

WALTER UMPHREY



Walter Umphrey is a Port Arthur native. He graduated from Baylor University School of Law in 1965 and began his storied legal career as a prosecuting attorney in Jefferson County. In 1969 Mr. Umphrey and David Provost joined forces and opened Provost Umphrey Law Firm.

Throughout his legendary career Walter Umphrey has obtained many significant verdicts. Shortly after creating the Provost Umphrey Law Firm, he became involved in his first trial in federal court, where he won a \$4 million verdict. A few years later he took on asbestos cases. The Cimino case verdict brought \$1 billion for 2,000 plaintiffs. In the 1990s, he was one of five lawyers who represented the State of Texas in the landmark case against tobacco companies. The five trial lawyers won a \$17.3 billion verdict for the State of Texas in the case.

Beyond the practice of law, Mr Umphrey and his wife, Sheila, have provided unwavering support to important civic and community causes in Southeast Texas through their generous contributions and charitable donations.

“Walter Umphrey has left an indelible mark on the judicial system on a local, state and national level. He is a brilliant legal scholar who believes in doing the right thing for those who have been harmed by others. Walter does so many things you never hear about. Hundreds of students have benefited from his generosity.”

Lamar University President James Simmons