

The Law Offices Of

DARREN O'QUINN
PLLC

OUR COMMITMENT AND PHILOSOPHY

A lawyer is a client's representative, an officer of the courts, and a public citizen having a special responsibility for the quality of justice. A lawyer's conduct should conform to the requirements of the law, both in professional service to clients and in the lawyer's business and personal affairs. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN'S commitment is and always will be to uphold the strictest ethical standards as prescribed in The Rules of Professional Conduct while zealously representing our client's interests.

The philosophy of THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN is based upon protecting and preserving the rights and dignity of all individuals. We are committed to representing those who have suffered an injustice. When lives have been lost, injuries sustained, or unfair advantage taken, every person has the right to redress the wrongs. The law should protect all people equally from physical, emotional, financial, and legal wrongs regardless of their social or economic status. We believe that the law is at its finest when it protects the weak, helpless, and enfeebled from the strong. Lawyers often work with people whose lives have been devastated and act against those who have caused harm. We believe that in order to protect the public from the recurrence of unsafe practices and products, the judicial system must be used when legislative standards and industry practices fail to protect the public. Experience has proven that a single lawsuit can eliminate the dangers caused by unsafe practices and products.

At THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN, we apply our legal knowledge and skills to aggressively and zealously help our clients in achieving these goals and obtaining fair compensation for their injuries and damages.

We help clients through the process of recovering from their losses. Caring for our clients and their cases is, and always will be, the philosophy of this firm.



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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FIRM

Law firms exist in the present, but the history of a firm's attorneys is an independent, intangible asset justifying some consideration. The history of any law firm is essentially the chronicle of achievements by those individuals who are its members, and a chronicle of cases, social issues, and causes which its members have advanced during their legal careers.

Darren O'Quinn founded THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN in 2003. Prior to that, Mr. O'Quinn was a partner in and practicing with one of Arkansas's most prestigious and largest law firms. That firm could legitimately trace its origins to the 19th century and evolved into a modern law firm in 1921 when U.S. Senator Joe T. Robinson, leading business attorney Joseph W. House, Jr., and colorful trial lawyer C. Hamilton Moses formed the partnership of Robinson, House, and Moses.

THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN utilizes experienced trial attorneys that collectively have proficiency in the area of litigation generally only found in large, full-service firms. Mr. O'Quinn draws upon a broad base of experience gained from representing and advising clients that have included individuals and corporations of all sizes, including members of the Fortune 500. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN is the result of a commitment to create a full-service litigation law firm dedicated to quality legal representation and committed to its relationship with its clients.

THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN represents clients in a broad array of disputes. Typical matters include all categories of personal injury and wrongful death, nursing home abuse and neglect, medical and pharmacy malpractice, insurance disputes, business tort litigation, criminal charges, and administrative and regulatory proceedings. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN's extensive litigation practice includes both trials and appeals. The firm's attorneys regularly appear in Arkansas state and federal courts.

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

When injuries have been inflicted or lives have been devastated, we are called upon to act against those who have caused the harm. The majority of THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN'S practice involves claims for personal injury — both physical and emotional — and wrongful death. The firm maintains a practice diverse enough, however, to represent any person or organization in need of legal services.

Nursing Home Abuse and Neglect

Our loved ones deserve proper care when they are no longer able to care for themselves. Unfortunately, many nursing homes and elder care facilities do not take proper care of them, resulting in painful and sometimes deadly decubitus ulcers (bedsores), malnutrition and weight loss, dehydration, recurrent infections, falls and fractures, unsanitary conditions, and even death. Many of these injuries occur due to an insufficient and poorly trained staff. These problems occur because corporate ownership on many occasions is more concerned with profits than providing appropriate care. Mr. O'Quinn formerly defended nursing homes and the corporations that owned, operated, and managed them, as well as their insurers. This gave him vast experience and a unique insight into nursing home litigation from both the prosecution and defense perspectives. We now put this experience to work only for the residents of nursing homes who are in need of legal redress. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN understands the special needs of nursing home residents. We vigorously prosecute these claims.

Medical and Pharmacy Malpractice

Mr. O'Quinn is a pharmacist as well as an attorney. He has a wide variety of experience in medical and pharmacy malpractice claims. Mr. O'Quinn formerly defended hospitals, doctors, and nurses and gained valuable insight into the successful prosecution of these cases. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN prides itself on accepting and vigorously prosecuting only those cases that are meritorious. We retain world-class experts in medicine, nursing, and pharmacology to review, evaluate, and testify in the cases we accept.

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Insurance Disputes

Mr. O'Quinn has been involved in numerous cases throughout Arkansas with insurance companies who refuse to pay and compensate their insured for legitimate claims. The insurance companies promised that these claims would be covered under their insurance policies, and their insured diligently paid for coverage through regular premium payments. Yet when it comes time to pay, insurance companies routinely fail to pay what is rightly due. The law provides that insurance companies may be liable for, in addition to what they owe, certain penalties and fees. Also, in some instances insurance companies are guilty of bad faith, which may subject them to punitive damages. At THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN, we sue insurance companies to get them to pay what they owe.

Motor Vehicle Accidents

The firm is experienced in claims against negligent drivers, their insurance companies, and large corporations. We pursue all claims for personal injuries including medical bills, loss of income, and pain and suffering, as well as for damage to your automobile including cost of repairs, loss of value, and loss of use. THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN will vigorously prosecute cases on behalf of clients who have been injured in automobile and tractor-trailer related accidents.

Product Liability

THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN has experience in prosecuting claims for personal injury and death caused by defective products. A defective product is one that is unreasonably dangerous for its intended use. All products are subject to this law. Some examples of the defective product cases we have handed include automobile tire rims, personal watercraft, boats, and medications. We have the necessary experience and resources to evaluate and prosecute your product liability claim.

COURTROOM PRESENCE

From the beginning, we prepare our cases for trial. Because we are prepared and ready to go to court, many of our cases settle before trial.

When trying a case, our attorneys have access to the best trial presentation systems in the country. By mixing traditional hard copy exhibits with top of the line digital video, document projection, and display systems, our attorneys are able to present to the jury both a verbal and visual understanding of the case. This sophisticated production helps make THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN a leader in courtroom presentations.

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REFERRING ATTORNEYS

The firm's reputation has been built on the satisfaction of our clients and the respect of our colleagues and opponents. This respect is reflected by the solid relationships we have built with other attorneys. We have strong associations with firms both inside and outside the State of Arkansas. We value our relationships with referring lawyers and encourage their participation with our firm. This relationship also assists our clients in that it enables us to draw upon the vast experience, strength, and resources of numerous firms throughout Arkansas and the United States.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES

Upon forming THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN, the firm committed to purchase the latest in information and research technology. The firm now has the latest information service technologies and uses a complete range of multimedia services.

From the time a case first enters our firm until a verdict or settlement is reached, our data management system contributes to our successful handling of complex fact and document intensive cases. Whether it is compiling and storing evidence, depositions, or general background information, our database allows us to access client information with ease and efficiency. This access is not limited to the walls of the firm. Extensive use of wireless and remote access technologies allows us to have the same information in the courtroom as we have in the office.

The firm has the capability to digitize, store, and cross-reference large databases of information and documents—all of which can then be loaded onto laptop computers and accessed when away from the office, while involved with depositions, or in court. The firm has the ability to link documents and multimedia materials, thus allowing its attorneys to have immediate access to contradictory or inconsistent statements previously videotaped during the deposition of a hostile witness. Our attorneys use this capability to refute false testimony during their cross-examination in court.

The firm's research databases and software enable it to gain access to any reported court decision from anywhere in the United States, as well as relevant statutes, regulations, rules, law review articles, and scholarly works. This technology also allows the firm's attorneys to access the World Wide Web and important sources of information on the Internet.

All of which is to say that THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN is ready to manage cases, large or small, with resources equal to, or better than, any opponent—no matter how well financed.

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BIOGRAPHIES OF ATTORNEYS

M. DARREN O'QUINN, a native of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, was born on July 18, 1958. He began his legal career in 1985 working as a law clerk at one of Arkansas's most prestigious and largest law firms, then known as House, Holmes & Jewell. After receiving his Juris Doctor, with honors, from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law in 1985, he joined the firm's Litigation Section where his practice emphasized medical malpractice and personal injury litigation. Mr. O'Quinn continued to practice at that firm and its successor, Dover & Dixon, until 2002 after which he became a founding member of THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN.

Mr. O'Quinn holds a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and was awarded a Doctor of Pharmacy in 1985. He is a licensed pharmacist. Mr. O'Quinn also holds a degree from Henderson State University, where he majored in chemistry, biology, and mathematics. He is an assistant professor of Pharmacy Law at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy. He has served as a special judge in the district and circuit courts of Pulaski County.

He served as an assistant editor for the academically prestigious *UALR Law Journal*. In law school, he was awarded the Downie Award for the outstanding legal ethics student. He was a member of the Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity.

He is a Fellow of the American Society of Pharmacy Law, and a member of the Arkansas Pharmacists Association, Arkansas Bar Association, The Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, and The Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He was recognized by Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America. He is active in community affairs, having served on the board of directors of several nonprofit organizations and is a volunteer attorney for Central Arkansas Legal Services and Arkansas Volunteer Lawyers for the Elderly, which provides free legal services for those in need and who cannot afford representation. He is a vigorous proponent and volunteer of the Arkansas Advocates for Nursing Home Residents.

Mr. O'Quinn is admitted to practice before all Arkansas state and federal courts, including the Arkansas Supreme Court, The United States District Courts of Arkansas, and the United States Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

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JAMES R. RHODES, III, Of Counsel to THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN and a native of DeValls Bluff, Arkansas, was born on April 9, 1940. He is widely recognized as one of the finest and most colorful trial attorneys in the State of Arkansas, having participated in numerous high profile cases throughout his long and distinguished career. He is also noted for his in-depth knowledge of the state, the nation, and the changing legal trends that affect Arkansas, having served on the staff of former U.S. Senator John L. McClellan. His expertise in this area and his vast trial experience enhances the firm's policy of staying abreast of changing legal trends and strategies.

In 1984, after 15 years of private practice, Mr. Rhodes became Of Counsel to one of Arkansas's most prestigious and largest law firms, House, Holmes & Jewell, where he was active in litigation, lobbying and legislative affairs, and criminal law. He remained at that firm and its successor, Dover & Dixon, until 2002 after which he became Of Counsel to THE LAW OFFICES OF DARREN O'QUINN.

Mr. Rhodes earned his Bachelor's degree in accounting and his Juris Doctor at the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1965. He served as assistant United States Attorney of the Eastern District of Arkansas from 1968 to 1972 prior to entering private practice. At the University, he was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa academic honor fraternity and the Delta Theta Phi legal fraternity.

In the past, Mr. Rhodes served as chairman of the Arkansas Community Based Rehabilitation Commission. He was a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve. He has served as a special judge in the Arkansas Supreme Court, and still frequently serves as a special judge in the district and circuit courts of Pulaski County.

Mr. Rhodes is a member of both the American and the Arkansas Bar Associations. He is a past president of the Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association. He is qualified to practice before all Arkansas state and federal courts, the United States Supreme Court, the United States Tax Court, the United States Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States District Court.

James R. Rhodes, III is widely recognized as one of the finest and most colorful trial attorneys in the State of Arkansas, having participated in numerous high profile cases throughout his long and distinguished career.

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