## STATE BAR of TEXAS

# VOLUNTER AND STAFF GUIDE

2021-2022



### **JUVENILE LAW**

juvenilelaw.org Budget Code: 9344 Created: 1986 Dues: \$25

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D. Todd Smith, Board Advisor

G. Michael Vasquez, Alternate Board Advisor

### Term Expires 2022

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### Term Expires 2023

Frankie Adler Molly Buckman Davis Jana Allison Jones

### LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW

laborlaw.org Budget Code: 9345 Created: 1947 Dues: \$30

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Trang Tran, Secretary Richard R. Carlson, Treasurer

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Mary L. Scott, Board Advisor

Jason C.N. Smith, Alternate Board Advisor

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David Robert Schlottman Gilbert Luis Sanchez

David Robert Schlottman

Ehsanollah Tabesh

Kathryn Julia Youker

Mickey L. Washington

Marlene C. Williams

### LAW STUDENT DIVISION

texasbar.com/lawstudentdivision
Budget Code: 4070
Created: 1979
Dues: \$15
Darby Gibbins, Chair
Lauren Thomas, Vice Chair
Alec Zorich, Secretary
Jacob McDougal, Membership Director
Dwight McDonald, Board Advisor
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Lydia Dohvoma Amber Ward
Erin M. Elms

### LEGISLATIVE AND CAMPAIGN LAW

legislativeandcampaignlaw.com

Budget Code: 9348 Created: 2014 Dues: \$20

Hugh L. Brady, Chair J Pete Laney, Chair Elect Rahul Sreenivasan, Secretary Linda Townsend, Treasurer

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G. David Smith, Board Advisor David Sergi, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2022Term ExTamoria RaShon JonesWroe JacJuliana Cruz KerkerBobby JonesThomas Trenton TownsendRoss Wa

**Term Expires 2024** Wroe Jackson Bobby Joe Dale, III Ross Walker Giesinger

### Term Expires 2023

Daniel Anthony Petalas Paul Stuart Reed Kirk Preston Watson

### **LGBT LAW**

lgbtlawtx.com
Budget Code: 9372
Created: 1998
Dues: \$20
Michael Debnam, Chair
Travis Torrence, Vice Chair
Brian Klosterboer, Secretary
Christopher Walter, Treasurer
R. Elliott Beck, Immediate Past Chair
Rebekah Steely Brooker, Board Advisor
Kennon L. Wooten, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2022 Term Expires 2023

Jesus Juan Castillon Jay Larry
Lindsey Caitlin Dionne Wesley Hartman



# **2021-2022 STATE BAR OF TEXAS** SECTION EPORTS

Section reports are included in the July/August issue of the Texas Bar Journal to update Texas lawyers on State Bar section activities. Section membership and dues are voluntary. These reports do not necessarily reflect the position or official policy of the State Bar of Texas, which is formulated by the State Bar Board of Directors or by the membership through referendum. For more information or to join a section, go to texasbar.com/sections or call 800-204-2222, ext. 1420.

clients and the public. We hold that diversity embraces power and that equity and inclusion unleash it. We believe that combating systemic and implicit biases strengthens our section and our profession. The primary pillars of an equitable and inclusive environment are recognizing and respecting the diversity of persons, life experiences, beliefs, and viewpoints. By recognizing the power of diversity, we create an environment that treats all individuals with dignity and respect and strengthens our profession. In furtherance of improving the quality of legal services to clients and the public, we are committed to fostering diversity and inclusion in our membership and to promoting equitable treatment within the vulnerable population we serve. This ultimately will build and maintain the public's trust in the legal profession and the judicial process as a whole.

### **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW**

John A. Wenke, Chair

The Labor and Employment Law Section, with more than 3,200 members, comprises worker-side, managementside, labor union, government, public interest, and in-house attorneys. In September 2021, the section held its annual fall seminar in San Antonio after a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19. The live event was a big success. The section updated its website, laborlaw.org, providing members with a database of jury charges and verdicts and past CLE materials. The section also has an exciting new Instagram page, @laborlawtexasbar, increasing its online presence. Section members continue to receive federal and state caselaw updates in the quarterly newsletter, edited by law professors Richard Carlson (South Texas College of Law Houston) and Jarod Gonzalez (Texas Tech University School of Law). Finally, the section is always excited to talk about how members give back. The section has restarted its law school outreach in 2022, with members traveling to Texas law schools to encourage future lawyers to consider a career in employment law. It also continues to sponsor the annual award of pro bono and internship grants to Texas nonprofits that assist workers in

non-litigation employment law matters. If you are not a section member, please ioin.

### **LAW STUDENT DIVISION**

Darby Gibbins-Branch, Chair

The Law Student Division worked to meet its goal of increasing law students' access to resources in different ways during the 2021-2022 academic year. Law Student Division representatives from Texas law schools hosted a variety of free programs for students at their respective schools, including student outreach events, educational and legal career related seminars, and practical skills workshops. The Law Student Division also awarded over \$4,000 in scholarships to Texas law students. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact Texas law students this year, underscoring the importance of connecting students with the resources they need and with practicing attorneys, mentors, and fellow law students. For a \$15 annual membership fee, the Law Student Division provides many benefits to its student members, including exclusive scholarship opportunities, free membership in select State Bar of Texas sections, a monthly subscription to the Texas Bar Journal, member discounts, and free registration for TexasBarCLE live seminars. Recently, Law Student Division representatives from several Texas law schools have proposed that their law school administrations begin to cover the cost of first-year law students' annual Law Student Division membership. Texas Tech University School of Law is leading the way in providing this benefit to its students.

### **LEGISLATIVE AND CAMPAIGN LAW**

Hugh L. Brady, Chair

The past year presented the Legislative and Campaign Law Section with the twin challenges of COVID-19 surges and multiple legislative sessions that involved major election law legislation, including redistricting. Despite these challenges, the section remains one of the fastest growing sections with members practicing law at the intersection of politics in a variety of settings: government, academia, trade associations, nonprofits, corporations, and private practices. The section was founded not only to provide a professional home for Texas lawyers who practice in this area, but also to provide a forum for demonstrating its commitment to the practice of law. A signature success this past year was the administration of the first specialization exam in legislative and campaign law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization—an initiative spearheaded by the section. Five Texas lawyers passed the exam and became the first certified lawyers in the country in this practice area. The section also built connections with colleagues nationally by committing to a continuing sponsorship of the International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform. Legislative Lawyer, a twiceyearly report, resumes publication this year, as does the section's robust CLE programming—laying the groundwork for building on past successes in the coming year.

### **LGBT LAW**

Michael Debnam, Chair

The LGBT Law Section hosted its biannual full-day CLE programming in December. It was the first in-person CLE since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The section also hosted a dinner for the speakers, which Perkins Coie generously sponsored. The section also hosted its first in-person happy hour at the Stephen F. Austin Lounge. The section passed a resolution requesting the State Bar to begin allowing attorneys to self-identify as LGBTQ+ and to include voluntarily selfreported demographic information in future surveys and statistical profiles. The section put on its annual, full-day CLE programming at the State Bar Annual Meeting in Houston and had two joint happy hours. The first was on Thursday, June 9, at Hearsay on The Green with Texas Latinx judges. The second was on Friday, June 10, with the Texas Young Lawyers Association. The section's annual meeting was sponsored by Jessica Rodriguez-Wahlquist. The section looks forward to returning to live, in-person programming in the fall.