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Biography

John Griffin is the managing partner of Marek, Griffin & Knaupp, a Texas law firm with offices in Victoria and Port Lavaca, Texas. He served as National Chair of the Board of the American Diabetes Association in 2011, and is Chair of the Association's Legislative and Regulatory Subcommittee. He served as Chair of the State Bar Labor and Employment Council in 2017. Appointed by the Governor of Texas, he serves as a consumer member of the Texas Diabetes Council. A lawyer with more than 30 years experience litigating important cases, he has been a tireless advocate for people with disabilities. A successful advocate in both trial and appellate courts, Griffin is a member of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, the State Bar of Texas, the National Employment Lawyers Association, the American Association for Justice the American Bar Association, American Board of Trial Advocates, and the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers.

Among the notable results of his trial and appellate work, working alongside with Kathy Butler are the FBI's ending of its blanket ban on Special Agents who successfully manage diabetes with insulin injections in 2010, and its 2014 reinstatement of a young veteran who had lost his left hand when a flash bang exploded prematurely. The FBI banned those with prosthetic hands, but a jury verdict changed that. That veteran now serves our country as a Special Agent. Mr. Griffin and Ms. Butler were also involved in the State Department's decision in 2011 to lift its blanket ban for Foreign Service Officers with insulin treated diabetes. More recently, he has been on the cutting edge of litigating service dog cases on behalf of workers who need them to mitigate disabilities. He tried the first service dog accommodation case in the United States in 2015, resulting in a finding that a service dog was a reasonable accommodation in the oilfield.

Practicing in federal and state courts, Griffin has tried more than 60 cases to a jury and has argued more than 20 cases to federal and state appellate courts. He serves on the State Bar of Texas Pattern Jury Charges: Business, Consumer, Insurance and Employment Committee and also served on the Fifth Circuit Labor & Employment Law Pattern Jury Charge Advisory Committee from 2007-2010. He is board certified in Civil Trial Law and Consumer and Commercial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Born in Port Lavaca, Texas, he is a graduate of Austin College and the University of Missouri Law School. He is married to Lynn Knaupp, a member of the firm, and they have three adult daughters, Cora, Ruth and Sarah.

