

# VOLUNTER AND STAFF GUIDE

2010-2011

## **JUVENILE LAW**

(www.juvenilelaw.org) Budget Code: 9344 Created: 1986 Dues: \$25.00

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Barrett H. Reasoner, Board Advisor Kyle Lewis, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Ends 2013 Term Ends 2011 Kameron Johnson Hon. Kim Brown Marisela Ledezma David Hazlewood Laura Peterson Riley N. Shaw

Term Ends 2012

Ann L. Campbell Kevin Collins Kaci Sohrt

## **LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW**

(www.laborlaw.org) Budget Code: 9345 Created: 1947 Dues: \$30.00

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David L. Wiley

## LAW STUDENT DIVISION

Budget Code: 4070 Created: 1979 Dues: \$15.00

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## **LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS DIVISION**

Budget Code: 4085 Created: 1987 Dues: \$50.00

Stephen J. Schechter, Board Advisor Jo Ann Merica, Alternate Board Advisor

### **LGBT LAW**

(www.lgbtlawtx.com) Budget Code: 9347 Created: 1979 Regular Dues: \$30.00 Sustaining Dues: \$100.00 Eduardo Juarez, Chair

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Teresa Ann Cain, Secretary Phyllis R. Frye, Treasurer

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Term Ends 2011

Term Ends 2012 Lorie Louise Burch R. Charles Griffin Scott McMichael Andrew Marshall Williams

**LITIGATION** 

(www.litigationsection.com) Budget Code: 9347 Created: 1979 Regular Dues: \$30.00 Sustaining Dues: \$100.00 Walker C. Friedman, Chair Linda S. McDonald, Chair-elect Michael C. Smith, Vice Chair Patricia Long Weaver, Secretary Christy Amuny, Treasurer

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Term Ends 2011

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Nina Perales

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Jennifer Anne Haltom Doan Viola G. Garza Federico G. Hinojosa Hon. Xavier Rodriguez

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School © Taxation © Women and the Law © Workers' Compensation

## 2010-2011 State Bar of Texas

# SECTION REPORTS

**Section reports** are included in the July issue of the *Texas Bar Journal* to keep Texas lawyers updated on State Bar section activities. The reports do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the State Bar of Texas. State Bar policy is formulated by the State Bar Board of Directors or by the membership through referendum. For more information or to join sections, visit **texasbar.com/sections** or call (800) 204-2222, Ext. 1420.

Administrative and Public • Alternative Dispute Resolution • Animal • Appellate

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Immigration and Nationality • Individual Rights and Responsibilities • Insurance • Iudicial

Juvenile • Labor and Employment • LGBT • Litigation • Military • Municipal Judges

Oil, Gas and Energy Resources • Pagalegal DivisionPublic Utility • Real Estate, Pedeate & Treat

School • Taxation • Women and the Law. • Workers' Commercials

## **LGBT**

Eduardo Juarez, Chair

The section's membership voted unanimously to change the section's name to "LGBT Law" at the 2010 Annual Meeting, at which the Judge Norman W. Black Award was presented posthumously to U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer in commemoration of his 1982 ruling in Baker v. Wade advancing LGBT civil rights. The section's name change was followed with robust marketing: the adoption of a logo, which was used to redesign the section's website (lgbtlawtx.com) and design lapel pins, a standing banner, and a tablecloth. The State Bar Board of Directors adopted, as part of the Bar's 2011 legislative package, the section's proposal to repeal Penal Code §21.06 (the offense of homosexual conduct) held unconstitutional by Lawrence v. Texas in 2003. Houston State Reps. Jessica Farrar and Garnet F. Coleman introduced identical bills mirroring the section's proposal, and the bills received a hearing before the House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee. Former Chair Charles Spain and current Chair Eduardo Juarez testified in favor of the bills.

In 2010, the State Bar Insurance Trust began to "make domestic partner benefits available" for Bar members. This was the result of the section's efforts since 2003, when the section urged the trust to expand benefits as such by formal resolution.

The council planned a remarkable CLE for this year's Annual Meeting in San Antonio in June, with the first out lesbian EEOC commissioner and nationally recognized legal scholar, Chai Feldblum, as a keynote speaker.

Finally, the section joined Facebook: facebook.com/LGBTLawTx.

## LITIGATION

Walker C. Friedman, Chair

As part of the Litigation Section's mission to promote professional excellence through serving and educating our members, and through working for equal justice in our adversarial system, the Section's CLE activities continue to improve. The Litigation Update seminar was held in San Antonio in January, where Judge Royal Furgeson received the Luke Soules Award. In what has become an annual affair, the section sponsored and co-sponsored speakers for this year's Annual Meeting in San Antonio: Edmund Morris, H.W. Brands, Douglas Brinkley, and a number of Texas legal legends.

The Advocate, the section's quarterly periodical, continues under Professor Lonny Hoffman's superb leadership. The section also publishes the quarterly online News for the Bar with essays, interviews, news, and tips. This year, the section created a Facebook page (facebook.com/LitigationSection). During the legislative session, the section kept members informed through "LS Snap" emails, which included news about legislation affecting the courts, court administration, and the litigation process.

The section has continued its pro bono efforts, funding six summer legal internships and contributing grants totaling \$26,000 to several worthy organizations.

The section presented ethics programs at three different Texas law schools this year and mentoring programs at eight. Four video interviews of legendary Texas trial lawyers are now on our website (litigationsection.com) as part of the section's program to preserve the wisdom of many great attorneys; more interviews are to come.

Finally, the section updated its finance policy and bylaws this year.

## **MILITARY**

Kay M. Perry, Chair

The section's annual meeting was held in June 2010, at which time the section voted to amend our bylaws, elected officers, and presented the Colonel Ted E. Bailey, Jr. Award for an Outstanding Reserve Component Judge Advocate in Texas and the Colonel Tom Krauska Award for an Outstanding Active Duty Judge Advocate Assigned in Texas.

Members of our section worked closely with the Supreme Court of Texas as they adopted Rule XXII, which allows military attorneys who are not licensed in Texas to represent low-income military members in Texas courts for civil legal matters.

The Military Law Section met in New Braunfels in October for our fall meeting and CLE, at which time we heard from distinguished speakers including South Texas College of Law Dean Donald J. Guter, U.S. Navy, RAdm (Ret.). At that meeting, we also heard a presentation on the Houston Veterans Court program, which is now being implemented in several cities throughout Texas.

In March, the section was one of the sponsors of the St. Mary's University School of Law Military Law Association's 5K/10K walk/run to raise money for Fisher

Houses in San Antonio, which are homes where family members of wounded service members can reside for free while their loved one undergoes treatment.

The section met for its spring meeting/CLE in Galveston in April, where Richard "Racehorse" Haynes spoke with us about his trial and military experiences.

## **MUNICIPAL JUDGES**

Judge Aaron S. Kaufman, Chair

During the last year, the Municipal Judges Section has worked on increasing member participation and on elevating the stature of the municipal court judiciary. The section has co-sponsored receptions at several Texas Municipal Court Education Center regional seminars that many of our attorney municipal judges attend in fulfillment of the annual judicial educational requirements.

The Municipal Judges Section is happy to report that we have an active and effective Legislative Committee, led by Judge Celeste Villarreal, that monitored and studied legislation during the 82nd legislative session that could affect municipal courts or municipal judges in Texas. The section created a Facebook page that contains information on section committees, discussion pages, and links to the pages of the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center. The page — titled Municipal Judges Section of the State Bar of Texas - can be accessed at texasmunicipaljudges.com. With wider acceptance, the Facebook page can become a valuable resource to municipal court judges by increasing communication with our members and sharing proper information with our members and the public.

The section waives dues for first-year members; regular member dues are \$15.

# OIL, GAS, AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Fabené J. Welch, Chair

The section focused on a complete renovation of it website, oilgas.org, which now provides a fully searchable database of all section reports dating from 1963, all materials from section-sponsored CLE programs, other oil and gas treatises, the Texas Title Standards, and the Pattern Jury Charges. The website also features information relating to all section activities and general information of interest to those involved in the oil and gas business.