



W. Royal Furgeson, Jr.
UNT Dallas College of Law Founding Dean

W. Royal Furgeson, Jr., United States District Judge (Retired), Northern District of Texas, and a graduate of Texas Tech University in 1964 and the University of Texas School of Law in 1967 was named the founding Dean of the UNT Dallas College of Law in January 2012. He assumed the position as Dean in mid-year 2013.

After law school, he served the U.S. Army for two years, attaining the rank of Captain. Following a tour in Vietnam, he returned to Lubbock as law clerk to the Honorable Halbert O. Woodward.

Before taking the bench, he practiced law for twenty-four years with Kemp Smith in El Paso, Texas. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the American Law Institute, and a past president of the El Paso Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

During his time on the bench, he was a panel judge on the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, President of the Federal Judges Association, and chair of the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

His honors include the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the Texas Tech Alumni Association, the West Texas Legal Legend Award by the Texas Tech University School of Law, the Leon Green Award by the Texas Law Review, the Faculty Award by the University of Texas School of Law, and the Morris Harrell Professionalism Award by the Dallas Bar Association and the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism.