

# Firm Opinions™

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THE ASHMORE LAW FIRM, P.C.

*Expertise. Experience. Excellence.*

Probate | Guardianship | Family Law | Estate Planning | Personal Injury | Civil Litigation



Lori & Gary

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Vanessa Sheppard  
named Super Lawyers  
Rising Star



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You Think!**

*We strive to provide the  
best legal experience for  
our clients! Review us on  
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## CASE RESULTS: Maternal & Paternal Families Collide Over Guardianship



**Why it's important to make sure your Last Will and Testament, Trusts, and other estate planning documents are up to date, especially if you have minor children...**

**Consider the following case that we recently had to litigate:**

Divorced parents had an eight year old son. The Mother and Father were the joint managing conservators of the child. The child lived with the Father as a result of the Mother not being suited to take care of him. The child lived with his father and his father's family for 4 years.

The father dies unexpectedly in a car accident. He had no estate planning documents in place regarding who the guardian of the child should be in the event of his death. The mother picks up the child to live with her.

Within a year, the mother falls ill and passes away. She also had no estate planning documents in place regarding who the guardian of the child should be in the event of her death. This resulted in the maternal and paternal families going to Court so a Judge could decide who should be the child's guardian.

We represented the paternal aunt in the case.

During the Court proceeding, the Judge considered the Texas Estates Code's statute that specifies who has priority to be a guardian over a minor child, looked at who is suitable to serve as guardian, and also looked at the Estates Code list that states who is disqualified from being appointed as guardian.

**Our result:** The Judge found our client not only had priority to be the guardian, but also found that she was suitable to be appointed. Thus, our client was appointed as the guardian of her nephew.

Although we were successful for our client, in the end the family relationship was strained.

If you do not have the proper documents in place, the statute provides the priority of who can be a guardian and also lists who would be disqualified from being the guardian. Therefore, it is important that you not only have your Last Will and Testament, Trusts, and Designation of Guardian signed, but it is also important that you review these documents frequently.

# Did you know?

## 6 Facts You May Not Know About The Ashmore Law Firm

1 *Hablamos Español.*

4 *We offer Mediation Services.*

2 *The Ashmore family has dinner together EVERY Sunday evening.*

5 *Joseph Ashmore, Jr. was Judge of Probate Court No. 3 for 12 years.*

3 *Gary Ashmore and Lori Ashmore Peters have published 6 books.*

6 *Our building was originally the Lloyd Paxton Art Gallery and was featured in Architectural Digest.*

## Buying Car Insurance: Question & Answer

**Q**

**Just How Much Uninsured/Underinsured (UM/UIM) Motorist Coverage Should You Buy?**

**A**

**Buy as much UM/UIM coverage as your insurance company will sell you, plain and simple.** It is the most important car insurance protection available in Texas.

Your insurance company must offer UM/UIM coverage to you. However, they may not tell you how important it is. Buy the highest limits you can afford.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at **214.559.7202**. We feel that this information is so important that we will waive our \$350 fee to sit down and walk you through, step-by-step, the process of increasing protection for you and your family.

For answers to more questions just like this, request our free book, *Buying Car Insurance* on our website. We are currently working on our second edition to be published this summer.

**Spring Special:  
Estate Planning  
\$750 Will Package**

**Are you a single adult with no children?**

**If so, take advantage of our Estate Planning offer! Call 214.559.7202 for more details.**

**FOLLOW US!**



# Firm Events



To celebrate Ranger's opening day we enjoyed hot dogs, peanuts, and Cracker Jacks!



Angelica and Vanessa volunteered at The Rainbow Days Easter Eggstravaganza! This event invited children and parents residing in one of 27 local domestic violence, homeless, transitional living, and permanent supportive housing centers to enjoy a day of springtime family fun.



The Reverchon Round Up was a great community event. We were able to plant trees, clear out trash, clean up the playground, and remove fallen branches.



THE ASHMORE LAW FIRM, P.C.

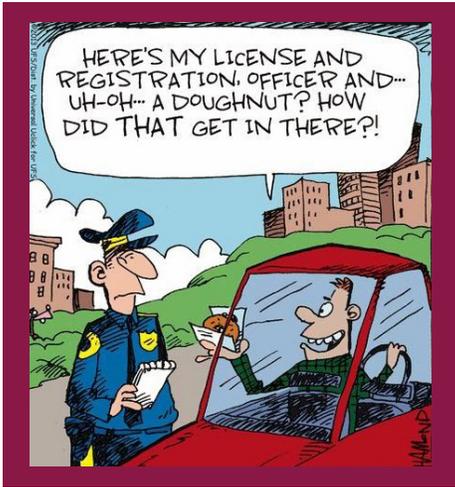
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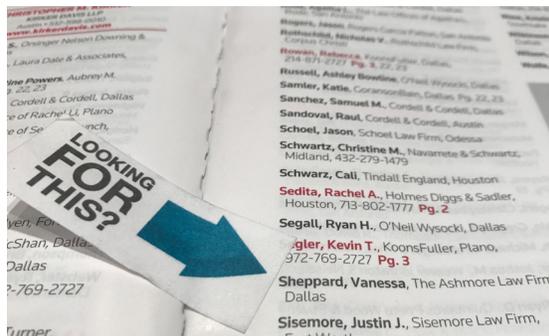


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# Super Lawyers®

## RISING STARS 2018

We are proud to announce that **Vanessa Sheppard** has been selected to the **2018 Texas Rising Stars** list, an honor that is reserved for only **2.5%** of attorneys in Texas.



[Superlawyers.com](http://Superlawyers.com)

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