



**Law Offices  
of Susan M.  
Edmonson**

**R**ather than working with a large firm where you are simply another client, you can get the same level of service working with a local firm that can focus on your specific needs.

Susan Edmonson created the Edmonson Law Firm in 1987, and the firm has served Galveston County and the Galveston Bay Area continuously since that time with office locations in both Galveston and Seabrook.

Susan is a native Galvestonian and has lived in Galveston Bay Area her entire life. She graduated from the University of St. Thomas in Houston with a bachelor of arts in political science and South Texas College of Law in Houston. She was licensed to the Texas Bar in 1983 and became Board Certified in Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in 2002.

For more than 30 years, Edmonson

Law's primary focus is on issues that impact families, including divorce, child support and custody and adoption. The lawyers at the law office have extensive experience handling Texas divorces, whether they are uncontested or highly contested. Edmonson Law also provides mediation services for family, probate and civil matters.

The lawyers at Susan M. Edmonson understand losing a loved one is a very difficult time, and they are here to help families and individuals prepare by working with them to develop comprehensive estate plans and handle probating their estate. They take the time necessary to understand your long-term goals and help you draft an estate plan that best meets your needs.

If you are buying or selling a home, Edmonson Law is happy to assist you with reviewing purchase and sale agreements, serving as your closing attorney, and ensuring you are receiving a title that is free from defects.

2501 65th St., Suite B, Galveston • 409-744-0816  
www.edmonsonlaw.com

**WE ARE OPEN**



**LAW OFFICES OF  
SUSAN M.  
EDMONSON**

• Family Law • Wills & Probates  
**Saturday morning appointments available  
in Galveston Office**

**2501 65<sup>th</sup> St., Suite B, Galveston, TX  
409-744-0816 • susan@edmonsonlaw.com**

Board Certified Family Law – TBLS



**Moody Mansion**

**G**alveston was at its peak of prominence as the "Wall Street of the Southwest" in 1895, when English-born Architect William H. Tyndall completed his master work: The stately red brick mansion at 27th Street and Broadway that would become the Moody family's home for eight decades.

The grand house has 31 rooms, incorporating all of the latest in 19th century architecture. A complex system of pipes and cisterns captures fresh rainwater. Also, there are combination gas and electric light fixtures called "gasoliers," an elevator, a dumbwaiter and speaking tubes for the house staff.

Newfangled heating and electrical systems are installed, and a wealth of bays, balconies and floor-to-ceiling windows allow you to catch the summer breezes. The mansion featured one of the first uses of cast-iron support beams.

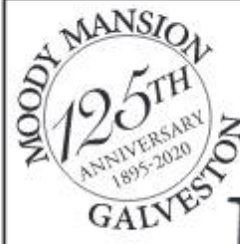
Adding magnificence to the magic, New York interior designers Pottier and Stymus blended French rococo, Roman revivalism and colonial revival influences in a transition from Victorian to modern décor. The world-famous firm's client list included President Grant's White House, Thomas Edison and William Rockefeller.

2020 is the mansion's 125th anniversary, and a new exhibit called "Building a Broadway Beauty" celebrates its architecture, construction and décor.

Moody Mansion is open for self-guided audio tours daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (the last tickets are sold at 4 p.m.). In these days of enhanced safety precautions, the tour is a "no touch" experience — guests can browse rooms at their own pace, listen to audio programs and visit with interpreters without touching anything.

Visit [www.moodymansion.org](http://www.moodymansion.org) for tour and event information.

2618 Broadway Ave. J, Galveston  
409-762-7668 • [www.moodymansion.org](http://www.moodymansion.org)



**SEE 'BUILDING A BROADWAY BEAUTY'**  
WHO BUILT GALVESTON'S MOODY MANSION, AND HOW?

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**Galveston  
Insurance  
Associates**

**I**n 1892, Charles R. Brown opened a small insurance agency in the Gill and League Building in downtown Galveston. Fast-forward 128 years and that small agency has become GIA Insurance with two offices, specialized departments for Personal, Business and Employee Benefits coverage and a staff of 40 professionals with the ability to work from almost anywhere.

GIA has been selected to be part of an elite group of 267 independent insurance agencies around the U.S. participating in the 2019 Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America "Best Practices" Study Group. Twenty-five of these agencies are in Texas and GIA is the only one in Galveston County.

GIA provides coverage for apartment renters, first-time homeowners and those with high-value homes and autos. Other clients include new small busi-

nesses to large established corporations with multiple locations. As an Independent Insurance Agency, GIA has access to many of the best and most highly respected insurance companies, which allows the agency to give clients options for their coverage.

Based on GIA's experiences during storms like Alicia, Allison, Ike and Harvey, the agency's Catastrophe Plan assures that staff is safe and available when they are needed the most — at claim time. GIA's staff, proud of living up to the motto of "service before and after the storm," can work remotely as easily as being in the office.

GIA communicates regularly with clients and the public via Facebook and Twitter, as well as through newsletters and other electronic notifications to clients. Using DocuSign and ePay gives clients convenient options to do business with GIA.

6025 Heards Lane, Galveston  
211 W. Edgewood Drive, Suite 200, Friendswood  
409-740-1251 • 281-442-1892 • [www.gia-tx.com](http://www.gia-tx.com)



**Ott Monument  
Works**

**F**ive generations of the Ott family have owned and operated Ott Monument Works, the oldest memorial establishment in Texas.

The family is proud of the company's accomplishments and pleased to continue serving Galveston County.

Galveston had just become incorporated when A.A. Allen set up a marble shop on Center Street. Years

later an apprentice sculptor named Charles Sebastian Ott joined him. Ott was an expert stonemason who had worked on the ornate post office in Austin. Hearing fabulous tales about Galveston, in 1879 he moved his family to the island.

After Allen's death, Charles bought the business and changed the name to Ott Monument Works. Quickly out-

growing the Center Street quarters, he moved to Sealy and 22nd Street only to be destroyed by fire. Charles suffered loss again three years later in the 1900 Storm. Teetering on bankruptcy and struggling to rebuild, Charles Sebastian died in 1909.

Son John Charles persevered and grandson Charles Ellis continued the tradition, followed by his son,

Bernard, who died Dec. 23, 2017, at the age of 92. Bernard's son Daniel and daughter Linda Ott-Thompson are the current managers, with daughter Denise Ott-Charpiot handling

the mainland office. Many civic memorials in Galveston County are of Ott craftsmanship. Much of the stonework on the Rosenberg Memorial at Broadway and 25th Street are Ott creations, as are Galveston gems like Bishop's Palace and the Moody Mansion.

3928 Broadway, Galveston • 409-763-8518



**The  
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