

## **DEBORAH L. CORDOVA**

Deborah Cordova is a founding member of the firm Walsh McGurk Cordova Nixon, PLLC. Deborah's areas of practice include representation of banking institutions, small businesses and individuals in real estate transactions, business entities, estate planning and probate. She graduated from St. Mary's University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting in 1998 and received her law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law in 2002. Deborah also graduated from the University of Texas Pan American with a Master of Business Administration in 2003.

Deborah served on the Board of Directors for the State Bar of Texas (SBOT) from 2019-2022, is a Past Chair of the Women and the Law Council of the SBOT, a Past President of Texas Women Lawyers, a Past President of the Hidalgo County Bar Association (HCBA) and Foundation (HCBF), a Past President of the Hidalgo County Young Lawyers Association, a Past Chair of the Women's Law Section of the HCBA and a Past Chair of the Rio Grande Valley Estate Planning Council. She was named a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation in 2019, Nominating Chair for District 12 for 2022-2024 and was recently elected a Trustee of the Texas Bar Foundation. Deborah was appointed to serve as Chair of the SBOT Outreach and Engagement Committee for 2023-2024 and reappointed for 2024-2025, Vice Chair of the SBOT Council of Chairs for 2022-2023, Committee Member of the SBOT Diversity in the Profession Committee and Member of the Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging Task Force for the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations. She served as a long-standing Committee Member of the SBOT Law Focused Education Committee, has been a speaker for the Texas Minority Attorney Program and a Committee Member for the Texas Minority Counsel Program (2023 and 2024). Deborah is also a member of the College of the SBOT. She was recognized as the HCBA and HCBF Member of the Year in 2006-2007 and was selected as the 2024 recipient of the HCBA Ethics Award. Deborah was recognized by her peers as a Texas Rising Star from 2007-2015. She was also recognized as a Lawyer of Distinction in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Deborah was selected as a 2023 and a 2024 Super Lawyer in Texas. She is active with the St. Mary's Law Alumni Association as a Board of Director, a past RGV Chapter President, Mentor Circle Program and Mock Interviews Program.

Deborah's public service involvement includes Leadership McAllen Class XXVI, volunteering in drives and fundraising events benefitting local organizations and serving on the boards of Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas and Teach for America RGV Advisory Board. She is also an Advisory Board Member at Mission Regional Medical Center, Lone Star National Bank and Mission Economic Development Corporation. Deborah has served on the Boys and Girls Club of Mission Board of Directors, Junior Service League of Mission, Region 11 Texas Citizens Review Team and the Region 11 Texas Child Death Review Committee. She enjoys speaking at local schools for programs such as Career Day, Anti-Bullying Month and Women's History Month. Deborah has also been a speaker at the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT) Annual Meeting, Organization of Women Executives (OWE) Luncheon, Latina Leadership Conferences, Hispanic Leadership Summits and the Lawtina Network Summit. Deborah was instrumental in instituting the Rio Grande Valley Partnership Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class during her term as the First Woman Chair of the Rio Grande Valley Partnership Chamber of Commerce in 2014. She was awarded Woman of the Year in 2016 for her outstanding community service on behalf of the citizens of Mission and was a recipient of the Rio Grande Valley Walk of Fame by the City of Hidalgo in 2017. Deborah was recognized as a 2020 Woman of Distinction in the Professional Category by the Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, as La Jefa for the RGVision Series in July 2022 and a Woman Making History by HWNT-RGV in March 2023. She received the James W. Wray, Jr. Founder's Award from the Hispanic Issues Section of the State Bar of Texas at the June 2023 Annual Meeting for her exceptional contributions to the Hispanic Community. Deborah also received the distinct honor of being recognized as a Woman of Distinction by the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC) for her diverse talents, accomplishments, contributions and paving the way for a more inclusive and equitable business landscape. She was honored as Business Leader of the Year by the Greater Mission Chamber of Commerce in 2023. Deborah was recognized by Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz for serving as Mission EDC Secretary and Trailblazing Contributions for City of Mission during Women's History Month – March 2024. Deborah was recently recognized at the Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting with the Judy Ney Serviam Award for her contributions and service to advancing women in the legal profession.