

Timothy Crooks

Tim Crooks graduated with a B.S. (summa cum laude) from Tulane University, and received his J.D. (magna cum laude) from Tulane Law School. Immediately after graduating from law school, he clerked for Associate Justice Walter F. Marcus, Jr., of the Louisiana Supreme Court. After stints in private practice and as a staff attorney at the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Mr. Crooks joined the office of the Federal Public Defender, Northern District of Texas, where he served as an Assistant Federal Public Defender from 1990 to June of 2001, and the Chief of Appeals from 1993 to 2001. In July of 2001, he joined the office of the Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Texas, where he served as the Chief of the Appellate Section in Houston, Texas, until his retirement in 2017.

In 1999, Mr. Crooks was named an Outstanding Assistant Federal Public Defender. He served as the President of the National Association of Federal Defenders from 2005 until 2007. In 2014, he was awarded the Gregory S. Coleman Outstanding Appellate Lawyer Award by the Texas Bar Foundation. He is a Governor Emeritus of the Board of Governors of the Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit.

Mr. Crooks briefed and argued the federal death penalty case of Louis Jones v United States before the United States Supreme Court in October Term 1998, and he assisted in the United States Supreme Court briefing and oral argument preparation for Almendarez-Torres v United States in October Term 1997. He was also lead counsel in Reymundo Toledo-Flores v. United States, U.S. Sup. Ct. No. 05-7664, argued before the Supreme Court in October Term 2006, and Saul Molina-Martinez v. United States, U.S. Sup. Ct. No. 14-8913, argued before the Supreme Court in October Term 2015.