

Timila S. Rother, J.D.

Crowe & Dunlevy
*President & CEO, Attorney, Director/
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THE JOURNAL RECORD
2016
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— 50 Making a Difference —



Making it to the top of a prestigious law firm isn't easy, especially when raising two children who are active in sports and school, but Timila Rother made it work.

Rother, president and chief executive officer of the Crowe & Dunlevy law firm in Oklahoma City, has been on a mission the past 22 years to prove she could have it all. Part of her problem early on, she admits, is she listened to radio talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger and her message that working moms raised damaged children.

Still, Rother planned her work and she worked her plan to near perfection. Most days she worked frantically until 5 p.m., when she would leave the office, pick up her children and devote time to them until they were asleep.

Then, from about 9 p.m. until the wee hours of the morning, Rother continued the work she needed to complete for pending cases.

"That was the balance I struck to keep my professional and personal life on track," she recalled.

At the same time, she squeezed in a few minutes of exercise. She did sleep, albeit a few hours a day, and on weekends.

Rother's devotion and success at the law firm and raising her children is extraordinary. She remembers planning and/or attending every school party, field trip and awards assembly, and working as home room mom for both of her children, who are now 22 and 18. Both children also played sports, which meant Rother was booster club president, organized team dinners and attended every game.

"I wanted my kids to know that they were my priority and you can only do that if you show up," she said.

Rother said her children are far from damaged. Her daughter graduated Phi Beta Kappa from The Johns Hopkins University in May and her son began his first year at the University of Miami in August.

Back at the office, Rother demonstrates her devotion to Crowe & Dunlevy by the long hours and dedication to clients and colleagues.

"The work of a litigation attorney is hard. Sometimes I worked 40 hours a week, usually I work 50 to 60 hours a week," she said.

Robert Bacharach, a judge on the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, said Rother's character sets her apart from others.

"Timila is, quite simply, one of the finest individuals I have ever met," Bacharach said. "I have seen her in countless situations over these many years and she always has the same calm, composed courteous demeanor. She is unflappable and eternally kind."

Rother became an associate attorney at Crowe & Dunlevy in 1990. Seven years later, she was named a shareholder and director. In April of this year, she was named the firm's president and CEO.