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The Texas Docket

October 2018
Volume 16, Issue 2



TEXAS ALP FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 12 AND 13, 2018
CORPUS CHRISTI
FIESTA

Editor

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The Texas Docket

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President's Message

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



Welcome to Fall! Temperatures are dropping and so are the leaves. Right? Wishful thinking on my part, but fall is here and soon the holiday season will be upon us. Texas ALP extends to you the warmest wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing everyone in Corpus Christi. The members there are working exceptionally hard to be sure we have a fantastic conference. Come be a part of the Texas ALP legacy. On May 27, 1955, modern day pioneers saw a need and accepted the challenge to form the foundation of the Texas Association of Legal Secretaries at the Driscoll Hotel Corpus Christi. A charter was issued by NALS on July 20, 1956. In May 1967 the 12th Annual Conference was held in Corpus Christi with 1,001 members. The next meeting held in Corpus Christi was February 1991. The 38th Annual Conference was held in Corpus Christi on May 20-23, 1993, with 1,774 members. May 14-16, 1999, we again visited Corpus Christi for the 44th Annual Conference with a membership of 709, and again June 10-13, 2004, for the 49th Annual Conference with a membership ending of 755.

During the annual education conference in Houston last April and in the last issue of the *Docket*, I shared my theme for this year—the Starfish. 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? Be sure to let Andrea know how many members you have floating with Texas ALP so far this year.

In today's busy society, it can be hard to think about finding time to volunteer. However, the benefits of volunteering are enormous to you, your family, and the community. The right match can help you find friends. Reach out to your local legal community. It can help you learn new skills and even advance your career. Volunteering can even help protect your mental and physical health. It can provide a healthy boost to your self-confidence and life satisfaction. It provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity. And the better you feel about yourself, the more likely you are to have a positive view of your life and future goals.

Let the officers find the right place for you in Texas ALP. We have many openings for volunteers. One of the best ways to make new friends and strengthen existing relationships is to commit to a shared activity together. You will notice that many times you see the officers together. This is not meant to exclude you, but to create a “bond” that strengthens our executive committee.

Don't forget what Jon Gordon said, "Remember why you do what you do. We don't get burned out because of what we do. We get burned out because we forget why we do what we do." Why don't you make the difference? Be the difference?

Rita



Making a difference



CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, PHONE

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Texas ALP Communications Chair
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HUGS

We all need a hug every day. Marcus Julian Felicetti, in an internet blog, states that according to family therapist Virginia Satir:

- *We need 4 hugs a day for survival*
- *We need 8 hugs a day for maintenance*
- *We need 12 hugs a day for growth.*

That's a lot of hugs!

A hug is a healing touch which boosts oxytocin levels relieving loneliness, lifts serotonin levels creating happiness, and relaxes muscles, releasing tension and pain. A hug boosts self-esteem, shows us how to give and receive, and allows us to let go and be present in the moment.

So, let's reach out to our members to share their happiness and sorrow with a hug – virtual though it may be. Just forward to me any information regarding illness, death, birth, marriage, etc., of a TALP member or family member that you would like to share with the members of our association. The email address is hugs@talp.org.

Thanks!

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



CONGRATULATIONS!
Emily Walterscheid, PP, CLP
on your election as
Texas ALP Secretary

Emily, Chief Paralegal at Matthew Harris Law, PLLC, has thirteen years of experience in the legal profession. She has been a member of NALS for almost seven years. She has held almost every office position and either chaired or served on every committee at the local level. Lubbock LPA is proud of all the work she has done locally and also has done as marketing, membership, education, and conference chairs at the state level. She has also volunteered her time at the national level on several boards. Emily has been active in other legal associations and attends as much CLE as she can.



Emily received her certifications from NALS in 2014. She graduated with Honors from American Military University.

In 2015 and 2016 Emily played football for the Alzheimer's Football League to help raise funds for research to raise awareness. She has served on the PTA for her children.

Although very active in the legal field, Emily's heart and soul is her family. Donnavan and Kira are very involved in their schools.



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 can 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

(8/14/2018)

Elected Officers

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THE TEXAS DOCKET

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OF COURSE, WE'RE BRAGGING!

A Portrait of Myra J. Miles, PLS



The members of Houston ALP wish Myra a happy birthday on October 8.

Myra J. Miles, PLS, is a long-time member of Houston ALP. Myra feels the association is not only a vital part of her life, it is a vital part of who she is. Time and again association activities have taken her out of her comfort zone to accomplishments she never thought possible. For the first ten years of her membership, she attended professional development and leadership seminars in order to develop her own leadership skills. She now focuses on nurturing the skills and talents of others.

Myra began working in the legal field over fifty years ago. She began her first job in May 1954. In 1959 she graduated from Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, with a major in education. She has worked in three states—Illinois, Missouri, and Texas—gaining experience in most fields of law. Myra worked her way through college as a legal secretary and joined NALS on May 14, 1985. Myra is employed at the firm of Doyle, Restrepo, Harvin & Robbins, L.L.P., in Houston, Texas, where she has worked as a legal secretary for the more than sixteen years. Her firm highly respects her knowledge and experience, and, as a result of her years of teaching grammar and written communications, her bosses rely on her for the final review of their pleadings and documents.

Myra has served on all levels of our trilevel association, including serving as president of the Houston chapter for 1990-1991. Myra has been serving on the Houston board of directors since 1986, and has chaired the employment, membership, bylaws and standing rules, ways and means, and audit committees, as well as working on various certification study groups. Myra serves as parliamentarian and has done so for many years. She helps preserve our bylaws, standing rules, and policies and procedures, and assists our presidents and board by maintaining all parliamentary procedures. She has received the Houston Association's President's Award (2018), Mentor of the Year Award (2013, 2007, and 1993), President's Lifetime Achievement Award (2011), Legal Professional of the Year Award (2010), Inspiration of the Year Award (1991), and Legal Secretary of the Year Award (1989).

Myra served as Texas ALP Parliamentarian for 2016-2017, and has served on the Texas Association's PLS Mock Exam and Handbook Study Guide Committees and the Continuing Education Council. Myra has been a speaker for Texas on personal injury and workers' compensation, grammar and written communications, discovery devices, document preparation, ethics, tips for good publications, and officers and chairmen training, as well as other capacities. In 1989 Myra received the Texas Association's Legal Secretary of the Year Award.

Myra has served NALS on the College, State, and Chapter Resource Manual Task Force, as a proofreader for @Law, and a moderator for online grammar sessions. Myra attended her first Tulsa conference in March 2012.

Myra has assisted in hurricane relief, served dinners at the Ronald McDonald House and The Bridge Women's Shelter, and answered telephones for the Jerry Lewis MDS Telethon. She is devoted to her family. She teaches Sunday school for third through fifth graders, as well as other functions within her church.

Texas ALP President and Houston member Rita Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC-CL, says, "I joined our association in 1988 when the PLS training course was offered and chaired by Myra and Sue Foley. Myra instantly became my Houston mentor. She taught me not only how to take the exam, but how to dress professionally and conduct myself the same. She gives her heart, loyalty, and time to anyone in need. Myra has always been a great friend to me. I cannot brag enough about Myra, my champion."

Mica DeScioli is Houston ALP's President. She says, "We are so blessed to have Myra Miles in our association. Never have I met someone with so much passion and devotion. She is always there to lend a hand and does so with a smile on her face. I cannot imagine our association without her and her amazing knowledge. Myra, thank you so much for your service. You are appreciated more than you will ever know!"

Vickie French, PP, PLS (Houston member and coworker), says, "Mere words do not express the respect and affection for Myra held by her peers in HALP, TALP, and NALS. In our firm, her knowledge and expertise is valued and appreciated."

Kip Hall, PLS, says she met Myra as soon as she joined Houston ALP in 2005. "Myra taught written communications and grammar in the legal training course that I attended. To say the least, I was in awe of her knowledge and the passion she had for teaching. She is the 'grammar queen' as far as I am concerned and I have called on Myra several times for assistance with the preparation of client communications. Myra is patient and warm, and is held in high esteem by everyone who knows her. Myra has a positive attitude and is one of the kindest people I know."

Helene Wood, PP, PLS, TSC-RE, describes Myra as a leader, teacher, and friend, "She is an integral part of our association and a treasure amongst us. We wouldn't know what to do without her warmth and guidance."

Again, Happy Birthday, Myra. We love you!



HOUSTON ALP

Houston ALP held two events in July.

July 14, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Houston ALP partnered up with Houston Paralegal Alumni Association
Business Organizations CLE
3 hours of CLE credit
We had a total of 14 attendees



July 29, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Mock Trial presented by paralegal students at the University of Houston Downtown
1 hour of CLE credit
We had a total of 9 attendees who sat as the jury





Texas Association of Legal Professionals
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&

CCALP



Corpus Christi Association of Legal Professionals

INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE



2018 Fall Education Conference
October 12th & 13th 2018
Radisson Beach Hotel, Corpus Christi



Conference will offer 8 hours of Continuing Legal Education

Topics Include:

Evolution of the American Jury
U.S. Immigration – View from the Bench
Human Sex Trafficking
The Selena Murder Case
Border Shootings



Along with a great educational experience, there will be vendors,
exhibitors, free gifts, and loads of fun.

Registration Form and Schedule of Events can be found at
<http://www.texasalp.org/conferenceseducation.html>

Questions may be directed to

TALP 2018 Fall Education Conference Co-Chairs:

Michelle McDaniel (361) 814-0074 robertlramey@att.net

Dee Martinez (361) 537-4944 dmartinez@edwardsfirm.com

TEXAS ALP 2018 FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
Corpus Christi, Texas • October 12-13, 2018

*Don't Stress Over Your Dress—
Business Casual Will Suit*

We can't wait to welcome you to Corpus Christi
for the Texas ALP Fall Conference!



October will still be warm (80s), but doable.
You may want to take advantage of a break with a walk on the beach—
and you certainly can't do that in a business suit—
so the official dress for the conference has been designated as ***business casual***.

(But, please, no flip-flops, cut-offs, or swimsuits!)

Corpus Christi ALP

TEXAS ALP 2018 FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
“FIESTA”
Radisson Beach Hotel Corpus Christi
October 12-13, 2018

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 12, 2018	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast
7:30 am – 10:30 am	Registration
9:00 am – 9:45 am	Texas ALP Leadership
9:45 am – 10:30 am	Open Forum
10:45 am – 11:45 am	<i>The Evolution of the American Jury</i> – Justin Williams (1.0 CLE)
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	Welcome Luncheon
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	<i>U.S. Immigration – View from the Bench</i> – Judge Jason Libby (1.0 CLE)
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<i>Human Sex Trafficking</i> – State Rep. Todd Hunter (1.0 CLE)
4:15 pm 5:15 pm	Texas ALP Fall Board Meeting
Saturday, October 13, 2018	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast
7:30 am – 10:30 am	Registration
8:30 am – 11:45 am	<i>“The Selena Murder Case: The Real Facts in the Handling of a High Profile Case.”</i> – Carlos Valdez, former DA and City Attorney (3.0 CLE)
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Professional Development Luncheon
1:45 pm – 3:45 pm	<i>Border Shootings: Mexico and the United States may share a 2,000-mile border, but the origins of their legal traditions are oceans apart.</i> – Robert C. Hilliard, Hilliard Martinez Gonzales LLP (2.0 CLE)
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm	TALP Fundraising Raffle



Join us in Corpus Christi for the
Texas ALP 2018 Fall Education Conference
Radisson Beach Hotel ♦ October 13, 2018

“Tips to Build a Successful Career”

Presented by:

Deborah K. Rios
Rios Law Office



Professional Development Luncheon

The Texas ALP 2018 Fall Education Conference



Saturday, October 13, 2018
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Radisson Beach Hotel
3200 E. Surfside Blvd.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78402
361-883-9700

The Texas Association of Legal Professionals and Corpus Christi Association of Legal Professionals are pleased to invite you to join us to hear **Deborah K. Rios** speak at our October 13, 2018, Professional Development Luncheon, on how she went from being a Paralegal to a Lawyer.

Find out more and register at <http://www.texasalp.org/conferenceseducation.html>

Deadline to register is September 27, 2018.

No CLE credit is available for this program.



The Life and Career of Deborah K. Rios: Paralegal to Attorney

Rios was born and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. She has been licensed since 2002. She obtained her associates degree in Legal Assisting from Del Mar College in 1991. She had been working as a paralegal for five years before deciding to return to college and thereafter applying to law school. She graduated with honors from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi in 1999 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. She graduated with her juris doctorate from St. Mary's University School of Law in 2002.

She started her professional career working at a civil defense law firm (the people who defend businesses, corporations, and insurance companies). She was there six months when she decided to pursue her dream of opening her own law office. In 2003, she opened the Law Office of Deborah K. Rios, where she primarily practiced family law, probate, wills and estates, and personal injury. In 2005, she was offered a unique opportunity to work as in-house counsel for a physician who had several medical practices. She did that for a couple of years and then returned to private practice, where she expanded her practice to include criminal law. In 2010, she was hired as an Assistant Attorney General in the Child Support Division of the Office of the Attorney General, prosecuting child support enforcement cases as well as paternities and modifications. In the summer of 2012, she returned to private practice, where she narrowed her law practice to focus on criminal and family law. Each different venture has afforded her experience in different areas of laws.

Rios does not regret her decision to switch careers, and she hopes others will consider the job change if it is right for them.

Corpus Christi ALP

cannot wait to see you.

Right next to our hotel, we have the Texas State Aquarium and the U.S.S. Lexington Museum. Just a short distance away, we have the Bayfront and great places to eat



AND DON'T FORGET THE SHOPPING!!!!



Texas Alp Fall Educational Conference

October 12-13, 2018



WE HAVE THE BEACH!



WE HAVE THE SUN

NOW LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!!

TEXAS ALP CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 12-13

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES FOR FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

CARLOS VALDEZ is known for prosecuting Tejano star Selena's killer and for having a lengthy political career. He was the District Attorney for Nueces County for 17 years. Mr. Valdez has also been a county and city attorney.

Mr. Valdez has written a book entitled *Justice for Selena: The State vs. Yolanda Saldivar*. It is a first-hand account of the trial involving the death of Selena Quintanilla Perez, the Tejano music superstar whose murder sent shockwaves throughout the music world and beyond.



Education: AA Del Mar College 1976
 BA Texas A&I University 1976
 JD University of Oklahoma School of Law

Experience: Nueces County Attorney 1985-1992
 District Attorney 1993-2010
 City Attorney 2010-2013
 George West City Attorney 2016-present

Major trials: *Nueces County vs. Texas Dept. of Corrections* 1989
 State vs. Frank Flores Cuellar
 State vs. Mauricio Celis
 State vs. Elizabeth Reynolds
 State vs. Yolanda Saldivar

Teaching Experience:
 Adjunct professor—Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi
 National Advocacy Center—Columbia, South Carolina
 Several Mexican States teaching trial advocacy



TODD A. HUNTER was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on August 26, 1953. He attended the University of Kansas (1971-1975) and Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law (1975-1978). Hunter has practiced law since November 1978 and is currently a partner of The Law Office of Todd A. Hunter in Corpus Christi. Todd and his wife, Alexis Taylor Hunter, have three children: Todd Jr., Michael, and Christina.

During his previous tenure in the Texas House of Representatives (1989-1997), Todd served on the Civil Practices Committee as its Chairman, the State Affairs Committee as Vice Chairman, and on the Appropriations Committee as the Chairman of the Education Sub-Committee. He also served as a member of the Ways and Means, Elections, Calendars, Urban Affairs, and Higher Education Committees.

In 2008, Todd returned to the Texas House as the Representative for District 32, which included Aransas, San Patricio, and Calhoun Counties, as well as part of Nueces County for his fifth term.

In the 82nd Legislative Session (his sixth term), Todd was named the Chairman of the Calendars Committee and as Chairman of the Select Committee on Election Contest. He also served on the General Investigating & Ethics, Human Services, and Correction Committees. .

In 2012, Todd was elected for his seventh term to a district that encompasses the eastern half of Nueces County. For the 83rd Legislative Session, Todd was once again named Chairman of the Calendars Committee. He was also a member of the Redistricting, Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence, County Affairs, General Investigating and Ethics, and Transportation Funding Committees.

Todd was elected for his eighth term in 2014. He was appointed the Chairman of the Calendars Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Urban Affairs Committee for the 84th Legislative Session. He was also a member of the Criminal Jurisprudence, Redistricting, and General Investigating and Ethics Committees.

Rep. Hunter was re-elected in 2016 for his ninth term. He was once again appointed the Chairman of the Calendars Committee, Vice Chairman of Criminal Jurisprudence, and a member of the County Affairs Committee.

Judge Jason B. Libby
United States Magistrate Judge, Corpus Christi Division



United States Magistrate Judge Jason B. Libby was appointed by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, effective May 9, 2013. He serves in the Corpus Christi Division.

Education:

Southern Methodist University School of Law, J.D.,
1995, Cum Laude
Trinity University, B.A. History and Communications,
1992, Cum Laude

Professional Career:

Assistant Federal Public Defender, Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division, 2002 - 2013

Associate Trial Attorney, Corpus Christi, Texas, 2000 - 2002

Trial Defense Counsel and Senior Defense Counsel, U.S. Army Trial Defense Service, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, and Kaiserslautern, Germany, 1998 - 2000

Army Prosecutor, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, Baumholder, Germany, 1996 - 1998

Army JAG in Training, The Judge Advocate General's School, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corp, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1996

History of Magistrate Judges

When Congress created the current three-tiered system of courts under Article III of the Constitution in 1896, United States Commissioners could be appointed by district judges to handle preliminary matters in criminal cases, like receiving bonds. In 1940, Congress expanded the duties of Commissioners to include trial of petty criminal offenses by consent. The Federal Magistrates Act of 1968 replaced the Commissioner with a position of Magistrate. In 1990, the title magistrate was changed to magistrate judge.

Magistrate judges are appointed by judges of the district court for a term of eight years. They may dispose of minor criminal offenses and may hold bench or jury trials in civil actions on consent of the parties. In addition, magistrate judges handle preliminary proceedings in felony matters, report and recommend to the district court on dispositive matters in civil cases, act as masters when appointed, and manage and rule on non-dispositive matters in civil cases.

JUSTIN L. WILLIAMS

JUSTIN L. WILLIAMS is the founder and managing partner of WILLIAMS ATTORNEYS PLLC.

MR. WILLIAMS has been elected a Texas Super Lawyer by his peers in Plaintiff's Personal Injury Law and Mass Torts from 2013-2018, he has been recognized as one of America's Top 100 Plaintiff's Personal Injury Attorneys as well as one of the 100 Best High Stakes "Bet the Company" or litigators for over \$2,000,000 cases. He was recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America by Rue's Rating and is a member of the Distinguished Lawyers of America, the Million and Multi-Million Dollar Advocates, and has been recognized by Texas Monthly Magazine as one of the Top Lawyers in Texas in Plaintiff's Personal Injury Law from 2013-2018. MR. WILLIAMS has been AV preeminent rated by Martindale-Hubbard for over 25 years.



MR. WILLIAMS and his firm, including sons Sean and Ryan as well as Nathan Clark, continue to fight every day for those injured and damaged in accidents or by bad drugs, illegal actions, or in royalty litigation underpayment and bad accounting.

WILLIAMS ATTORNEYS PLLC
500 N. Water Street, Suite 500
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 Office: 361-885-0184
Justin@williamstrial.com
www.williamstrial.com



ROBERT C. HILLIARD

Hilliard Martinez Gonzales L.L.P.

Founding Partner

KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE in PROSECUTING COMPLEX LITIGATION

Mr. Hilliard is the Founding Partner of Hilliard Martinez Gonzales, LLP (1985 – present) and Hilliard & Shadowen, LLP (2012 – present).

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Successfully argued before the Supreme Court of the United States

Hernandez v. Mesa
Argument: Feb. 21, 2017

ACCOLADES & ASSOCIATIONS

National Law Journal
2015 Elite Trial Lawyer of the Year: Motor Vehicles

National Law Journal
2016 Elite Trial Lawyer of the Year: Products Liability

Texas Super Lawyer 15 years

Martindale-Hubbell "AV[®]
Preeminent Rating,"

Litigation Counsel of America (LCA) Member

American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA),
"Advocate" level

Alumni Board of Trustees for St. Mary's University's School of Law

American Association for Justice National Co-Chair, Ethics Committee Chairman 1992-1995

Mr. Hilliard is currently Co-Lead Counsel in *In re: General Motors LLC Ignition Switch Litigation*, MDL 2543. This multi-district litigation is considered the largest product liability litigation in US history. Mr. Hilliard has successfully led approximately 1,153 plaintiffs and their attorneys in a wide array of pretrial matters, including discovery disputes and negotiations with opposing counsel about the proceedings. As reported by *The New York Times*, "...G.M. reached another legal milestone, setting aside \$575 million to resolve the cases of about 1,380 people, all represented by Robert C. Hilliard. Mr. Hilliard, a lawyer who is among those leading the class-action cases against the automaker, said that 45 death cases were among those settled."

Mr. Hilliard is also currently Co-Lead Counsel for the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in the Texas GM MDL, *In re: General Motors LLC Ignition Switch Litigation*, MDL No. 2014-51871.

Mr. Hilliard's firm, Hilliard & Shadowen LLP, is currently in leadership roles in the following MDLs:

• **2014:** *In re Aggrenox Antitrust Litig.*, No. 3:14 MD 2516 (SRU) (D. Conn.) (Interim Co-Lead counsel on behalf of consumer class plaintiffs);

• **2014:** *Loestrin 24 Fe Antitrust Litig.*, No. 1:13-md-02472-S (D.R.I.) (Interim Co-Lead counsel of behalf of consumer class plaintiffs);

• **2014:** *In re Niaspan Antitrust Litig.*, No. 2:13-md-02460-JD (E.D. Pa.) (Interim Co-Lead Counsel on behalf of consumer class plaintiffs);

• **2013:** *In re Nexium (Esomeprazole) Antitrust Litig.*, No. 1:12-md-02409-WGY (D. Mass.) (Co-Lead Counsel on behalf of consumer class plaintiffs);

2016/2017: Mr. Hilliard is lead counsel in a series of cases challenging the U.S. Border Patrol's policy of using lethal force against persons across the border in Mexico who allegedly throw rocks at agents in the U.S. The United States Supreme Court granted Mr. Hilliard's Petition for Certiorari and he presented oral argument before the Court in February 2017. Mr. Hilliard's clients include surviving family members of

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ACCOLADES & ASSOCIATIONS

St. Edward's University
2016 Distinguished Alumni

American Bar Association

Corpus Christi Bar
Association

2015 Cover Story in Elite
Attorney SA: "In Justice:
Texas Attorney Bob Hilliard
brings national causes to
justice"

Featured in the 2011 Texas
Super Lawyer magazine:
"The Bulldog — Bob Hilliard
Takes On Cases Others
Won't Touch... And Wins."

2011 Cover Story about
Mr. Hilliard in NSIDE
Magazine "The Champion"

Featured on ABC World
News Tonight, CNN,
CNBC, Good Morning
America, FOX News, 60
Minutes, New York Times,
USA Today, Washington
Post, Wall Street Journal
and other national and
international media

an unarmed, unthreatening 15-year-old bystander and a father who was a bystander in another incident while on a picnic with his wife and two young children. *Hernandez v. United States*, No. 11-50792 consolidated with No. 12-50217 and No. 12-50301 (5th Cir.). Under pressure of Mr. Hilliard's litigation, as well as condemnation from Congressional leaders and international human rights organizations, the Border Patrol announced sweeping revisions to use-of-force policies and the case caught the attention of the Nation's highest court.

2017: After Mr. Hilliard filed a lawsuit against Major League Baseball for a client severely injured by a foul ball, all thirty ball clubs announced they would extend safety netting beyond the dugout.

2013: Mr. Hilliard was the lead trial attorney for 15 patients killed or injured during Bristol-Myers Squibb's testing of an experimental drug for Hepatitis C. Mr. Hilliard led all filings, pre-trial matters, and negotiations and, as reported in the Wall Street Journal, successfully settled the cases for \$80 million.

2013: Mr. Hilliard was Lead Counsel in the pharmaceutical product liability case, *In re: Risperdal Litigation*, against Johnson & Johnson. He tried two cases before juries in the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas that both settled during trial. See *Banks v. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. et al.*; *Bentley v. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., et al.* Mr. Hilliard led the negotiations and successfully settled over 1,500 cases for a confidential amount after taking



the deposition of Johnson & Johnson's C.E.O., Alex Gorsky.

2011: The Honorable Kurt Englehart (E.D. La) appointed Mr. Hilliard as one of eight attorneys to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in *In Re FEMA Trailer Product Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 1873. Mr. Hilliard's firm represented approximately 30,000 FEMA Plaintiffs, 98% of whom accepted the proposed settlement. Mr. Hilliard was one of the trial lawyers in the first bellwether case, *Alexander, et al. v. Gulf Stream Coach, Inc., In Re FEMA Trailer Product Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 1873 (E.D. La.).

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BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

United States
Supreme Court

Supreme Court of Texas

State Bar of Texas

United States Court of
Appeals: Fifth Circuit &
Eighth Circuit

United States District
Courts: District of
Columbia, Eastern,
Northern, Southern and
Western Districts of Texas,
Louisiana, Pennsylvania
& Minnesota

EDUCATION

St. Mary's University
School of Law - J.D., 1983

St. Edward's University
B.A. English Literature,
Summa Cum Laude 1980



2011: Mr. Hilliard was a 2011 Public Justice National Trial Lawyer of the Year Finalist for his pro bono representation of Koua Fong Lee, a Hmong refugee, who served three years of a six-year prison sentence for vehicular homicide in Minnesota as a result of an accident involving his runaway Toyota. Mr. Hilliard successfully led a four-day evidentiary hearing proving the sudden unintended acceleration of Mr. Lee's Toyota and culminating in Mr. Lee's immediate and permanent release from custody. All charges were dropped, and Mr. Hilliard received the Never Forgotten Award from the Innocence Project of Minnesota for his tireless work on this case. Mr. Hilliard then sued Toyota and was lead trial lawyer in the civil case filed in Federal Court in Minnesota, where a Minnesota jury returned a verdict of over 10 million dollars for all of the victims of the accident, including the Lee family. Toyota lost its appeal of this verdict when the 8th Circuit affirmed 3-0.

Mr. Hilliard's other recent jury verdicts as lead trial attorney:

- **2013:** *Davila v. Premium Assets, Inc.* — \$25 million jury verdict; the top premises liability verdict in Texas in 2013.

- **2012:** *Chatman-Wilson v. Cabral & Coca-Cola, Enterprises, Inc.* — \$21 million jury verdict against Coca-Cola; one of the top overall verdicts in Texas for 2012.

- **2011:** *Garcia v. Christus Spohn* — \$6.4 million jury verdict against Christus Spohn Medical Center; the third highest premises liability verdict in 2011.

**MR. HILLIARD is DOUBLE BOARD CERTIFIED in
PERSONAL INJURY TRIAL LAW (1990) and CIVIL TRIAL LAW (1992).**

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TEXAS ALP 2018 FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

"FIESTA"

Corpus Christi, Texas * October 12-13, 2018

REGISTRATION DEADLINE—SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/ST/ZIP _____
 Daytime Phone _____
 Mobile Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Certifications

☐ ALP ☐ PLS ☐ CLP ☐ PP
☐ CLA ☐ CP ☐ ACP ☐ TSC
☐ RP ☐ Other _____

Local Chapter _____

Current Texas ALP Position Held _____

Current Local Position Held _____

Current NALS Position Held _____

☐ NALS Life Member ☐ Texas ALP Past President
☐ This is my first Texas ALP meeting
☐ I want to be a Texas ALP PAL
☐ I have a special dietary request (contact Registration Chair)

FULL REGISTRATION FEES

☐ Texas ALP Member* \$135
☐ Texas ALP Chair \$ 85
☐ Nonmember \$165
☐ Student \$ 85

INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION FEES

☐ Education Only – Nonmember (no meals) \$70
☐ Education Only – Student (no meals) \$50
☐ Breakfast (Friday) – Student/Nonmember \$ 9
☐ Breakfast (Saturday) – Student/Nonmember \$15
☐ Welcome Luncheon – Student/Nonmember \$20
☐ Professional Development Luncheon-Student/Nonmember... \$32

Late Fee (postmarked after September 29, 2018) \$25

MEMBER'S GUEST REGISTRATION

☐ Breakfast (Friday) \$ 9
☐ Breakfast (Saturday) \$15
☐ Welcome Luncheon \$20
☐ Professional Development Luncheon \$32

GUEST NAME: _____

*Per Standing Rule No. 22, members are required to pay the full registration fee.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Please mark each event you will attend)

Friday, October 12, 2018

☐ 7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast
☐ 7:30 am – 10:30 am Registration
☐ 9:00 am – 9:45 am Texas ALP Leadership
☐ 9:45 am – 10:30 am Open Forum
☐ 10:45 am – 11:45 am *The Evolution of the American Jury* – Justin Williams
☐ 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm Welcome Luncheon
☐ 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm *U.S. Immigration – View from the Bench* – Judge Jason Libby
☐ 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm *Human Sex Trafficking* – State Rep. Todd Hunter
☐ 4:15 pm 5:15 pm Texas ALP Fall Board Meeting

Saturday, October 13, 2018

☐ 7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast
☐ 7:30 am – 10:30 am Registration
☐ 8:30 am – 11:45 am *"The Selena Murder Case"* – Carlos Valdez, former DA
☐ 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Professional Development Luncheon
☐ 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm *Border Shootings* – Robert C. Hilliard
☐ 4:00 pm 4:15 pm TALP Fundraising Raffle

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Amount Due (due with registration form): \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
 CCALP Special Meeting Account
 (Federal Tax ID No. 74-6062856)

Notice: A \$25 fee will be assessed for returned checks. Refunds requested and confirmed in writing (less a \$25 processing fee) will be made until October 1, 2018.

Mail registration form to:
 Michelle McDaniel
 c/o Robert L. Ramey
 Attorney at Law
 615 North Upper Broadway Suite 1605
 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-0761

For questions about registration, contact Registration Chairs:
 Michelle McDaniel (361/816-0074); robertlramey@att.net
 Dee Martinez (361/573-4944); dmartinez@edwardsfirm.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Reservations should be made directly with the Radisson Beach Hotel, 3200 E. Surfside Blvd., Corpus Christi, Texas 78402. Book your reservation through on-site reservations at (361) 883-9700. Please identify yourself as a member of Texas ALP and use group code "ALP" to receive the discounted ocean view room rate of \$125 single/double (inclusive of taxes), which is available October 11-13, if made by September 27, 2018.

Contributions or gifts to Texas ALP are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

Invitation from Corpus Christi ALP to the Texas ALP 2018 Fall Education Conference

Texas Association of Legal Professionals and Corpus Christi Association of Legal Professionals invite you to attend the **2018 Fall Education Conference** to be held October 12 and 13, 2018, at the Radisson Beach Hotel in beautiful Corpus Christi, Texas. The conference will offer up to 8 hours of continuing legal education with topics to include the following:

Evolution of the American Jury

U.S. Immigration – View from the Bench

The Ethics of Social Media

The Selena Murder Case: The Real Facts in the Handling of a High Profile Case

Border Shootings: Mexico and the U.S. may share a 2,000-mile border, but the origins of their legal traditions are oceans apart.

The conference will also offer a welcome luncheon on Friday and a Professional Development luncheon on Saturday to be given by a former paralegal, now immigration attorney. You don't want to miss this conference in scenic Corpus Christi – right on the beach! Register today!





CORPUS CHRISTI
ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL
PROFESSIONALS
has chosen
BURN PITS 360

as the charitable recipient at the TALP Fall Educational Conference
October 12-13, 2018, Radisson Hotel, Corpus Christi, TX



Burn Pits 360 is an alliance of families and advocates which, with your financial support, is uniquely positioned to educate decision makers about a proactive response to Toxic Wounds of war and get Veterans and Military Families the support of a grateful nation.

Together we will #GetLoud about Toxic Wounds!

During the OEF and OIF wars, government contractors burned up to 227 metric tons of hazardous waste at forward operating bases using jet fuel in large ground pits. Items burned included: batteries, medical waste, amputated body parts, plastics, ammunition, human waste, animal carcasses, rubber, chemicals, & more. Exposure to these toxins, have caused a traumatic impact on the lives of our service members and their families. Some of the devastating health conditions suffered by Veterans exposed include: neurological disorders, pulmonary diseases, rare forms of cancer, and many unexplained symptoms.

VISION

Burn Pits 360 was developed in an effort to promote awareness of disease and illness of our service members, Veterans, and Contractors due to deployment related war exposures.

GOALS

To Establish an alliance of veteran service organizations, health care providers, legislators, and government organizations to allow for the strategic development of a quality specialized health care model specific to toxic environmental exposures that will provide a lifetime continuum of care.

To Facilitate resources to thousands of Reservists, Service Members, Veterans, and their Families through outreach initiatives encompassed around linking the services requested on the registry to services available within their community.



MONETARY DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE CONFERENCE

Any questions: contact Norma Koole at 361-885-1084

Texas ALP 2018 Fall Educational Conference FUNdraising Raffle



Get ready for the holidays
Support Texas ALP by donating any
Holiday-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!

**Have you read an interesting article?
Please submit to lgentry@hkwwlaw.com.**

Texas Docket Advertising

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	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!