



## Patricia Lykos

Harris County District Attorney

*"Honor and dealing justly with all is everything — leadership is seeing the right thing to do and doing it."*

Patricia "Pat" Lykos is the first woman to hold the office of Harris County District Attorney since it was created more than 100 years ago. She took the oath of office on January 1, 2009.

Judge Lykos has pledged to transform the Harris County District Attorney's Office into the finest and most respected in the nation. She also has pledged to serve as a champion for crime victims, and to that end, is in the process of significantly expanding staffing, services and assistance for citizens who have been victimized by crime. To reflect an emphasis on serving all victims, the Victim Witness Division has been renamed the Victims' Rights Division.

In 1980, the Harris County Commissioners' Court appointed her to the newly-created bench of County Criminal Court No. 10. Later that year, she won the election and became the first Republican elected to a Harris County criminal court bench.

In 1981, Gov. Bill Clements ap-

pointed Lykos judge of the 180th State Criminal District Court, where she presided over more than 20,000 criminal cases during 14 years on the court. She successfully ran for re-election to this important criminal court for three terms. In two of these elections, she carried Harris County while the Republican candidate for governor lost the county.

For the past decade, Lykos has served with dedication and commitment as a senior district judge and as a special assignments judge. Since 2001, she has been director of special projects for Harris County Judge Robert Eckels, and Director of Judicial and Legal Issues for Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. In these roles, she has worked tirelessly in our community attacking the roots of crime through youth anti-violence programs, as well as mental health and domestic violence projects.

Lykos was the former chief judge of the Harris County criminal district courts, served three terms as president of the Retired, Senior and Former Judges of Texas and taught in programs for the Texas Center for the

Judiciary, the American Bar Association and the State Bar of Texas.

Lykos is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and is a founding member and Fellow of the Houston Bar Foundation. She has been an adjunct professor at South Texas College of Law and taught at the National Judicial College.

Lykos was appointed in 2002 by Governor Rick Perry to serve on the Governor's Council on Sex Offender Treatment, a term ending this year. In addition, Lykos serves as Texas State Coordinator for Texas Do the Write Thing Challenge, a non-profit group committed to reducing anti-social and other risky behaviors among our middle school aged students.

Lykos has appeared on television news programs such as *Nightline*, *48 Hours* and *Crime in America* and is the recipient of many awards, including State District Judge of the Year, awarded by the Harris County Deputy Sheriffs Association.

She has been married to attorney William A. Allen for 32 years.