



The Texas Docket

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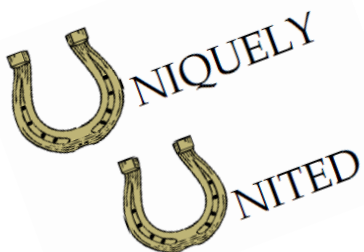
December 2018/January 2019
Volume 16, Issue 3



Start Making Your Plans For
**64th ANNUAL EDUCATION
CONFERENCE**

May 3-4, 2019

LUBBOCK



Editor

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Materials in *The Texas Docket* are for general informational purposes only; they are not intended to, and do not, constitute legal advice. For specific legal advice, readers are encouraged to consult with counsel of their choice.

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The Texas Docket

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President's Message

Rita C. Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC-CL



I asked you—the members—to take the journey with Texas ALP as we float with the sea stars. If each member participates in the membership campaign, our association can thrive. Have you recruited a new member or mentored members to renew their memberships?

How do YOU measure value? Can you attach a price tag, touch it, or is it something within yourself? Value can be measured through knowledge and expertise. The dictionary describes value as worth, importance, merit, standard, and quality. These descriptive words are in two key programs: certification and education.

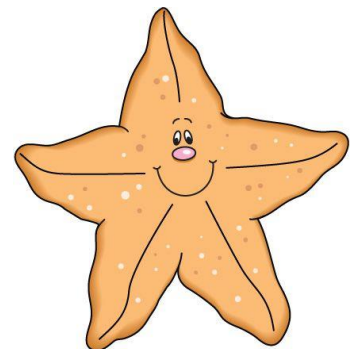
We need to “sell” the resulting value of our programs. In other words, don’t sell me certification, sell me a better paying job; more responsibility; and/or marketability. Don’t sell me education, sell me knowledge; personal enhancement; and/or credibility. Encourage others to become certified!

Once you become certified, whether it be ALP, PLS/CLP, or PP, you will need to continue your education, so you can recertify in the time period required by NALS. Not only is the value of education a key factor helping you maintain your certification, it is also the beginning, ending, and middle to measuring your value as a legal professional.

Certification and education go hand in hand. Quality education is important to obtain and maintain your certification. Certification has merit and shows standards to maintain a high degree of professionalism. The resulting value of education and certification may very well mean a better paying job; it will guarantee you more credibility; will increase your responsibility; will definitely make you more marketable; and is especially important for setting and maintaining high standards for the legal profession.

The return on your investment (and that of your employer) for education and certification is invaluable. For whatever reason you join and remain a member of Texas ALP, the value you receive from education and certification is well worth the dollars and time you invest. Communicating the value of education and certification which result from your membership to your employer should cement your future and may ultimately lead toward monetary or material worth.

I personally cannot place a dollar value on my continuing education and certifications. Can you? Don’t doubt your ability to increase your value as a legal professional through continuing education and certification. And your accomplishments will inspire others to do the same.





Making a difference



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Houston ALP received its charter on January 25, 1956.

Lubbock LPA received its charter on March 1, 1958.

NALS of Amarillo received its charter on March 30, 1957.



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Texas CLE Saturday Seminar/Webinar

for Paralegals, Legal Assistants, Legal Secretaries, and Other Lawyers' Assistants

CLE Credit: 7.0 hours (includes 1.5 hour of ethics)

Meets All Criteria for Recertification CLE for NALS

January 12, 2019 ❖ 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST

Live:

1301 McKinney, Suite 3600, Houston, Texas

Webinar:

Amarillo, Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Lubbock, San Antonio,
Waco, and Wichita Falls

Schedule

8:30—**Registration and Welcome** (Continental breakfast)

9:00 **Ethics**

▶ Kim Hoesl, Esq.—*Pickett Law Group, PLLC*

10:00—*Break*

10:15 **Medical Records**

▶ Kathleen Christmas—*Nurse Paralegal USA*

Do you frequently request medical records for complex cases but wonder if something might be missing? Whether plaintiff or defense, you may be missing out on some crucial information that will strengthen your case if you are relying on only the traditional patient based medical records request. "Digging Deeper with Medical Records Discovery" provides tips on mining all of the available data in the traditional medical records. Additionally, the presentation discusses numerous broader sources of information that go beyond the individual patient file but which may be applicable to the individual case.

11:15 **Accident Reconstruction**

▶ April Yergin—*ATA Associates*

▶ Bob Swint—*ATA Associates*

The process of providing effective litigation support is a sequence of progressive activities that may run sequentially or, at times, in parallel.

12:15 **Lunch**

12:45 **Technology in Litigation**

▶ Aaron Guerra—*U.S. Legal Support*

How law firms and corporations are using technology to gain an advantage before, during, and after trial.

1:45—**Criminal Law**

▶ Paul Doyle, Esq.—*Paul Doyle & Associates*

2:45—*Break*

3:00 **Federal Courts**

▶ Rishona Smith—Training Specialist, Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, United States District and Bankruptcy Courts
e-filing tips and tricks

4:00 **Court Reporting 101**

▶ Kim Tindall—*Kim Tindall & Associates*

What, How and Why Court Reporters do what they do. Federal and State depositions requirements that affect the lawyer and how they are handled at the time of the deposition. Review the Court Reporters Code of Ethics that reporters and attorneys must abide by when taking depositions.

CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER FOR YOUR CITY'S LOCATION

WE ARE FAMILY

"We Are Family" is a song composed by Bernard Edwards and Nile Rodgers and recorded by American vocal group Sister Sledge in April 1979, eventually becoming the group's signature song. In 2017, the song was selected for preservation in the National Recording Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or artistically significant." *Billboard* magazine named the song number 20 on its list of 100 Greatest Girl Group Songs of All Time.

Admit it now—I know you can feel the beat as you read the words:



*We are family
I got all my sisters with me
We are family
Get up everybody and sing*

*Everyone can see we're together
As we walk on by
(And!) and we fly just like birds of a feather
I won't tell no lie
(All!) all of the people around us they say
Can they be that close
Just let me state for the record
We're giving love in a family dose*

*Living life is fun and we've just begun
To get our share of the world's delights
(High!) high hopes we have for the future
And our goal's in sight
(We!) no we don't get depressed
Here's what we call our golden rule
Have faith in you and the things you do
You won't go wrong
This is our family jewel*

*We are family
I got all my sisters with me
We are family
Get up everybody and sing*

As I can attest from personal experience, the members of TALP are our sisters and brothers. We have faith in each other and support each other in the sad times and rejoice in the happy times. We enjoy each other's company and share our lives as we work toward a common goal.

Please send your prayer requests and your rejoicing requests to hugs@talp.org so that we can share being a family!

Mary D. Teague, PP, PLS
Chair, TALP HUGS





LUBBOCK LPA

Congratulates Member

PETRE RACU

**ON BECOMING A
CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES
ON OCTOBER 15, 2018**

PETRE'S STORY

My name is Petre Racu, and I am a proud American. My journey to America began in my childhood when I was dreaming that one day I would see those “tall buildings” and brightly lit streets they were showing on TV. My dream laid dormant until my first year of college, which is when my desire to come to America came back to life. With some advice from my older brother and some financial help from my mother I managed to obtain a Visa for a program called “Summer Work and Travel.”



The summer of 2011 was the first time I stepped foot on American soil and, man, what a summer that was! I worked, I travelled, and I also met the love of my life, my wife. It all felt so real but was so short lived that by the end of the summer when it was time to go back, I found myself confused and changed in ways that I could not comprehend. The short-lived dream had come to an end and it was time to go home. My wife (girlfriend at the time) and I said our goodbyes, and I flew back to Romania.

That's when I realized that I couldn't, nor did I want to, let go of this so easily. Now it was more than just a dream, now I knew this was real and it was where my heart was. Soon, my wife and I started putting together a plan to bring me back. I was in my second year of college in Romania when I decided that it might be easier for both of us if I transferred to Texas Tech and continued my studies there, knowing that I would be with her. Well, that didn't work out because my Visa was rejected, and I was back to square one. I kept reminding myself what has helped me get through obstacles since an early age: if you believe in something strong enough, it will happen.

My wife and I decided to get married the next year, and two years after that I was done with school. That same year I had gotten my green card, and I was able to fly back; that was during the summer of 2014. I had been working various jobs in Romania in the meantime, and I was off school for a whole year trying to get my paperwork in order. When my Student Visa got rejected in 2012, I took a break from school and moved to Bucharest, the capital of Romania, so I could be within driving distance of the American Embassy, making it easier to work on my case. When it was all done, I was able to fly back to Texas. In my heart I felt a joy that I had been missing for too long. It felt good to be back!

Slowly my wife and I started creating our little nest, and just kept improving it ever since. My Visa was conditional, so I would periodically have to check in with USCIS to get fingerprinted and have my information updated. The process went on for about five years which finally, this year, on October 15, I was naturalized.

It was a cold rainy day in Irving, Texas. The atmosphere was solemn, the room was filled with people. People from all parts of the world, people like me, pursuing a dream. The consular officer who made the introduction addressed us based on the country we were representing. By looking in the eyes of the people who were in the room with me, I could see something that was awfully familiar. It all made sense now. That spark in their eyes, that desire for a new and better future, is something that I have seen many times looking in the mirror as a child. We were all looking for a new beginning, a place where our past obstacles had ended, and we were moving on to a new chapter of our lives.

Hear ye, Hear ye!

Know all who read this narrative that Waco Legal Professionals Association successfully added a new student member to its roster as a result of the membership drive held at McLennan Community College in October. Three members—Laura DeLeon, Olivia Johnson, and Mary Teague—presented the benefits of the tri-level association to a paralegal class taught by Kristy Turner. The presentation was well received by the students (as was the chocolate candy distributed during the class), and several students expressed interest in our Association. We hope to have them join in the near future.

WLPA welcomes Jennifer Ringer as our new student member!



Submitted by
Mary D. Teague, PP, PLS
WLPA Functional Director Membership

**Share your local association news!
Just send your stories and brags to
lgentry@hkwwlaw.com**

2018-2019 Membership Campaign

Theme: Starfish

Goal: Get as many Starfish as you can to win the grand prize.

Rules: Each Association/person starts out with 1 Starfish to fill up; for every **Point** you earn you get a “leg” on the starfish. The Association/person with the most complete starfish in April 2019 wins.

Points: To get **Points** you must do one of the following things:

1 Point: Send Emily the name and contact information for your membership chair.

1 Point: Send Emily the names/birthdays/contact information for your chapter.

1 Point: For every new member.

1 Point: For bringing back a past member to the association.

1 Point: Sharing a TALP social media post using your Association page (Emily is excluded). For example, LLPA shares a TALP post to its page.

1 Point: For every member who obtains certification (new certifications only).

1 Point: For every member who re-certifies and sends Emily, Proof of the recertification.

1 Point: For each member the local membership or welfare chair sends a birthday, sympathy, or get well card to, and lets Emily know about it.

1 Point: For each member who gets a specialty certification.

2 Points: For holding a charity event or volunteering with a charitable organization where 5 or more members attend.

2 Points: Holding a CLE event with a minimum of 4 hours of CLE.

2 Points: Sending something in for *The Docket* (and cc'ing Emily-*The Docket* chair will be excluded).

2 Points: For giving a presentation to the local high school/college/paralegal organizations about TALP (and sending Emily proof; i.e., pictures, post, something).

2 Points: Sending something to Emily for Marketing. It must be in postable form, so a picture format, or ability to post on the Facebook page (Emily is excluded from this).

5 Points (that's a whole starfish!): Hold a membership drive.

TEXAS ALP 2018-2019 ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

(11/29/2018)

Elected Officers

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EDUCATION

See Certification

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THE TEXAS DOCKET

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Calling All Members for 2019-2020

We are all “Uniquely United,” so just say YES and just like that you are part of the Texas ALP Leadership Team. No matter what your talents, no matter what your strengths, no matter what your time commitments, there is a place for you on a Texas ALP committee. We all have our jobs, family commitments, and other interests that keep us busy. So don't forget to make time to continue your own self-improvement through education, networking, and service within our association.

YES! I want to be part of the 2019-2020 Texas ALP Leadership Team!!

Name: _____
Chapter: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I would like to serve on the following committee(s) and have designated my choice(s):

Committee Chairmen	Committee Chairmen
Awards –	Meetings Coordinator –
Bylaws/Standing Rules –	Membership –
Certification –	Nominations & Elections –
Communications –	Planning Committee –
Education –	Professional Development –
Financial Review –	The Texas Docket –
Fundraising –	Webmaster –
Hugs –	2019 Fall Conference –
Marketing –	2020 Annual Meeting –

If you would like to be a part of any of the committees listed above, or just have questions about a committee, please contact Andrea D. Griffin, PP, PLS, Texas ALP President-Elect, at andrea.talp@gmail.com or 806.412.6013 (office) or 806.438.1621 (cell). I am more than happy to answer any questions.

Thank you for helping Texas ALP to continue promoting a high standard of competence for legal support professionals.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DESCRIPTION OF COMMITTEE DUTIES

COMMITTEE DUTIES

<p>AWARDS: coordinate Texas ALP Scholarship and LPY awards presented at Annual Conference. Work with host chapter for conference to obtain judges for awards.</p> <p>BYLAWS/STANDING RULES: review bylaws and standing rules for necessary changes and maintain conformance with NALS bylaws/standing rules. Issue call for proposed amendments and furnish proposed amendments to EC. Provide proposed amendments to Secretary for distribution with the Call to Annual/ Fall Educational Conferences.</p> <p>CERTIFICATION: answer all inquiries re: NALS certification programs and promote certification by providing articles for <i>The Texas Docket</i>. Work with Marketing to furnish press releases for those passing certification exams or recertifying. Work with host chapter to recognize members successfully completing exams during Recognition Luncheon.</p> <p>COMMUNICATIONS: responsible for e-mail dissemination of official business. Maintain official roster and mini-roster. Obtain current rosters of officers from local chapters and provide them to NALS Resource Center. Coordinate (w/Treasurer) list of members eligible to vote--Treasurer will certify and submit to Nominations and Elections Chair.</p> <p>EDUCATION: plan and coordinate legal education seminars sponsored by Texas ALP. Prepare CLE certificates for each meeting and work with host chapter to obtain speakers. Encourage local chapters to plan legal education study courses and provide assistance when asked. Provide education articles for each issue of <i>The Texas Docket</i>. Work with Marketing Committee to promote seminars, official courses, and educational materials.</p> <p>FINANCIAL REVIEW: review financial records of the Treasurer, Fundraising Committee, and Fall and Annual Conferences, verify all receipts and disbursements, and provide financial review report covering such books to the EC and at Board and Annual Meetings.</p> <p>FUNDRAISING: devise ways and means of raising funds. Develop and market Texas ALP logo items approved by the EC and make items available for purchase at all functions. Coordinate and promote Texas ALP raffles.</p> <p>TALP Hugs: Receives and distributes requests for support from members and friends of TALP on a strictly voluntary opt-in/opt-out basis from a distribution list maintained specifically by and for TALP Hugs.</p> <p>MARKETING: assist Membership in marketing and advertising benefits of membership. Develop and maintain promotional packets for distribution to local bar associations and local chapters as well as the Texas ALP brochure. Work with Certification to announce names of people passing certification</p>	<p>exams and recertifying. Work with host chapters to provide press releases about each Texas ALP function and assist local chapters with their Day-In-Court observance events. Promote all seminars and events and provide materials for publication in <i>The Texas Docket</i>.</p> <p>MEETINGS COORDINATOR: encourage and assist local chapters to bid to host board or annual conferences. Act as coordinator between the President, EC, applicable chairmen, and hosting chapter in implementing scheduled conferences. Prepare and keep current the Guidelines for Bidding an Educational Conference and Guidelines for Planning an Educational Conference.</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP: receive and promptly answer inquiries about membership. Develop, implement, and evaluate membership campaigns approved by Texas ALP. Act as liaison with local chapter membership chairmen. Assist Marketing with promoting and marketing benefits of membership. Submit articles and membership campaign information for publication in <i>The Texas Docket</i>.</p> <p>NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS: issue the call for officer nominations. Obtain consents to run from officer nominees, prepare and update candidate profile forms, and provide profile forms and photos to Webmaster. Work with BallotBox on elections and surveys. Responsible for announcing newly elected officers after certifying election results with President. Prepare ballots and teller reports for use at board and annual conferences.</p> <p>PLANNING COMMITTEE: Monitor and update strategic plan annually and help facilitate planning process through consultation with Treasurer and EC about funds available for implementation. Committee is to be composed of four members, including an experienced member, an officer of Texas ALP with at least one year as an officer, a member under the age of thirty-five, and a new member.</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: plan and coordinate leadership and professional development workshops at Texas ALP conferences, local chapter workshops as requested, and prepare leadership articles for <i>The Texas Docket</i>. Help plan a luncheon program at each educational conference.</p> <p>THE TEXAS DOCKET: prepare and distribute each issue; work with officers and chairmen to contribute articles for publication, and secure advertisers and advertisements appropriate to the legal field</p> <p>WEBMASTER: keep Texas ALP website current with information provided by various committee chairs as approved by the President. Receive and publish <i>The Texas Docket</i> upon approval of President.</p>
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NALS 67th Annual Education and Networking Conference Phoenix, Arizona



NALS Board



NALS Board



Ione and Leslie Keys
at prom night



Jamie Perkins, first timer from Houston ALP getting greeted by NALS Board.

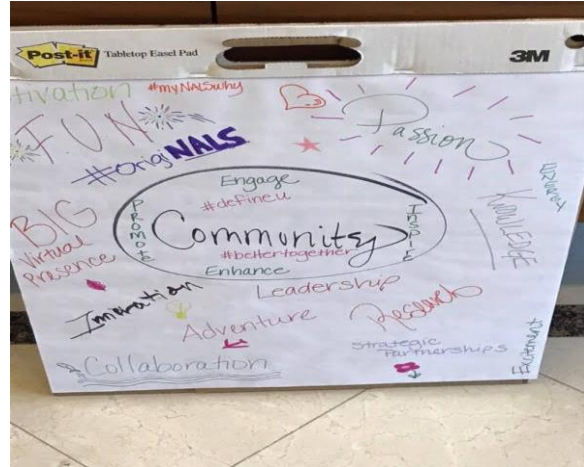


Texas ALP Members at dinner

ANDREA GRIFFIN, PP, PLS REPORT ON NALS CONFERENCE

First off, I want to thank Texas ALP for allowing me the opportunity to attend the NALS Conference in Phoenix this year. There were 208 registered for this conference! Texas had twelve attend, great representation of Texas ALP!

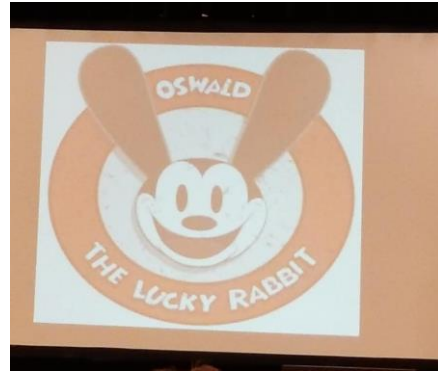
Immediately upon arriving on Wednesday at the hotel and taking a quick moment to put my luggage in the room I shared with Tina Hurley, I went to the NALS Committee Meeting. There I met with the Certifying Board and the Manuals Task Force. We collaborated on “Vision Boards” that were displayed throughout the conference for all the attendees to see.



That night a group of us went to this incredibly amazing pizza place “Organ Stop Pizza” and the food was great but what really made the place memorable was the organ, the plethora of pipes was breathtaking. If you are a friend on Facebook, go check out the videos and pictures. I do not think the pictures even do the place true justice and the sound was so beautiful!



The Keynote Speaker from Disneyland on Thursday spoke on “Seven Steps to be a Hero.” He was very inspiring as to telling us that the only thing holding each of us back from anything is ourselves, which he referred to as dragons. How many times have we let our own fear of failure keeps us from trying something? As for myself, prior to this past year, I would say the majority of the time I would let that fear override my thoughts of stepping out of my comfort zone. Now, I am encouraging the risks because until we try, we truly do not know what we are capable of achieving.



There were three CLE classes available for each time slot, so there was definitely lots of variety to choose from. I went more with the civil litigation and probate topics as those are the areas in which I work. Each of the speakers presented very organized topics, some with fun twists to make them entertaining, such as the one on Federal Rules Amendments, where the speaker, Jimmie Pursell, who enjoys Indiana Jones, used the movies as commentary and quizzes. Other topics on Thursday were federal employment discrimination, e-discovery, and managing projects—which lead more into using your passion for each project to be successful.



Friday morning for some started with yoga by the pool at 6:00 a.m.; notice I said for some, meaning not me. After breakfast with Vicky and Penelope, I went on to the CLE for the day. The morning topics for me included estate planning, office billing guidelines, and effective

communication in the digital age, where the majority agreed email is the commonly preferred means of communication, even with the effective and ineffective uses of email. The morning sessions ended with the Networking Lunch. After lunch, I went to Creditor's Rights and Remedies and another estate planning session. The estate planning was entertaining as the speaker, Alison Kierman, referenced celebrities with and without wills and even strange bequests in wills. After working in this area for several years one thing I encourage everyone to do is to have a will done because it does make things so much easier for the heirs.

Of course, I cannot forget the vendors and sweepstakes! There were so many items and it was fun to see the reactions of the winners! Texas members did win several of the items.

Friday night...NALS Prom Night, was definitely a night full of wonderful memories with our NALS Pals. Over \$10,000 (way beyond expectations) was raised in the race for Prom King and Queen. Congratulations to the winners: King was Leslie Keys and Queen was Stacy Lavender. Again, if you are on Facebook, I encourage you to look at everyone's pages for pictures.



Saturday morning started with the Leadership Breakfast for NALS volunteers. NALS did a great job of taking care of us. If you get a chance, please send them a note telling them how much you appreciate everything they do for us on the national level.

Last day of education started with estate tax issues (working in this area, I see the many problems for estates in resolving these matters) and then personal jurisdiction on federal and state suits.

The Recognition Luncheon was held Saturday. All task force volunteers, past NALS Presidents, certification achievements, and winners of the Award of Excellence were recognized. Kerie Trindle Burns was awarded the Award of Excellence for 2018. Paul Steffey was mentioned as the Volunteer of the Year. A new award, “Engage Inspire”, was awarded to Susan Mano.



After lunch, we dispersed for the remaining two hours of CLE, the first of which was civil remedies and results, referring to post-judgment actions on a civil suit. The last session for the day and the conference for me was on appeals. Michael Patterson emphasized the role of appeals being that of a team. Phoenix did a great job on the organization and presentation of a variety of educational topics.

The very last organized event of the conference was “Reignite Passion in NALS,” and the NALS board went around the room asking people why they are involved in NALS. Also announced were the winners of the silent auction items, the quilt raffle, and the Mysterious Suitcase provided by donations from chapters/members from Oklahoma and Texas.

Again, I want to thank Texas ALP for affording me the opportunity to be a representative of our association at NALS. the 2019 NALS Annual Conference will be in Little Rock, Arkansas, so members plan to attend!

Submitted by,

Andrea D. Griffin, PP, PLS

Thanks to Corpus Christi for hosting 2018 Fall Education Conference!



Samantha Tandy



Evolution of the jury system

Ancient Egypt

- 2000 B.C.
- "Kenbet"
- 3 jurors, 4 from each side of the Nile



Presentation to Myra Miles for outstanding
service to Texas ALP.
President Rita Alesi and Myra J. Miles.



Rita Alesi, Myra J. Miles, and
Past President Joyce Look Buck



**THANKS TO MARTY OLSON FOR ALL
THE PHOTOS!**



Professional Luncheon



Emily Walterscheid sworn in as TALP Secretary by Mary Bullard



Donna Dendy



Helene Wood



Michelle Padilla



Mary Teague



Jerri Locknane



Your TALP Board

Emily Walterscheid, Andrea Griffin, Rita Alesi, Tina Hurley, and Helene Wood



Teresa Ann Alba, lone Nixon, and Cynthia Huffman



Waco LPA Members



CCALP Members



Rory Cavazos



Dee Martinez reporting as President Rita Alesi looks on



Houston ALP



Joyce Look Buck and service dog in attendance with Burn Pit charity.

Marty Olson and service dog.



**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD
OFFICIAL GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION**

POSTMARK DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2019

The deadline for nominating a member in good standing is just around the corner. Start thinking now of a member you would like to nominate for this prestigious award!

Any member in good standing of the Texas Association of Legal Professionals who has *at least five (5) years* of legal experience is eligible to compete for the award.

Each local chapter has the privilege of sponsoring one applicant, who may or may not be the current winner of that local chapter's Legal Professional of the Year award. **Additionally**, each member in good standing may nominate one member as Legal Professional of the Year. Only one nomination will be considered for each nominee. In the event of multiple nominations, the first nomination received by the Awards Chair will determine the nomination form to be considered and submitted to the judges. Nominations must be postmarked no later than **February 13, 2019**. Any nomination postmarked after that date will be deemed ineligible and returned to the sponsoring chapter or member.

Nomination forms should be sent to the Texas ALP Awards Chair:

Donna K. Dendy, PP, PLS
Pakis, Giotes, Page & Burleson, P.C.
400 Austin Avenue, Suite 400
Post Office Box 58
Waco, Texas 76703-0058
dkd@pakislaw.com

See the Rules and Regulations and the Nomination Form in this issue of *The Docket*.

Donna K. Dendy, PP, PLS
TALP Awards Chair

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

RULES AND REGULATIONS

TO: ALL LOCAL CHAPTER DIRECTORS

FROM: Donna K. Dendy, PP, CP, PLS, TSC-RE (dkd@pakislaw.com)
Texas ALP Awards Chair

DEADLINE: February 13, 2019

- A. A Legal Professional of the Year award shall be presented at the Annual Conference each year. Any member in good standing of the Texas Association of Legal Professionals who has *at least five (5) years* of legal experience is eligible to compete for the award.
- B. Each local chapter has the privilege of sponsoring one applicant, who may or may not be the current winner of that local chapter's Legal Professional of the Year award. Additionally, each member in good standing may nominate one member as Legal Professional of the Year. Only one nomination will be considered for each nominee. In the event of multiple nominations, the first nomination received by the Awards Chair will determine the nomination form to be considered and submitted to the judges.
- C. (1) All entries must be submitted on the Texas ALP nomination form (or a photocopy thereof).
- (2) All entries *must* be submitted in *duplicate* to the Awards Chair. If additional space is needed to complete any section, the back of the nomination form should be used.
- (3) Observance of the *300-word limit* specified under "*Comments by Present Employer*" and "*Comments by Local Chapter*" or "*Comments by Nominating Member*" and observance of the *300-word limit* specified under "*Nominee Narrative*" is required. If the Awards Chair finds that the material in these sections contains the use of numbers, the most current edition of *The Gregg Reference Manual* will be the deciding authority on how numbers will be counted in the tabulation of the word limit specified. The use of "and/or" will be counted as *two words* in the tabulation of the word limit specified. *Nominations will be disqualified if material in these sections exceeds the 300-word limit.*
- (4) ***Except for the "Comments by Present Employer" and "Comments by Local Chapter" or "Comments by Nominating Member," the NOMINEE MUST PERSONALLY COMPLETE THE NOMINATION FORM.***
- D. No testimonial letters or other supporting documents will be considered by the judges.

{TALP//00365450}

Effective June 2018
Page 1

E. All nominees will be judged on the following basis:

- Legal skills and experience*.....40%
- Service to local, state, and national associations*40%
- Personal Interview*20%

F. The Awards Chair shall select three judges and two alternate judges to assist in the judging of the LPY competition. The names of such judges will be presented no later than January 15 to the Executive Committee for approval. Selection of the three LPY finalists and two LPY alternates will be made by the three judges (or alternate judges, if necessary).

G. To be eligible for judging, all entries must be hand delivered to the Awards Chair by no later than February 13, postmarked by the United States Postal Service on or before February 13, or validated by an overnight delivery service that such parcel was placed in such service's depository on or before February 13, and received by the Awards Chair on or before February 20. The Awards Chair will disqualify any nominations not validated as specified above or received after February 20. FAXED NOMINATION FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

H. Nominating local chapter or nominating member should send an email to the Awards Chair stating the Texas ALP Nomination form has been sent in accordance with the Guidelines and Rules. Once the Awards Chair has received the Texas ALP Nominating Form, she will confirm receipt via email to the nominating local chapter or the nominating member.

I. The Awards Chair shall submit redacted copies of all qualified entries to the judges no later than February 27. The name of the candidate, the candidate's address, and the name of the local chapter or nominating member are to be redacted from each entry sent to the judges.

As soon as the judges have made their decision, the Awards Chair will, no later than March 20, notify each of the three finalists by telephone and first class mail and notify the two alternates by certified mail. The finalists will be furnished a copy of the information form to be completed by the finalists, which completed forms will be given to *The Texas Docket* Editor after official announcement of the finalists at the Annual Conference. In the event any finalist is unable to attend the Annual Conference, an alternate, selected by the judges, will be invited to attend, and thus will become a finalist.

The identity of the three finalists will be kept confidential by the Awards Chair, Texas ALP President, and the finalists themselves until the three finalists are announced by the Awards Chair.

J. The Awards Chair will acknowledge receipt of each nomination received. The Awards Chair will further, by either official report or direct mail, notify the local chapters whose entries have been disqualified, giving the reason(s) for disqualification.

K. The judges shall conduct a personal, private interview with each of the three finalists at the Annual Conference, and thereafter each judge will individually and independently rate the three finalists according to the criteria given. The judges and the Awards Chair will then compile the results and determine the winner. The three finalists will be introduced and the winner announced at the Annual Conference.

The finalists' scores from paragraph E above will be carried forward and used as part of the scoring to determine the winner. During the interview, the finalists will be further judged on the basis of the following categories and the results recorded on a second rating sheet:

- Neatness of appearance
- Poise
- Personality
- Ability to converse

The finalist receiving the highest overall rating from both the initial scoring and the personal interview will be selected as the Legal Professional of the Year. In case of a tie, the judges will re-evaluate each finalist, giving further consideration to both rating areas, and will make a final decision.

L. *A nominee will be disqualified if the nominee, or anyone else on the nominee's behalf, contacts any of the judges personally, in writing, or by telephone.*

M. (1) The rating sheets used by the judges are considered to be **CONFIDENTIAL**. After the judging of the nominees has commenced, the information on the rating sheets will be viewed only by the President, the Awards Chair, and the judges.

(2) The final tabulation sheet prepared by the Awards Chair from the individual rating sheets of the judges will be signed and dated by all three judges and the Awards Chair following the final interviews at the Annual Conference. The President will approve and attest to the scoring and will sign and date the final tabulation sheet.

(3) At no time will the rating sheets or final tabulation form be duplicated for any nominee, finalist, or chapter for any purpose.

(4) At the close of the Annual Conference, *all* rating sheets, evaluation forms, judges' notes, etc., and the final tabulation form will be sealed in an envelope by the Awards Chair and delivered to the President for destruction.

**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**

NOMINATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

LOCAL CHAPTER: _____ PHONE: _____

DATE: _____ DATE RECEIVED BY CHAIR: _____

=====

A. EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

Education:

1. High School: _____

Graduation Date: _____

2. Business/Secretarial School, Junior College, College, or University: _____

Graduation Date: _____ Degree(s) Obtained: _____

3. Has the nominee received PP certification?

Yes _____ No _____ Date Certified: _____

4. Has the nominee received PLS/CLP certification?

Yes _____ No _____ Date Certified: _____

5. Has the nominee received ALP certification?

Yes _____ No _____ Date Certified: _____

6. Has the nominee received a Specialty Certification designation?

Yes _____ No _____ Date Certified: _____

7. Has the nominee completed a legal professional course sponsored by a professional association, business/secretarial school, college, or university?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, name of course, sponsor, and date of completion: _____

8. Has the nominee received any other certification?

Yes _____ No _____ Date Certified: _____

Name of certification: _____

B. LEGAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

NAME OF EMPLOYER	POSITION HELD	DATES OF EMPLOYMENT	NO. OF YEARS
TOTAL YEARS OF EXPERIENCE			

C. SPECIAL HONORS EARNED

Honor(s) received, including date(s).

D. SERVICE TO NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Date of affiliation as member: _____

Name and location of local Chapter: _____

ASSOCIATION	ELECTED OFFICES	APPOINTED OFFICES/COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS
Local		
State		
National		

E. OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Membership in other organizations (including dates of active participation and offices held):

F. NOMINEE NARRATIVE:

In the space provided below, please describe, **in 300 words or less**, your job description, including the duties you like best and the duties you like least. (If you need additional space, please attached your narrative behind and mark appropriately - **F. Nominee Narrative.**)

G. COMMENTS BY YOUR PRESENT EMPLOYER (not to exceed 300 words). (If you need additional space, please attached comments behind and mark appropriately – **G. Comments by Your Present Employer.**)

(Employer's Signature)

H. COMMENTS BY LOCAL CHAPTER OR NOMINATING MEMBER (not to exceed 300 words). (If you need additional space, please attached your comments behind and mark appropriately – **H. Comments by Local Chapter or Nominating Member.**)

NOMINEE:

Nominee's Signature

Printed Name of Nominee

IF NOMINATED BY MEMBER:

Nominating Member's Signature

Printed Name of Nominating Member

Local Chapter of Nominating Member

Address of Nominating Member

Email of Nominating Member

IF NOMINATED BY LOCAL CHAPTER:

Local Chapter Name

Local Chapter Officer's Signature

Printed Name of Local Chapter Officer

Address of Local Chapter Officer

Email of Nominating Chapter Officer

NOTE: Before submitting this nomination form, please check it over carefully to be sure it is in conformance with the Texas ALP Official Rules and Regulations. Nominations not conforming to the Official Rules and Regulations will be disqualified.

Nominations must be submitted by the local chapter or nominating member on the Texas ALP Nomination form. Please submit an original and one copy.

Nominations must be hand delivered to the Awards Chair by no later than February 13 or postmarked by the United States Postal Service on or before February 13 or validated by an overnight delivery service that such parcel was placed in such service's depository on or before February 13 and received by the Awards Chair on or before February 20.

Nominating local chapter or nominating member should send an email to the Awards Chair stating the Texas ALP Nomination form has been sent in accordance with the Guidelines and Rules. Once the Awards Chair has received the Texas ALP Nominating Form, she will confirm receipt via email to the nominating local chapter or the nominating member.

No testimonial or other supporting documents will be considered.

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2019

RETURN COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM TO:

Donna K. Dendy
c/o Pakis, Giotes, Page & Burleson, P.C.
Post Office Box 58
Waco, Texas 76703-0058
(254) 297-7300
dkd@pakislaw.com

64th ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

May 3-4, 2019

LUBBOCK



THE ELEGANCE OF A FOUR-STAR HOTEL COMBINED WITH FRIENDLINESS, CLEANLINESS AND SERVICE.

Located in the Heart of West Texas, the MCM Eleganté Lubbock is known for the most comfortable beds on the planet. Our 13” Simmons Beautyrest Pillowtop mattresses, topped with plush bedding, are more comfortable than home. Combine that with a FREE Breakfast with Eggs Cooked-to-Order, Happy Hour Specials from 4PM - 6:00PM. The family will love our indoor heated swimming pool, and 24/7 Fitness Center. All of our rooms & suites include FREE Wi-Fi, a wet bar, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, two flat screen TVs, Bath & Body Works amenities, a full size sofa bed and more!

Vendors will be located next to meeting room

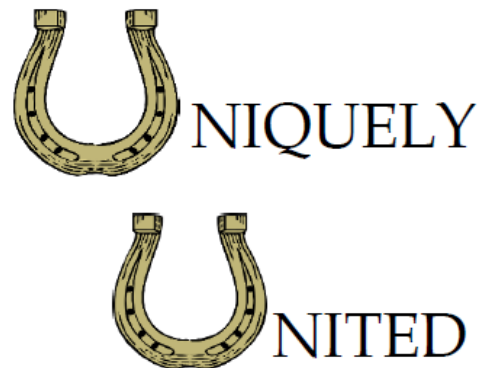
Some places to check out:

Buddy Holly Center

First Friday Art Trail on May 3

Depot District

Texas Tech campus, including Jones Stadium and various sculptures throughout the campus
Museums—TTU, Agricultural, Wind Power
(although all have standard museum hours)



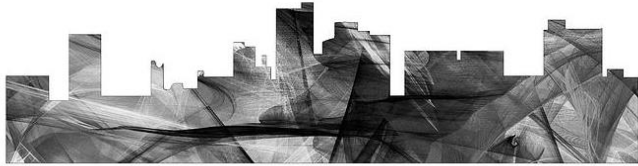
Lubbock Legal Professionals Association

welcomes

Texas ALP members with wide open arms!

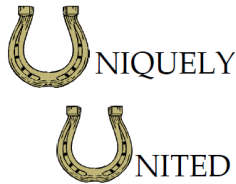
TEXAS ALP 2019 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

May 3 & 4, 2019



Lubbock's First Friday Art Trail

Take the hotel shuttle to the Depot District. The First Friday Art Trail is a monthly evening celebrating the arts in downtown Lubbock and beyond. There is a free Citibus trolley service that will take you to all the stops on the trail in downtown Lubbock. Admission: free. Be sure to download the smartphone app to take the trail with you on-the-go! For more information, <http://ffat.org/>



Welcome to Lubbock, Texas, considered the "hub" of West Texas. Lubbock is home to Texas Tech University, museums, shopping, and restaurants. For updated events, browse visitlubbock.org.



TEXAS ALP 2019 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Lubbock, Texas ♦ May 3-4, 2019

Registration Deadline—April 1, 2019

<p align="center">REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>Name _____ Address _____ City/ST/ZIP _____ Daytime Phone _____ E-mail _____</p> <p align="center">(Check all that apply)</p> <p>Certifications: <input type="checkbox"/> ALP <input type="checkbox"/> PLS/CLP <input type="checkbox"/> PP <input type="checkbox"/> SC _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CLA/CP <input type="checkbox"/> ACP <input type="checkbox"/> RP <input type="checkbox"/> TSC _____ Other _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NALS Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> Texas ALP Past President <input type="checkbox"/> This is my first Texas ALP meeting <input type="checkbox"/> I want to be a Texas ALP PAL <input type="checkbox"/> I have a special dietary request (contact Registration Chair)</p> <p>Local Chapter _____</p> <p>Current Local Position Held _____</p> <p>Current Texas ALP Position Held _____</p> <p>Current NALS Position Held _____</p>	<p align="center">FULL REGISTRATION FEES</p> <p>***Note: Regular and Late Registrations include all individual events***</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Texas ALP Member\$135* <input type="checkbox"/> Texas ALP Chair..... \$ 85 <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmember\$160 <input type="checkbox"/> Student..... \$ 100</p> <p><i>Late Fee (postmarked after April 1, 2019)\$ 25</i></p> <p align="center">INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION FEES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Only—Nonmember..... \$ 100 <input type="checkbox"/> Education Only—Student \$ 75 <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Luncheon (Nonmember) \$ 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Recognition Luncheon (Nonmember) \$ 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Presidents’ Banquet \$ 35</p> <p align="center">MEMBER’S GUEST REGISTRATION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Luncheon \$ 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Recognition Luncheon \$ 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Presidents’ Banquet \$ 35</p> <p>Guest’s Name _____</p> <p>*Per Standing Rule No. 22, Members are required to pay the full registration fee.</p>
<p align="center">SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Please indicate each event you will attend)</p> <p>Friday, May 3, 2019</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 am – 9:30 am Registration <input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 am – 9:00 am Texas ALP Committee Meetings <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am – 9:30 am Open Forum/PYI Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30 am – 9:45 am Break <input type="checkbox"/> 9:45 am – 10:45 am Criminal Law <input type="checkbox"/> 10:45 am – 11:45 pm Ethics – Social Media and Jury Selection <input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Professional Development Luncheon <input type="checkbox"/> 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Bankruptcy <input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 pm – 3:00 pm Break <input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm The Do’s and Don’ts of Insurance Defense <input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm – 4:15 pm Credentials Check-In <input type="checkbox"/> 4:15 pm – 6:00 pm Texas ALP Annual Meeting</p> <p>Saturday, May 4, 2019</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am – 10:00 am Ethics <input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 am – 10:15 am Break <input type="checkbox"/> 10:15 am – 11:15 am Federal Mitigation <input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Recognition Luncheon <input type="checkbox"/> 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Guardianship/Probate <input type="checkbox"/> 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm Break <input type="checkbox"/> 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Indian Law <input type="checkbox"/> 3:30 pm – 3:45 pm TALP Fundraising Raffle <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm Incoming President’s Reception <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm – 12:00 am Presidents’ Banquet</p>	<p align="center">PAYMENT INFORMATION</p> <p>Total Amount Due: \$_____ (due with registration form)</p> <p>Please make check payable to: Lubbock Legal Professionals Association Special Meeting Account Federal Tax ID No. 75-6044048</p> <p>Notice: A \$30 fee will be assessed for returned checks. Refunds requested and confirmed in writing (less a \$25 fee) will be made until April 15, 2019.</p> <p>Mail registration form to: Angela Gschwend Lubbock LPA Attn: Registration P.O. Box 65434 Lubbock, TX 79464</p> <p>For questions about registration, contact Registration Chair: Angela Gschwend Email: Agschwend@co.lubbock.tx.us Or Kim Fox Crenshaw, Dupree & Milam, LLP 4411 98th Street, Suite 400 Lubbock, TX 79424 Telephone: (806) 762-5281 Email: kfox@cdmlaw.com</p>
<p align="center">HOTEL INFORMATION</p> <p>Reservations should be made directly with MCM Elegante` Hotel & Suites, 801 Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79401. Book your reservation no later than April 17, 2019, by calling (806) 763-1200. Please identify yourself as a member of Texas ALP and use group code "TALP" to receive the discounted room rate of \$89 for Double Queen or King Bedrooms (for May 2-4, 2019 only).</p> <p align="center"><i>Contributions or gifts to Texas ALP are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.</i></p>	

**Texas ALP 2019 Annual Education Conference
Schedule of Events**

Friday, May 3, 2019

8:00 am – 9:30 am Registration
8:30 am – 9:00 am Texas ALP Committee Meetings
9:00 am – 9:30 am Open Forum/PYI Workshop
9:30 am – 9:45 am Break
9:45 am – 10:45 am Criminal Law
10:45 am – 11:45 pm Ethics – Social Media and Jury Selection
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Professional Development Luncheon
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Bankruptcy
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm Break
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm The Do's and Don'ts of Insurance Defense
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm Credentials Check-In
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm Texas ALP Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 4, 2019

9:00 am – 10:00 am Ethics
10:00 am – 10:15 am Break
10:15 am – 11:15 am Federal Mitigation
11:30 am – 1:00 pm Recognition Luncheon
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Guardianship/Probate
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm Break
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Indian Law
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm TALP Fundraising Raffle
6:30 pm – 7:00 pm Incoming President's Reception
7:00 pm – 12:00 am Presidents' Banquet





Live band at the Presidents' Banquet!



Band Members:

Jerry Ontiveros, Rick Goodgion, Kent Goodgion, and Kevin Goodgion

Check them out on YouTube!



DON'T FORGET TO PACK YOUR BOOTS!

LUBBOCK LPA's WELFARE PROJECT
For the 64th Annual Education Conference
is
TEXAS SOUTH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT



Excerpt from Honor Flight Donation Letter:

The "National Honor Flight" is an organization committed to sending WWII, Korean, and Vietnam veterans to Washington, D.C., to experience the memorials built to honor their service and sacrifice. Nationally, there are some 620,000 WWII survivors with approximately 2,000 here in the South Plains, with that number getting smaller daily. We here at the Texas South Plains Honor Flight are committed to doing everything within our power to make this dream of sending these heroes on the trip of a lifetime come true for as many veterans as possible. This is why we have scheduled the Seventh Honor Flight from Lubbock, Texas, to Washington, D.C., in October-November 2019. This year's Texas South Plains' effort will focus on veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam and those veterans from any war who have a terminal illness, and therefore, time is of the essence.



2017 Texas South Plains Honor Flight

Lubbock LPA will accept additional donations to be given to the South Plains Honor Flight. Your local association may make checks directly to South Plains Honor Flight. This is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Texas ALP 2019

64th Annual Education Conference

FUNdraising Raffle

“Rustic Theme”

Support Texas ALP by donating any themed item for the raffle



Tickets may be purchased at the conference for \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00.
 All proceeds return to Texas ALP to support future conferences/educational opportunities.
 Nothing is possible without YOUR participation!

Texas Docket Advertising

The *Docket* Advertising Committee is seeking advertisers for each issue of *The Texas Docket*. Do you know of a vendor that would like to establish a statewide network of Texas ALP members for its product or service or enhance its company's name awareness by using this high-profile advertising option to achieve greater exposure to preeminent Texas legal professionals? If so, please provide the below information to the vendor or provide the contact information to *The Texas Docket* editor, Lola Smith-Gentry, at lgentry@hkwwlaw.com.

<u>Ad Options</u>	<u>Ad Rates</u>	
Full Page (9 h x 7 w)	<u>Annual</u>	<u>One Issue</u>
Half Page Horizontal (4.5 h x 7 w)	Full = \$100	Full = \$50
Quarter Page Vertical (4.5 h x 3.25 w)	Half = \$75	Half = \$35
	Quarter = \$50	Quarter = \$20

Note from the Editor:

Have you read an article you think other members might be interested in reading?
If so, you can share it for others to read in *The Texas Docket*.

Feel free to e-mail the article to me at lgentry@hkwwlaw.com

**Local Associations,
please send your brags!**