Brief Bio

Diana Wheeler O’Connell

Diana grew up in an Air Force family and spent her childhood/adolescence moving around the Country (California, New Mexico, Nebraska, Texas, Florida) and spending a lot of her childhood in England and her teenage years in the Netherlands.

Diana graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, a small Baptist school with a degree in History and a minor in Political Science. She later (after having children) went to University of Richmond Law School in Richmond, Virginia and received her J.D. degree.

Diana moved to Orange County immediately after law school to accept the position of Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney from 1993 to 1996. In 1996 she went into the private practice of law and then joined the law firm of Somerville, Wilkinson and Wheeler. In 2003 she was elected as the Commonwealth’s Attorney for Orange County until her partial retirement in December 2024.