

STATE BAR *of* TEXAS

VOLUNTEER AND STAFF GUIDE

————— **2023–2024** —————



LAW STUDENT DIVISION

texasbar.com/lawstudentdivision

Budget Code: 4070

Created: 1979

Dues: \$15

Caitlin McDuffee, Chair

Kaylie Morgan, Immediate Past Chair

Dwight McDonald, Board Advisor

Britney E. Harrison, Alternate Board Advisor

LEGISLATIVE AND CAMPAIGN LAW

legislativeandcampaignlaw.com

Budget Code: 9348

Created: 2014

Dues: \$20

Linda Townsend, Chair

J. Pete Laney, Immediate Past Chair

Jerry D. Bullard, Board Advisor

David C. Courreges, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2024

Bobby Joe Dale

Ross Walker Giesinger

Steven Wroe Jackson

Full council not available at time of print

LGBTQ+ LAW

lgblawtx.com

Budget Code: 9372

Created: 1998

Dues: \$20

Derek Mergele-Rust, Chair

Jessica Rodriguez-Wahlquist, Vice Chair

Nicholas “Guilly” Guillory, Secretary

Lionel Sims III, Treasurer

Brian Klosterboer, Immediate Past Chair

Michael J. Ritter, Board Advisor

Forrest L. Huddleston, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2024

Cynthia Lopez

Ryan Nelson

Term Expires 2025

Haley Hickey

Sarah Cowen

Kassie Hines

LITIGATION

litigationsection.com

Budget Code: 9347

Created: 1979

Dues: \$30

Sustaining: \$100

Geoffrey Gannaway, Chair

Hon. Rebecca Simmons, Chair-elect

Raymond L. Thomas, Vice Chair

Sofia A. Ramon, Secretary

Jason Fulton, Treasurer

J. Paul Manning, Immediate Past Chair

G. David Smith, Board Advisor

John Sloan, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2024

Raymond Baeza

Andy Kerr

Chip Brooker

Jackie Robinson

Sylvia Cardona

Term Expires 2026

Curt Fenley

Hon. Sue Kureta

Karen Precalla

Amy Prueger

Hon. Chari Kelly

Term Expires 2025

Mia Lorricks

Slater Elza

Robert Ford

Hon. Christine Stetson

Morgan Thomas

MILITARY AND VETERANS LAW

militarylawsection.com

Budget Code: 9350

Created: 1958

Dues: \$25

Kay Perry, Chair

Jon Shelburne, Chair-elect

Greg Pavlik, Vice Chair

Gary Manuele, Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Glover, Immediate Past Chair

Robert B. “Bob” Gos, Board Advisor

G. Michael Vasquez, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2024

Christine D. Herron

Andrew “Drew” Daniel

Term Expires 2025

Bradley Hennings

Jefferson Moore

Sean Timmons

MUNICIPAL JUDGES SECTION

texasmunicipaljudges.com

Budget Code: 9363

Created: 1970

Dues: \$15.00

Hon. J. Elaine Marshall, Chair

James Huggler, Chair-elect

Hon. Polly Gilligan, Vice Chair

Hon. David Fraga, Secretary/Treasurer

Hon. Alan Wayland, Immediate Past Chair

Robert L. Tobey, Board Advisor

Cade W. Browning, Alternate Board Advisor

Term Expires 2024

Oswald Scott

Morris Overstreet

Joe Villarreal



2023-2024 STATE BAR OF TEXAS

SECTION REPORTS

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 512-427-1420.

provided at discounted costs to section members. This year's institute will be held August 8-9, 2024, at the JW Marriot in San Antonio. Additionally, the section continues to improve its website (laborlaw.org) to add new jury verdicts and charges in a searchable format. The section also publishes a quarterly newsletter with the latest cases and legal developments relevant to labor and employment law practitioners. Finally, the section organized visits to law schools to engage in student outreach with the idea of getting more lawyers interested in the practice of employment law, and it also awarded grants to pro bono organizations focused on labor and employment matters. If you are not a section member and have any interest in labor and employment, consider joining today to get access to jury verdicts, labor and employment updates, discounted CLE, and more.

LAW STUDENT DIVISION

Caitlin McDuffee, Chair

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the Law Student Division went above and beyond to increase Texas law students' access and knowledge about the State Bar resources available. Representatives from Texas law schools hosted various free programs for students at their respective schools including student outreach events, such as at UNT Dallas, whose representatives were on hand at the admitted students open house, and legal career-related panels, such as at South Texas College of Law Houston, which hosted a NASA speaker panel. 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, free registration for TexasBarCLE live seminars, and—new this year—a BetterHelp discount to give Texas law students access to mental health resources to support their professional performance. The

representatives have also revamped their membership T-shirt design and its Texas Young Lawyers Association's *TYLA At a Glance* guide to cater more to law students' needs.

LEGISLATIVE AND CAMPAIGN LAW

Linda Townsend, Chair

The Legislative and Campaign Law Section, founded in 2014, is the State Bar's newest section and continues to grow each year. The section comprises attorneys who work in and around the Legislature, state agencies, elections, and campaigns and those who are interested in those processes. In December, the section held an informative and successful CLE. Participants heard from the Texas Ethics Commission, a member of the Texas House of Representatives, the House speaker's general counsel, and many others. The section is grateful to all the speakers who participated in the CLE and shared their insights and knowledge with attendees. Now, the section is planning a spring CLE to provide election updates and discuss the upcoming legislative session. Recently, the section shepherded one of the nation's first-ever legislative and campaign law legal specialization areas into existence. Since implementation, 13 attorneys have become board certified, and many others are busy prepping and studying for the next round of exams. If you are interested in legislative or government processes, election law, campaign law, or any of the ethical issues that pop up in those areas, please consider joining the section. You can learn more by visiting legislativeandcampaignlaw.com.

LGBTQ+ LAW

Derek Mergele-Rust, Chair

After celebrating the 25th anniversary of the section in April 2023, the LGBTQ+ Law Section began the year by formally changing its name to the LGBTQ+ Law Section to more accurately convey to constituents the type of law that the section reports on and to align with the common abbreviation used around the country.

The board met in retreat in El Paso from September 14 to 17 and kicked off the section's statewide legislative update tour. The section hosted numerous Legislative Update CLEs around the state in West Texas, North Texas, East Texas, and Central Texas, updating attorneys and the community about bills passed during the 88th legislative session. The board also held its December meeting in Waco at Baylor Law School. The board was pleased to host a full day of CLE at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting on June 21 in Dallas and hopes you enjoyed its presentations.

LITIGATION

Geoff Gannaway, Chair

The Litigation Section focused this year on connecting with members across the state. It partnered with local bar groups in Austin, Beaumont, El Paso, Fort Worth, Corpus Christi, Houston, McAllen, and San Antonio to provide quality CLE content, live and in person. In April, the section hosted a panel of jurors who had recently served in Harris County trials to share their experiences with lawyers, judges, and law students. The annual Litigation Update Institute took place in January in Austin, gathering some of the best speakers on topics important to members. In addition to in-person events, the section reached hundreds of members with each monthly online "Lunch n' Learn" CLE program, led by some of the most respected lawyers and judges in the state. The section honored the best of the profession by inducting Al Ellis and Judge L. Clifford Davis as Legal Legends, honoring Morgan Haenchen as Outstanding Young Litigator, and presenting the Luke Soules Award to Layne Kruse. The section's flagship publication, the *Advocate*, published cutting-edge content in three key areas: "When Practices Collide: Crossroads in Civil and Criminal Cases," "Alternative Dispute Resolution," and "The New Business Court in Texas." Members can learn more and keep up with the latest developments at litigationsection.com.