Mendrygal Law PLLC

Genevra M. Williams
Senior Counsel
3963 Cole Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75204

genevra@mendrygallaw.com
(p) 214-623-5546
(f) 214-623-5549
www.mendrygallaw.com

Best Lawyers
LAWYER OF THE YEAR
GENEVRA M. WILLIAMS
NONPROFIT / CHARITIES LAW
DALLAS/FORT WORTH
2025

Proud Member of
Texas Bar College
A Professional Society of Legal Scholars

Genevra brings an insider's perspective to her client's issues. Prior to entering private practice, she was the sole in-house attorney for a prominent community foundation in Dallas, Texas, where she managed all issues related to legal compliance, board governance, and risk management. Genevra's law practice focuses exclusively on the representation of tax-exempt organizations on a wide range of matters including governance, tax compliance, endowments, executive compensation, complex gifts, fiscal sponsorship structures, intellectual property issues, and employment matters. She counsels a range of tax exempt organizations including operating charities, community foundations, and religious organizations, as well as 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations, 501(c)(6) business leagues, and 507(c)(7) social clubs among many others. Genevra has been selected to the Texas Super Lawyers list (a Thompson Reuters publication) (2022-23) and by Best Lawyers® for Non-profit / Charities Law (2024-25). Genevra was recognized by Best Lawyers® as the 2025 Non-profit / Charities Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Dallas/Fort Worth.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Genevra worked in development in both for-profit and non-profit institutions, specializing in fundraising-related data evaluation and modeling.

Education
J.D., *cum laude*, SMU Dedman School of Law, 2010
B.B.A., *cum laude,* University of Iowa, 2001

Professional Experience
Senior Counsel, Mendrygal Law, PLLC (2016-Present)
Associate, Weycer, Kaplan, Pulaski & Zuber, P.C. (2014-2016)
Associate Legal Counsel, The Dallas Foundation (2011-2014)
Law Clerk to the Honorable Justice Douglas S. Lang, Fifth Court of Appeals of Texas (2010-2011)

Selected Professional and Community Activities
- Inclusion in The Best Lawyers® list for Non-profit/Charities Law (2024-25)
- Inclusion in Texas Super Lawyers (2022-2023) and Rising Stars for Nonprofit Organizations (2020)
- Faculty for the University of Texas at Dallas Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Governance (2022 – present)
- Communities Foundation of Texas Advisory Council (2018-Present)
- Texas Bar CLE Governance of Nonprofit Organizations Conference, Planning Committee (2015, 2023, 2024)
- TEGE Exempt Organizations Council, Member (2020-Present)
- State Bar of Texas, Taxation Section Member (2014-Present)
- ABA Section of Taxation Member (2019-Present); Section of Business Law Member (2021–Present)
- Dallas Council of Charitable Gift Planners (f/k/a Partnership for Philanthropic Planning, North Texas Chapter), Board of Directors (2013-2016)
- The Dallas Foundation, Advisory Council (2014-2016); Women's Philanthropy Institute (2019-2020)
- Dallas Estate Planning Council, Member (2012-2016)
- Highland Strings Booster Club, Inc., President (2023–Present)
- Girl Scouts of North East Texas, Volunteer (2013-Present)
- Maharishi School, Advisory Director (2017-2019); Executive Committee (2018-2020); Development Committee (Chair 2018-2020)
- Armstrong-Bradfield Preschool Association, Member (2013-Present); Home Tour Committee (2013)

Presentations
- Form 990, UT Law CLE 41st Annual Nonprofit Organizations Institute, February 7, 2024 (co-presenter)
- "What Every Director Needs to Know about IRS Form 990," UT Dallas Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Governance, March 2, 2022, October 6, 2022, April 4, 2023, October 4, 2023, April 4, 2024, and forthcoming on October 3, 2024.

- Compliance 101: Texas State Tax & Regulatory Compliance for NFPs, Lane Gorman Trubitt Growth & Gratitude: November NFP Event, November 7, 2023 (co-presenter)
- "Nonprofit Risk Management" Forvis and TXCPA Houston Non-profit Seminar, October 25, 2023 (co-presenter)
- "Endowment Funds from a Legal Perspective: Structure, Rules, and Development Considerations" Chicago Bar Association Exempt Organizations Committee, October 12, 2023
- Endowment Funds from a Legal Perspective" Corpus Christi Estate Planning Council, September 21, 2023
- "Building and Maintaining the Client Relationship" State Bar of Texas 21st Annual Governance of Nonprofit Organizations Course, September 1, 2023
- "501(c) What? The Wide World of Tax-Exempt Organizations Beyond 501(c)(3)" 2023 TXCPA Nonprofit Organizations Conference, May 23, 2023
- "So You Want To Set up a Charity? Legal Structures and Tax Considerations" Corpus Christi Estate Planning Council, May 12, 2023
- "Fiscal Sponsorship: Doing it Right for the Right Reasons," 2022 TXCPA Nonprofit Organizations Conference, May 23, 2022 (co-presenter)
- "Nonprofit Compliance 101," Power Tools for Nonprofits Conference 2021, CenterPoint Energy, United Way of Greater Houston, and UH Downtown, November 2021
- "Fiscal Sponsorships," State Bar of Texas 19th Annual Governance of Nonprofit Organizations Conference, August 2021
- "Nonprofit Compliance 101," Nonprofit Law Institute, United Way Nonprofit Connection and Houston Young Lawyers Association, March 2021 (co-presenter)
- "Texas State Tax and Regulatory Compliance for Nonprofits: Legal Perspective," 2020 Nonprofit Organizations Conference (TXCPA), May 2020 (co-presenter)
- "Creating Efficiencies and Sustainability for Future Growth in the Non-Profit Sector" Capital One, October 2019 (panelist)
- "Compliance 101" It's Lonely at the Top, May 2019 (co-presenter)
- "Asked and Answered: Nonprofits 101" Dallas Bar Nonprofit Group, March 2017 (co-presenter)
- "Gift Acceptance Policy Bootcamp" Dallas Council of Charitable Gift Planners (formerly the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning – North Texas Chapter), December 2015
- "New Overtime Rules for Employees: Complying with the FLSA in 2015 and Beyond," The Church Network Dallas Chapter, November 2015
- "Using Community Foundations" Alliance for Greater Works Ultimate Financial and Legal Conference, October 2015
- "Legal and Fiduciary Responsibilities" Center for Nonprofit Management Board Member Bootcamp, March 2015 (co-presenter)
- "Launching a 501(c)(3) Webinar" Alliance for Greater Works, March 2015 (co-presenter)
- "Donee Beware" Partnership for Philanthropic Planning – North Texas Chapter, February 2015 (co-presenter)
- "Gift Planning on the Run: Establishing the Program" Partnership for Philanthropic Planning – North Texas Chapter, November 2014 (co-presenter)
- "Gifts with Hair" Association of Fundraising Professionals Philanthropy in Action Conference, June 2014 (co-presenter)
- "The Role of a Community Foundation" Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Nonprofit Organizations Conference, May 2014 (co-presenter)
- "Fiscal Sponsorship Overview" Dallas Bar Association Nonprofit Group, November 2013

Select Publications

- "Corporate Philanthropy: The Charity's Point of View" Dallas Bar Association Headnotes, February 2015 (co-author with Jonathan Blum)
- "Survey of Recent Mandamus Decisions of the Texas Supreme Court," 64 SMU L. REV. 393 (2011) (co-author with The Honorable Justice Douglas Lang and Pamela S. Kohler)