.

In recognition of her extraordinary impact on the legal profession, Miers is the recipient of CAlL's most significant honor, the Achievement in the Pursuit of Justice for All Award. This prestigious award recognizes leaders who exemplify vision, courage, and impact and whose work has effectively promoted justice. Past honorees include James E. Coleman, Jr., Harry M. Reasoner, Charles W. Matthews, David J. Beck, Barry F. McNeil, and Stephen D. Susman. Miers is the first woman to receive this honor, further cementing her influence in law and leadership.

CAIL is honored to celebrate Harriet Miers at the Legacy and Leadership Awards Luncheon on May 7, 2025, at the Arts District Mansion in Dallas, TX.