



STATE OF TEXAS

Resolution of the Texas Judicial Council

In Honor of Presiding Judge Sharon Keller

WHEREAS, Presiding Judge Sharon Keller began her long and distinguished legal career in private practice in 1978 and later served as an assistant district attorney in the appellate section of the Dallas County District Attorney's Office; and

WHEREAS, Presiding Judge Keller began her long and distinguished career as a judge when she was elected to the Court of Criminal Appeals in 1994; and

WHEREAS, in 2000 Presiding Judge Keller was elected presiding judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, the first woman to have held that position and the longest serving presiding judge of the Court; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure on the Court, Presiding Judge Keller served with 25 Court of Criminal Appeals Judges, authored 1,969 opinions, and 162 new courts were created, including 87 district courts, 65 county courts at law, eight probate courts, one appellate court, and the Texas Business Court; and

WHEREAS, throughout her service on the Court, she has participated in many committees, including the Governor's Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, the Harvard Executive Session on Community Corrections, the Timothy Cole Exoneration Commission, the Judicial Advisory Council to the Community Justice Corrections Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and the Council of State Governments Justice Center, dedicated to the improvement of the criminal justice system especially in the areas of probation, mental health, and reentry from prison to society; and

WHEREAS, Presiding Judge Keller has been the chair of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission since its creation in 2002 and in that role has been a leader in the indigent defense arena; and


WHEREAS, as Vice-Chair of the Texas Judicial Council Presiding Judge Keller has worked tirelessly to improve the State's courts and delivery of justice; and

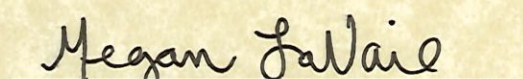
WHEREAS, Presiding Judge Keller will be retiring from the Court on December 31, 2024, and her wisdom, leadership, dedication, and inspiration will be missed; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council wishes to recognize Presiding Judge Keller for her exemplary leadership and guidance as Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, Chair of the Indigent Defense Commission, and Vice-Chair of the Texas Judicial Council;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Texas Judicial Council, extends its sincere gratitude to **Presiding Judge Keller** for her outstanding service and congratulates and wishes her the best of luck in her retirement and future endeavors.

Resolved this 13th day of December 2024.


Nathan L. Hecht
Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court
Chair, Texas Judicial Council


Megan LaVoie
Executive Director
Texas Judicial Council