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The Texas Docket

October to December 2023
Volume 21, Issue 2

*Congratulations
to Houston
and
San Antonio
for leaving footprints!*



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The Texas Docket

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fall! UMMM, I meant Texas ALP,

I'm ready for Fall too. All of the sweet smells of the holidays—cinnamon, baking goodies, turkey with all of the trimmings (those are a few things that come to mind) and yes, cooler weather. It has been a hot one this year. I can't forget family time that special time, when we all slow down and enjoy what is before us. I can close my eyes and picture it all....

The NALS conference was exciting. I met a lot of people and was finally able to match faces and names. Houston ALP did a great job on the education and planning. Thank you!

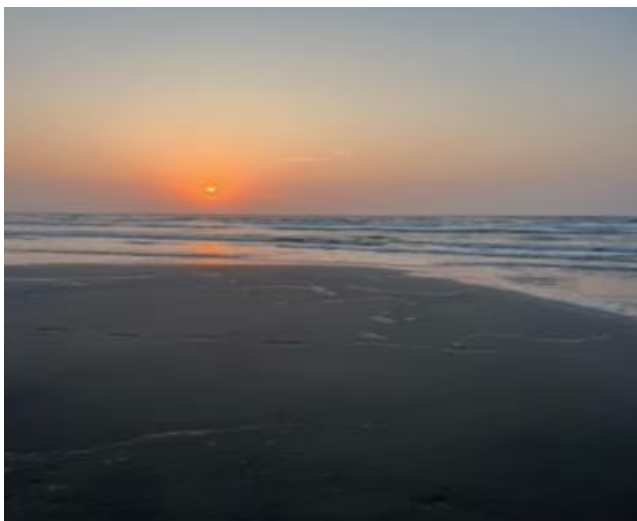
We are coming off of the San Antonio Conference, and let me tell you, Cheryl, Gina, and Rory worked to get this conference going. There were plenty of obstacles, but they overcame and I know everyone had a great time. So, thank you SALSA.

Count your Blessings, enjoy your family, and keep creating those Footprints in the Sand!

Take care!

Michelle

Michelle McDaniel,
President





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Through TALP Hugs, we share information among the distribution list members about others who may need a card, a phone call, or other special attention. It may be that they are going through an illness or a death in the family or it could be a joyous occasion such as a marriage or the arrival of a new grandchild. Whatever the occasion, the information shared comes from the member or someone close to the member.



Participation and inclusion in the distribution is strictly voluntary. Because we changed our host last year, the original Hugs list was lost and we are beginning again with the TALP e-distribution list. Going forward, the TALP Hugs distribution list will be separate from the TALP e-distribution list and will be maintained separately.

**Should you wish to be removed
from (or included in) the Hugs distribution,
please contact me at: hugs@talp.org**

Tina Hurley

MY FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Laura DeLeon
TexasALP President-Elect

I had the pleasure of attending the NALS Education Conference in Houston, Texas, August 20-24, 2023. The Houston/Texas ALP members put together an amazing event. During the four-day event, I was able to complete 15 hours of CLE credit. The topics were very informative and interesting. I attended presentations on legal writing, personal injury, ethics, and law enforcement. One of my favorite presentations was given by Travis Dendy, our own Donna Dendy's son. He discussed the history of the Texas Rangers, qualifications, requirements, and diversity of their caseload.



Off to the NALS Foundation Dinner

In addition to all the education, I loved being able to put faces with names of our national leaders and members and being able to meet and socialize with other members of our Association. I was able to meet several other first timers from other states and I am glad to say we bonded. We spent most of our lunches, dinners, and keynote presentations at the same tables or close to each other. Our grand finale, we went to a Houston Astros game together. Even though the Astros lost, it was a great game. After spending time together at the conference, we have kept in touch. I hope that these bonds continue to grow.

I was honored to be there to represent Texas ALP as Texas people and associates were honored and recognized in so many positive ways. It was a wonderful reminder that we are part of a bigger Association. I would encourage any of you to join me next year for the National Conference. The location and dates have not yet been determined, but I am sure it will be another great experience.





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Michelle McDaniel

‘Paralegals Make the Best Lawyers’

Three attorneys credit their passion, resolve, and success to their paralegal pasts

Photos by Jeremy Enlow

Published in 2023 Texas Rising Stars magazine

By [Trevor Kupfer](#) on March 17, 2023

As Karri Bertrand was working toward becoming an advanced certified paralegal in 2005, a close friend started going through a bad divorce.

“It was devastating to me,” she recalls. “It was a domestic violence situation where, over years, I talked her into leaving him. Then she got victimized by the court. She didn’t have any money, so no lawyer. She lost her kids, her house, and ended up paying him child support. Everything that could go wrong did.”

It was then that Bertrand decided to get her undergraduate degree and J.D., while working full time. “I decided to buckle down and say, ‘I’m getting the license. I can’t help people without it.’ I was on a mission,” she says. And, 15 years after becoming a paralegal, she did, becoming a family law attorney in Dallas.

After 10 and 20 years, respectively, Jacqui McNutt and Christy Lynn Hester became lawyers, too.

“I had this fear of, ‘Could I do it?’ I was very shy, so it was not a field my personality would have gone into. But seeing lawyers do it is what spurred me on to say, ‘I think I can do this, too,’” says McNutt, a San Marcos estate planning and probate attorney. “It’s a big dream. Nobody else in my family went to college, so it was a little daunting at times. I just worked super hard. This was my goal, and I wasn’t taking my eyes off of it.”

All three say their experience was invaluable to their professional development, and success, as attorneys.

“I become good friends with my clients after we’re done, because I’ve been in their lives for so long,” says Hester, an attorney in Mesquite. “The girl I just signed a confidential settlement for today was pretty rewarding to me. She was sexually assaulted at 14, and she’s 19 now. She was one of my very first cases when I became a lawyer, and she’s kind of like family. They tend to like being around you and having you on their side, especially with my background. I love the background that I have. I wouldn’t be one-eighth of the lawyer I am today if I didn’t have those 20 years under my belt.”



Getting a Foot in the Door

Christy Lynn Hester

In Hester’s high school yearbook, under what she wanted to be when she grew up, it says lawyer.

“It just took me a long time to get there,” she says. “I was young, got married,

had kids, and I decided to deal with that instead of going away to school.”

Hester’s first job after high school was as a hairdresser, “but I decided that was too much standing, so my best friend and I signed up for secretarial classes, and then started working in law firms as receptionists and assistants,” she says. “It progressed from there to taking competency exams, and then board certifications. Once I got into it, I really liked it, because it changed all the time.”

McNutt thought she’d be a teacher. But when she became a foster parent, then adopted children, she started thinking about law.

“There are a lot of flaws in the system,” she says. “A lot of kids that are left behind fall through the cracks. Each of the kids that came into the system, there was a legal case for all of them. I naively thought I could make a huge difference or impact, knowing that I had been a foster parent and seen it from both lenses.”

After becoming a legal assistant in 2002, McNutt took paralegal studies courses, then did a distance-learning program at Ashford University in criminal and social justice. “My husband worked the night shift and I worked during the day. By that time, the kids had already graduated high school, so they weren’t little anymore. It was hard, but definitely worth it in the end,” McNutt recalls.

Meanwhile, when Bertrand graduated from high school in 1992, she followed her parents’ wishes to go to Brigham Young University. “But that same year, they divorced,” she says. “I dropped out because my parents were fighting over who was going to pay for what. I didn’t get back to school full time until 2014.”

For the first decade of her adult life, Bertrand was heading toward the medical field, as the majority of her family had. But she quickly realized it wasn’t for her. “I fell back on all those assessment tests they give you in school that always told me to be a judge or lawyer. I was like, ‘You know what? I’m going to find a job as a legal secretary somewhere, just to get my foot in the door.’”

Soon after, Bertrand worked her way up from legal secretary to assistant to paralegal. “That’s when I started thinking, ‘Why don’t I just go all the way and go to law school at 40? That’s fun.’ Anytime I speak to paralegal groups, I’m like, ‘Look, I started from legal secretary with no degree. I literally took every step. If I can do it, anyone can. You just have to be diligent.’ I went to school at night for eight years straight. Every time I say it out loud, I’m like, ‘How did I do that?’”

Finding What Fits



Karri Bertrand

Hester got her start with an entertainment lawyer in the early ’90s, but didn’t find her fit until she met trial lawyer David G. Hart.

“I’ve been on the plaintiff’s personal injury side ever since,” she says. “As a paralegal, I got to go to depositions, mediations, and sit at counsel table in the courtroom. I think both David and Jay J. Murray valued my input, so I was always kind of right there as the lawyer’s right hand. I became a sponge.”

Though Bertrand started a decade later than Hester, it didn't always feel like it. "I learned real old school. The attorneys literally dictated into a tape player, so I would transcribe their letters. They did time slips on little pieces of paper. I had to type on a typewriter," she says of her stints with Graham, Bright & Smith and Colven & Tran. "But then I started doing a little drafting—a couple of wills—and I got to notarize documents."

As a paralegal, Bertrand got to sample transactional work as well as litigation, and even spent a year supporting the general counsel at Intrepid USA Healthcare Services. "That was an interesting job—not really my thing," she says. "I wanted to get back to litigation, so I went to Glast, Phillips & Murray and, from there, to O'Neil Wysocki."

In 2002, McNutt got her start doing exactly what she wanted—family law work—as a legal assistant with Frances Dunham in San Antonio.

"I went to court, helped her with jury trials, and she kept me in the loop, telling me everything I needed about the case instead of, 'Draft this document, make this phone call,'" she says. "Both of the offices that I worked at were very much for including the paralegal as a team with that lawyer—really being hands-on from the beginning to the end."

The other office, Lionel Sawyer & Collins, came in 2007, when McNutt moved to Nevada and gave estate planning a try.

"What a difference it was going from a solo to the three top floors of a building in downtown Las Vegas," she says. "They were working until midnight, they had showers and places to lay down, because sometimes they didn't go home until the next day. Watching and seeing how hard it was for new attorneys was a little terrifying in a big corporate firm. Good perks and a lot of benefits, but it was clear that was not the path for me."

Mentorship and Making the Leap

All three credit understanding employers and mentors with helping them make it.

"There were days that I was like, 'Can I finish this assignment?'" Bertrand recalls of O'Neil Wysocki. The firm promoted her from paralegal to associate, then, after she took the bar, allowed her to practice while supervised. "I had about 30 cases before I even got my bar results," she says.

In Hester's case, working for solo practitioners made a big difference.

"It made me respect the lawyer a little bit more whenever I saw how hard they had to work, and how important the role between us was. It made me want to go further and help people even more," she says.

Hester now works at Ted B. Lyon & Associates, and still keeps in touch with mentors. "They're just a wealth of knowledge," she says. "Our community seems to want to help every lawyer that's in it, especially on the plaintiff's side. Nobody is shy about sharing their war stories or their tricks of the trade, and it's very helpful—especially to a young lawyer.

"Being a paralegal helped me out in 95 percent of the job. Then there's that 5 percent where I get up and talk in front of a judge and think on my feet that you have to develop."

Working for a solo attorney made an impact on McNutt, too.

“Frances was the one who was like, ‘Jacqui, you can go to law school. You can be a lawyer. You can do it,’” McNutt says. “Even after I left her, and all through law school, she was saying, ‘You can do it. I’m right here. I’ll help you.’ She’s more of a mediator now, but to this day she’s still the person I call and say, ‘I don’t know what to do.’”

After getting experience developing a firm’s family law practice, McNutt decided to go out on her own. “I was above where I think some are, because I knew how to file pleadings and other things as a paralegal. But really running it alone, it took me a few years to decide, ‘OK, I’m ready.’”

Last September, Bertrand also went out on her own, and KB Family Law has already made a name for itself.

“Having been through two divorces with two ex-husbands, I am now engaged to a female,” she says. “My partner’s story actually got me started on this area of law that’s somewhat undefined—the parentage issue with her ex-partner, and the son that they had together during the relationship. At the time, only one of them was able to adopt him. When they split up, the other person was withholding the child from my partner. Now, LGBT custody law is a really big part of my practice—60 or 70 percent.”

An Invaluable Step

Jacqui McNutt

A common sentiment among lawyers is that law school doesn’t prepare students for the real thing. But being a paralegal, these three agree, does.

“It put me strides ahead of the rest, just because of all that knowledge I had and how much of it is important to practicing law,” McNutt says.

“I think paralegals make the best lawyers,” says Bertrand. “Baby lawyers haven’t done the practical stuff: calendaring deadlines, filing pleadings, serving them to parties, drafting discovery responses. Even as a paralegal, I helped train a lot of associates.”

They also know how to build relationships, McNutt says, with everyone from clients to clerks and coordinators.

Hester agrees: “The world experience helps a lot with dealing with people. Some lawyers don’t have that, and they learn it, but it definitely was a huge advantage for me.”

Summer clerkships and associateships have their place, Bertrand says, but it depends on the tasks. “The ones that really learn are the ones doing more paralegal work. You might be researching more than drafting. You might get to see a lot of hearings, and see what lawyers do in court, but anyone can go watch court. Also, very little of what we do is in court. A lot is in the office. So if you can get a bit of both, you’ll be a lot better off.”

Another advantage, Bertrand adds, is that paralegals already understand the stresses of the job.



“Lawyers have the second-highest suicide rate to medical practitioners, and a lot of people are alcoholics. They give you all these alarming statistics. But if you’ve worked in a law office, and you’ve seen what attorneys do every day, you have more realistic expectations. Otherwise, you’re just going off whatever *Law & Order* looks like. You have more a romanticized view. I went to law school knowing how stressful this is and seeing it firsthand. I didn’t have any delusions of grandeur.”

The Strong Survive and Thrive

In Texas right now—especially in family law—experienced paralegals are in high demand, and can practically name their price, Bertrand says. “Historically, though, there have been periods where paralegals were undervalued, and probably not paid well.”

“They’re treated sometimes like a secretary,” says McNutt. “A paralegal and attorney are like Batman and Robin. You have different jobs to do, but you work together. Attorneys see the big picture, and paralegals see the small details. Together, that’s the whole picture.”

The life of most cases is long and slow, Hester adds, “so we’re involved in every communication and act as a team, but as a paralegal, I was probably more involved in [clients’] lives.”

“When you can’t be reached, they’re the ones that clients are going to get in touch with,” Bertrand agrees. “Someone who’s not skilled enough—that can really be a disaster.”

Great paralegals, Hester says, also help bring in business. “If you find someone that cares for the clients, who will sit there and listen to their stories even though they could have said 10 minutes ago, ‘We don’t do that kind of case’ ... then find someone to help them, then the [client will] come back.”

Hester keeps her door open for those seeking advice, and speaks to organizations and classes when asked. And she’s supportive of those who want to follow her example—to a point.

“It’s a very tough road. You’ve got to really want it,” she says. “If you don’t have the passion for it, you’re going to hate your job every day. Not everyone is cut out to do it.”

Unsurprisingly, all three have had support staff they speak fondly of—paralegals who have made their jobs as attorneys easier—and they’re reminded regularly of just how important supporting roles are in the profession.

“I appreciate a really good paralegal, having been one. I understand how stressful their job is, I understand the pressure they’re under. It’s not any less pressure on this side of it, but attorneys have different pressures,” says Bertrand. “I had an amazing paralegal at Wysocki who anticipated my needs, would draft like me—she was amazing. A really strong paralegal makes you a better lawyer.”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Theresa Ann Alba, CLP

WHAT TO DO WITH OLD NOTARY SEALS

By David Thun, *Assistant Managing Editor with the National Notary Association*, as updated December 2021.

You should never simply toss an expired Notary seal in the trash and forget about it. An old Notary seal is like your checkbook—if you throw it away carelessly, a dishonest person could find it and use it for fraud.

Most Notaries will need to replace an expired seal at some point — which means they will have to properly dispose of the old one. You also may need to destroy or dispose of a seal stamp if you get a new one before your commission expires. What do you do with it? Throw it out? Turn it over to someone? Destroy it? Here are a few tips to keep in mind.



Don't just toss your old Notary seal away

Left intact, an old seal could be found and used by someone else to [commit fraud](#). That's why you should never throw away an intact and usable Notary seal or leave it behind when you change jobs. In the wrong hands, an expired seal could be used to create fake deeds, phony powers of attorney, or other fraudulent documents. These documents could be used to steal from bank accounts, commit elder abuse or perpetrate real estate fraud.

If the fraud is discovered, and your name is found on the notarized documents, you could be [sued for a bogus notarization](#) you didn't perform. It will be costly to retain an attorney to get you out of the lawsuit.

Turn in your old Notary seal

Some states require Notaries to turn in their seals to the commissioning official at various times or circumstances. For example, **Arizona** Notaries—or their personal representatives—must turn in the seal when they stop being a Notary.

Hawaii Notaries or their personal representatives must turn in their seals when they stop being a Notary or change their name.

If your state requires it, old seals should be turned over to the appropriate agency in your jurisdiction, typically the commissioning official. If you fail to do so, you may be fined.

Destroy your old seal

Some jurisdictions require you to destroy your old seal; others encourage it. **Colorado**, **Georgia**, and **Indiana** Notaries, for example, must destroy or deface their seal when they cease to be a Notary.

In **Texas**, the Secretary of State asks Notaries to destroy their seal stamps when their commissions expire or they cease to be a Notary for any other reason.

If you have an ink stamp, the easiest way to destroy it is to use a knife or other sharp object to cut and damage the rubber seal impression so that the stamp no longer makes a usable impression.

Embossers are more difficult to destroy because of their metal components. With an embosser, the metal embossing plate should be removed from the seal. It may be necessary to use a hammer or other blunt object to strike the plate and render the embossed information illegible. If your plate is made of plastic or another material, it may be necessary to break the embosser plate to make the embosser unusable by someone else.

If you are using tools to deface or destroy an old seal, be sure to take proper safety precautions against accidents. Examples include gloves to protect your hands from being cut by sharp objects and protective eyewear as a safeguard against debris.

One or the other

While most states either require you to turn in your seal or destroy it yourself, others may require both under certain circumstances. In **California**, Notaries must destroy or deface their seals upon resignation, termination, or revocation of their commissions. However, California Notaries who are convicted of certain offenses and felonies are required to surrender their seals to the court. In **Florida**, if you resign your commission, you must destroy your seal unless the Governor requests that you return it.

No rules or guidance for seal disposal

Some states are silent on what to do with old Notary seal stamps. **Iowa** and **Kansas** are among states that don't provide guidance on this matter.

If you're in one of these states, the NNA recommends that you follow [*The Notary Public Code of Professional Responsibility*](#) recommendation to destroy or deface your seal when your commission ends.

While many states have rules for disposing of seals when your commission ends, not all say what to do with a seal when you change the name on your commission. In this circumstance, too, the *Code* recommends destroying or defacing your seal.

How to know?

You can find your particular state's or jurisdiction's requirement by downloading and reading the NNA's [State Law Summaries](#).

Another no-cost option is to refer to your state's Notary handbook or commissioning official's website for the answer.

NNA members can also access the online [*U.S. Notary Reference Manual*](#) for state-specific instructions when turning in an obsolete seal. Members may call the NNA Hotline for a quick and accurate answer as well.

ETHICS ARTICLE

Submitted by Diane Stanley, RP

“IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW”

When a lawyer has a conflict, do any other lawyers in the firm have one, too?

THE SITUATION

Attorney Rafael is a partner at ABC law firm and lead counsel in a substantial case in which he represents a corporate client. Several months after accepting the engagement, he realizes that he has a conflict based on a client he represented two years earlier at a different law firm before he came to ABC. ABC wants to keep the client and continue the representation by screening Rafael from this matter and assigning it to another ABC attorney.

One possible replacement is Adele, another partner who appeared in the case when it was filed and who has been heavily involved since then. Adele would be ABC’s first choice because she is familiar with the case and the client and has litigated against opposing counsel in previous cases. However, the firm is concerned that because Adele has been working closely with Rafael to this point means that she is conflicted out as well.

Another possible replacement is Brian, who has limited involvement in the case. He did some research and wrote an extensive legal memo on the main legal issues in the case. Brian has not had any direct contact with Rafael or the courtroom activity.

Finally, Cassie has not been involved in the case at all to this point but has the experience and expertise to take over the representation and could quickly get up to speed.

THE QUESTION

Assuming that Rafael is properly screened at the time when the conflict is discovered, who of the following are ethically permitted to take the case over from Rafael?

- A. Cassie
- B. Cassie or Brian
- C. Cassie, Brian, or Adele
- D. None of them

THE EXPLANATION

When a lawyer develops a conflict in the midst of ongoing litigation, what are the firm's responsibilities regarding screening the conflicted lawyer and assigning their responsibilities to other attorneys in the firm? What level of involvement with the conflicted lawyer will disqualify a non-conflicted lawyer?

As it turns out, [Rule 1.06 of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct](#) provides a fairly simple answer. Rule 1.06(f) provides that "If a lawyer would be prohibited by this Rule from engaging in particular conduct, no other lawyer while a member or associated with that lawyer's firm may engage in that conduct." While other states do permit screens of individual attorneys in a law firm who are conflicted out of a representation, Texas does not. Texas' rules are clear, though rather draconian – screens are not permitted to eliminate a conflict under these circumstances. Any conflict of one attorney is imputed to all other attorneys in the entire firm. The correct answer is D.

Members of NALS are bound by the objectives of this association and the standards of conduct required of the legal profession.

Every member shall:

- Encourage respect for the law and administration of justice
- Observe rules governing privileged communications and confidential information
- Promote and exemplify high standards of loyalty, cooperation, and courtesy
- Perform all duties of the profession with integrity and competence
- Pursue a high order of professional attainment

Integrity and high standards of conduct are fundamental to the success of our professional association. This Code is promulgated by NALS and accepted by its members to accomplish these ends.

Canon 1. Members of this association shall maintain a high degree of competency and integrity through continuing education to better assist the legal profession in fulfilling its duty to provide quality legal services to the public.

Canon 2. Members of this association shall maintain a high standard of ethical conduct and shall contribute to the integrity of the association and the legal profession.

Canon 3. Members of this association shall avoid a conflict of interest pertaining to a client matter.

Canon 4. Members of this association shall preserve and protect the confidences and privileged communications of a client.

Canon 5. Members of this association shall exercise care in using independent professional judgment and in determining the extent to which a client may be assisted without the presence of a lawyer and shall not act in matters involving professional legal judgment.

Canon 6. Members of this association shall not solicit legal business on behalf of a lawyer.

Canon 7. Members of this association, unless permitted by law, shall not perform legal functions except under the direct supervision of a lawyer and shall not advertise or contract with members of the general public for the performance of paralegal functions.

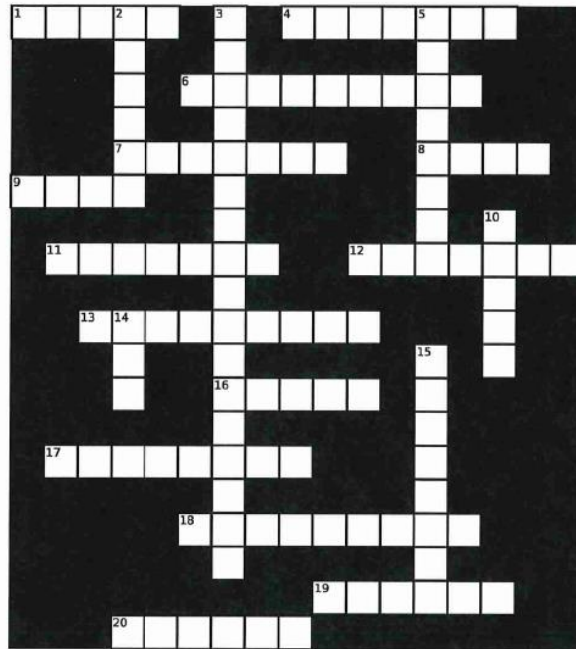
Canon 8. Members of this association, unless permitted by law, shall not perform any of the duties restricted to lawyers or do things which lawyers themselves may not do and shall assist in preventing the unauthorized practice of law.

Canon 9. Members of this association not licensed to practice law shall not engage in the practice of law as defined by statutes or court decisions.

Canon 10. Members of this association shall do all other things incidental, necessary, or expedient to enhance professional responsibility and participation in the administration of justice and public service in cooperation with the legal profession.

Court terms crossword puzzle

Look for the Answer Key



- Across
- 1 a person appointed to decide cases in the court of law
 - 4 an official in the court of law that keeps order
 - 6 the final part of court that gives a decision and resolves
 - 7 a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration
 - 8 a detailed study of a person or persons being accused
 - 9 a body of people that give a verdict of a case based on evidence
 - 11 to dismiss until another day
 - 12 a person who sees an event take place
 - 13 a person who brings a case against another
 - 16 a government body that interprets and applies laws to cases
 - 17 a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration
 - 18 a person or persons being sued or accused in the court of law
 - 19 a procedure that allows a party to challenge the decision made by the court
 - 20 a person who practices and studies law, gives legal advice, represents people in court

- Down
- 2 when a person who has been proved of a crime
 - 3 a person who types what is said during a court session
 - 5 when a person is not guilty of the crime at time
 - 10 the seat for judges in court
 - 14 a general rule made by the government
 - 15 available facts that help prove a case to be true

Courtesy of <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/>

Texas Association of Legal Professionals

2023-2024 Membership Campaign

May 1, 2023-March 31, 2024

(Official Tally Sheet Submission Deadline: March 31, 2024)

MEMBER CAMPAIGN

2 Footprints

- Each new individual or student member recruited
- Each new member reclaimed
- Each CLE article obtained for and published in The Texas Docket

5 BONUS FOOTPRINTS

- Each CLE article written for and published in The Texas Docket
- Participation in a mentoring program for members

20 SUPER BONUS FOOTPRINTS

- Each new advertiser obtained for The Texas Docket

CHAPTER CAMPAIGN

2 Footprints

- Each new member the chapter or members bring into the Association
- Each past member the chapter or member reclaims
- Each membership drive held (in person or virtually)

5 BONUS FOOTPRINTS

- 100% retention of chapter members
- Each chapter brag published in The Texas Docket

20 SUPER BONUS FOOTPRINTS

- Each new advertiser obtained for The Texas Docket



Anniversary

El Paso ALP received its charter on September 19, 1968

Waco LPA received its charter on September 22, 1956

Austin LPA, INC., received its charter October 28, 1960

Corpus Christi ALP received its charter October 30, 1953





Happy Anniversary!

*MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH

— October* —

Barbara S. Akins, PLS (member since 1960)
Jill Ashley Burris (member since 2022)
Michelle Cabrera (member since 2022)
AnneMarie C. Carlin (member since 1999)
Barbara Divis (member since 2017)
Erika Gutierrez (member since 2022)
Sofia Hardin (member since 2022)

Anne Hoover (member since 2001)
Mary Hoover Hernandez (member since 2017)
Olivia W. Johnson, PLS, CP (member since 2003)
Jerri Locknane, CLP (member since 2014)
Dannie L. Mason (member since 2000)
Cheryl McReynolds (member since 1991)
Denise Stanley Van Giles (member since 2018)

— November* —

Amber Alexander (member since 2021)
Kristen Gibson (member since 2022)
Linda A. Schrackenbach (member since 2022)

— December* —

Shelly Amson (member since 2019)
Scotti Beam, PP (member since 2002)
Marica Campbell (member since 2022)
Connor Elizabeth Clark (member since 2022)
Laura DeLeon (member since 2012)
Sylvia J. Griffin (member since 2002)
Erin-Nichole Lynn Hacker (member since 2022)
Lucy Henderson (member since 2019)
Kristy Higginbotham (member since 2018)
Sharon Hopkins (member since 2019)
Katryce Johnson (member since 2021)
William J. Kesman (member since 2013)

Porsche Lockhart (member since 2022)
Kyle Metcalf (member since 2023)
Nichole Price (member since 2021)
Laurie Quiroz (member since 2013)
Sheila Roach (member since 2019)
Jaci Roberts (member since 2022)
Phillip Seth Rodriguez (member since 2022)
Angelica Tuttle (member since 2022)
Blake Walterscheid, CLP (member since 2017)
Emily D. Walterscheid, PP, CLP (member since 2012)
Katie A. Williams (member since 2023)

Congratulations, Everyone!

For further membership information, contact:

Diana (Dee) Martinez | TALP Membership Chair | dmartinez@edwardsfirm.com

Happy Birthday!

October

- 4—Emily D. Walterscheid, PP, CLP
- 8—Kristy Higginbotham
- 8—Myra J. Miles, PLS
- 10—Sharon Hopkins
- 12—Jenna Stegman
- 13—Thelma Ferry
- 14—Marta Cuadrado de Garcia, ALP
- 14—Laurie Qiroz
- 16—Krystal Gutierrez
- 17—Mary R. Reyes
- 18—Andrea D. Griffin, PP, PLS
- 18—Cathy E. Peek
- 19—Edith Vela
- 20—Rebecca Long
- 21—Lola J. Smith-Gentry, ACP
- 22—Rita C. Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC-CL
- 22—Ogden Taylor Smith
- 24—Monica Lara
- 25—Kirsten Gibson
- 26—Jerri Locknane, CLP
- 28—Sylvia Hawthorne
- 28—Diane G. Saucedo
- 29—Anne Johnson
- 29—Celina Moss
- 31—Michelle Cabrera
- 31—Kathie Jean Capeheart, PP, PLS

November

- 1—MaryAnn McCam
- 2—Leequita Washington
- 3—Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS
- 7—Marty S. Olson, PP, PLS, TSC-RE
- 12—Gail Dorn
- 12—Kyle Metcalf
- 15—Lucy Henderson
- 20—Nichole Trujillo
- 21—Cesiah Serrato
- 22—Sondra Heugatter, PP, PLS, TSC²
- 22—Allison Smith
- 23—Barbara Divis
- 23—Zenaida Guerrero
- 24—Deanna Gunn Borrer
- 24—Sherida Stone, CP
- 26—Rebecca Salazar

December

- 3—Sylvia Cepeda, ALP
- 7—Evodije L. Fornelius, ALP
- 10—Vviana Vega
- 12—Olivia W. Johnson, PLS, CP
- 12—Amanda McQueen
- 13—Laura Jimenez
- 24—Conor Elizabeth Clark
- 26—De'Naesha A. Mitchell
- 28—Lisa Castaneda
- 28—Erika Gtierrez
- 31—Darlene Massington, ALP



The Bar

Whiskey Tea Twist

1 ½ oz Whiskey
1 ½ Lemonade
1 ½ Sweet Tea
Lemon & Mint Garnish

Red Snapper

1 ½ oz. Whiskey
½ oz. Amaretto
½ oz. Triple Sec
4 oz. Cranberry Juice
Combine all in a shaker with ice. Mix it up and pour...

Sangria

1 bottle of red wine (750 ml)
¼ to ½ cup of brandy (can use rum, vodka)
¼ to ½ cup of honey
2 cups of chopped or sliced fresh fruit
1 cup of fruit juice or soda (orange juice, lemon-lime soda)



FOOTPRINTS LEFT IN THE SAND!

**Individuals
Local Associations
TALP
NALS**

(aka “It Ain’t Braggin’ If It’s True!”)



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

TEXAS ALP BRAG

CONGRATULATIONS to our members! The Texas Association of Legal Professionals received recognition and a certificate for having the highest State Increase in membership. Texas having the highest increase gave us a lot of recognition nationally. I had a discussion with several other national members about how amazing that is, especially during this time when members are declining. I would like to welcome all of our new members and recognize all our members on their efforts to recruit new members. As your current President-Elect, I look forward to maintaining our current members and continuing these efforts to bring in new members.

Laura DeLeon
TexasALP President-Elect



Chapter Brags Austin

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AUSTIN LPA, INC.

First, Austin ALP would like to give a BIG THANKS to William E. (Bill) Hopkins for always saying “YES” to our tri-level association. Bill agreed to take time out of his busy work schedule in Austin to speak at the NALS Conference that took place in Houston, Texas, on August 21-23, 2023. He spoke on “The Value of Volunteerism in Diversity Efforts and Building Leadership Skills.” Check him out below in action.



As Bill mentioned, remember the following significant life skills you will gain when volunteering:

- Communication
- Education
- Leadership
- Teamwork

Austin ALP would like to invite its members and their guests and any Texas ALP members who will be in Austin on October 27, 2023, to attend a tour of the new Travis County Civil and Family Courts Facility, located at 1700 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas. For more information, please email our President, Patricia Nuhn, at pnuhn@winstead.com or Director, Theresa Ann Alba, at talba@shackelford.law.

Chapter Brags

Houston Association of Legal Professionals

By Helene L. Wood, PP, PLS, TSC-RE
(NALS 2023 Conference Chair)

Houston ALP had the honor of hosting the NALS Legal Education Conference held in Houston August 21-23, 2023, at the Hotel Derek in the Galleria area. While I chaired the committee, I had lots of help from the conference committee members (in no certain order): Rita Alesi (HALP), Theresa Ann Alba (Austin), Maria Carlson (HALP), Marty Olson (HALP), Gina Simmons (SALSA), Diane Stanley (HALP), and Kelley Hughes (Nashville). While we were a diverse group, we worked very well together. The education topics and speakers we were able to solicit were outstanding. That's not just our opinion, but what the folks who attended the conference were saying.

The word from the people attending and experiencing the conference was it was fun and exciting. (We won't talk about the hotel or the food provided by the hotel. It is rare for a hotel to get good reviews and this one was no exception. But the staff was nice. Isn't that the way?) The education was good. The speakers were good. The preconference event was good and well attended. There was a good lineup of vendors who provided good swag. And the after-conference events were well received.



HALP Group (left to right) Sue Ellis, Maria Carlson, Marty Olson, Helene Wood, and Rita Alesi



Registration table with (front row left to right) Melissa Cooper, Diane Stanley, and (back row left to right) Gena Hayes (NALS), Amanda Bureau (NALS), and Maria Carlson



Crain, Caton & James folks attending Welcome Party

A Houston City Tour option was provided that 23 people took advantage of. From those who did, the highlight of the tour appeared to be the National Museum of Funeral History. Guess I need to add that to my bucket list. The Legal Writing Workshop held on Monday afternoon (which was an extra registration charge) began the conference with 39 people attending. Following the workshop, a first-timers orientation (there were 45 first-timers!) was held and then the Welcome Reception. Now that was fun! There were the usual formal greetings from various people, including NALS President Amylyn Reidling, and then there was food, music, and dancing! Maria Carlson organized the dancing part with an instructor and exhibition dancing to get the party started. She also provided western-style straw hats for us all to wear! Yeehaw!



Maria Carlson and her son getting hats ready for Welcome Party



Welcome Party dance instructors (left)
Line dancing Evelyn and Maria (right)



Welcome Party Line Dancing



Welcome Party: Corpus Christi Group

Tuesday brought the opening of the exhibit hall and the beginning of the education tracks. Our opening keynote speaker was Justice Brett Busby with the Texas Supreme Court. Just before lunch we enjoyed a presentation by Texas Ranger Travis Dendy (the son of Texas member and NALS Past President Donna Dendy). We ended the day with the NALS Foundation's Cosmic Counsel. That was especially enjoyable because it was included in the conference registration fee and not an extra fee as in the past. There were 91 attendees at the event.



NALS Foundation Cosmic Counsel Event
(left to right)
Peggy Durling (FL), Diane Stanley (HALP),
Deborah Waters (FL)

On Wednesday everyone enjoyed an IP law presentation by Lucas Elliot with Frost Brown Todd LLP's Nashville office followed by various education tracks. At noon the Awards & Recognition Luncheon was held. There were many awards presented, but the two most prestigious (in my opinion) were the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Award of Excellence. Among the awards and recipients were:

Emerging Leader Award
Emily Folsom, President of Waco LPA

Clara Legow Certification Award: Local Chapter Increase
Houston Association of Legal Professionals

Clara Legow Certification Award: State Chapter Increase
Texas Association of Legal Professionals

Outstanding Court Observance Activity Award
Waco Legal Professionals Association

Lifetime Achievement Award
Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS

Award of Excellence 2023
Nancy M. Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS (Mississippi)



Donna Dendy and Laura DeLeon with Lifetime Achievement Recipient Julie Abernathy



Award of Excellence Recipient
Nancy M. Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS (MS)

The closing keynote speaker was William E. (Bill) Hopkins with Spencer Fane LLP's Austin office. He spoke on *The Value of Volunteerism in Diversity Efforts and Building Leadership Skills*. Bill presented a similar topic at a Texas ALP conference in Austin several years ago and he just gets better with the passage of time.

We closed out the conference with after-conference activity choices: a Houston Astros Game (headed by HALP member and avid Astros fan Marty Olson), a game night of ethics bingo to earned an extra ethics CLE (presented by HALP President Diane Stanley), or a night on your own. Thirty people chose the Astros, 14 people chose game night, and untold numbers chose a night on their own.



Astros Game Group Shot



Astros Game (left to right)
Laura Deleon, Joyce Book, Marty Olson, Sue Ellis



Astros Game with RASi fans



Astros Game Group with Magna drawstring backpacks

As national conferences go, the turnout this year was pretty much normal; normal being around one hundred (101 to be exact with 24 of them being prospective members). You're probably waiting for me to tell you where the next national conference will be held, but it wasn't announced. The reason given was the NALS board is weighing the advantages (or not) of holding the next one in August as opposed to September and/or holding it at the beginning of the week instead of toward the end. NALS will announce it when they announce it. We'll all be surprised together.

We want to thank our local corporate sponsors for stepping up: Crowe LLP, Kim Tindal & Associates (a Magna Legal Services Company), Registered Agent Solutions, Inc., U.S. Legal Support, and VeriServe Solutions, Inc. Without their support, things would have certainly gone awry.



Brian Johnson (RASi)



Bobette Messick (left behind table) and Nicole Palm (right behind table) (Magna) with conference attendee

All in all it was a very good conference. A lot of good information to take back home. It was a lot of work getting it all together, but it was nice working with everyone—the committee members, the NALS board (especially President Amylyn Reidling and Secretary Debbie Sutton), Amanda Bureau (the NALS Executive Director), and the other members of the NALS staff (Rachel Daeger, Gena Hayes, and Lisa Moore).

As enjoyable as the conference was, I sure was glad to go home!

CONGRATULATIONS HOUSTON!!!

Chapter Brags Lubbock LPA

LLPA offers FREE monthly CLE.

Our meetings are held at Holly Hop, which is a local, nostalgic ice cream shop offering a variety menu items (and who can resist all the yummy ice cream treats)!

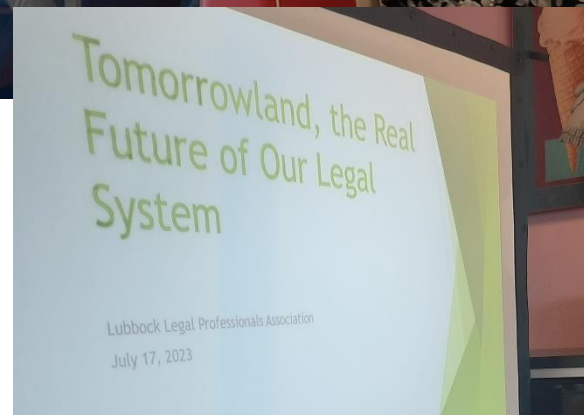


of



The Honorable Curtis Parrish spoke at our August meeting to give a legislative update.

Justin Kiechler provided his research on the future of our legal system at our July meeting. A couple of Texas members joined us via Zoom.



CHAPTER BRAG
Waco Legal Professionals Association

Three members of Waco LPA attended the NALS Education Conference in Houston, Texas: Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS; Donna K. Dendy, PP, CLP; and Laura DeLeon. Laura was a first-timer to a NALS meeting and, I believe, she had a wonderful time meeting NALS members from across the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS to the members of Houston ALP who served on the Conference Committee. You did a fabulous job! Lots of continuing legal education and networking opportunities were offered. Of course, I might be a little biased since my son, Travis Dendy, Texas Ranger, presented a session on the Texas Rangers, past and present.!

BUT TO BRAG – Waco LPA received many awards at the NALS Recognition Luncheon:

Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS	NALS Lifetime Achievement Award
Emily Folsom	NALS Emerging Leader Award
Waco LPA	Outstanding Court Observance Activity Award for the submission of our Federal Court staying open during COVID

Congratulations to these ladies for these distinguished awards. Waco LPA is busy working on the 2024 TALP Annual Education Conference on April 5-6, 2024. Hope to see you next year in Waco!



Donna K. Dendy, PP, CLP
Waco LPA Director

Emily Folsom



Donna Dendy, Laura DeLeon, and Julie Abernathy

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!**



**DEADLINE TO SEND ARTICLES
FOR
JANUARY TO MARCH EDITION
IS
NOVEMBER 2, 2023**

Reprising . . . Leadership

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Together We Can

Cindy McElroy



Since this was my last President's message to prepare, I paused to reflect over the past year and how every member has been a part of the team that has helped prepare this association for the future. My theme of TOGETHER WE CAN certainly has a team attitude, and that is what it is all about!

Most of us contribute time to the various committees that make up our association.

When our association is thriving, we all share the credit. If we develop problems, we must all share the blame. But, if we believe the old saying that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, we know that our association's accomplishments are only as good as ours.

We all make a choice as to the role we'll play on the team. We either join it as an actively caring member, or we go through the motions from the sidelines. When we choose to join the team, we have a better, surer shot at an organization that brings us satisfaction. The choice is ours.

We all make a difference in this association. Whatever we do makes it possible for the association to run smoothly. The

effort we put into this organization shows up in the quality of our programs. We are all a part of what non-members see when they consider membership in our association. With every letter, every telephone call, every personal contact, we make a statement about the caliber of our association. In the course of a year, we all make hundreds of contacts for Texas ALS.

We all should take an interest in this organization. We need to be interested in how this association got to be what it is today, and how the members have grown professionally throughout its tenure. Our knowledge of the workings of this association not only helps us in our duties as officers, chairmen or members, but it also makes our contributions to the organization more interesting.

Because we are all interested in Texas ALS, we notice the successes and weaknesses in all we do. I am extremely proud to be a strong, reliable member of this association. The success of our association depends on all of us. TOGETHER WE CAN make a difference in our organization!

This article was originally published in the March 1993 issue of the *TALS Docket*. In this series of republished articles, we are revisiting the past to remember the wisdom of lessons learned in going forward into the future. —*Texas Docket Team 2023-2024*

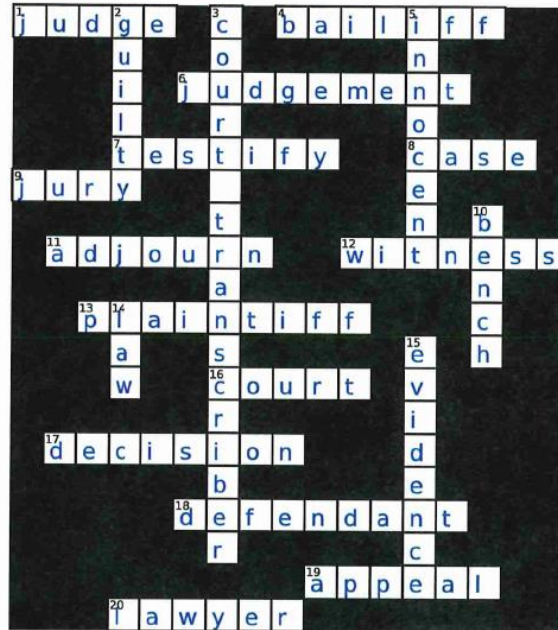
DON'T BE AFRAID TO FAIL

You've failed many times, although you may not remember.
You fell down the first time you tried to walk.
You almost drowned the first time you tried to swim, didn't you?
Did you hit the ball the first time you swung a bat?
Heavy hitters, the ones who hit the most home runs, also strike out a lot.
R. H. Macy failed seven times before his store in New York caught on.
English novelist John Creasey got 753 rejection slips before he published 564 books.
Babe Ruth struck out 1,330 times, but he also hit 714 home runs.
Don't worry about failure.
Worry about the changes you miss when you don't *even try*.

(A message as published in the *Wall Street Journal* by United Technologies Corporation, Hartford, Connecticut 06101 (1981). Canfield, Jack and Mark Victor Hansen. *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, Health Communications, Inc., 1993.)

Court terms crossword puzzle

ANSWER KEY



Across

- 1 a person appointed to decide cases in the court of law
- 4 an official in the court of law that keeps order
- 6 the final part of court that gives a decision and resolves
- 7 a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration
- 8 a detailed study of a person or persons being accused
- 9 a body of people that give a verdict of a case based on evidence
- 11 to dismiss until another day
- 12 a person who sees an event take place
- 13 a person who brings a case against another
- 16 a government body that interprets and applies laws to cases
- 17 a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration
- 18 a person or persons being sued or accused in the court of law
- 19 a procedure that allows a party to challenge the decision made by the court
- 20 a person who practices and studies law, gives legal advice, represents people in court

Down

- 2 when a person who has been proved of a crime
- 3 a person who types what is said during a court session
- 5 when a person is not guilty of the crime at time
- 10 the seat for judges in court
- 14 a general rule made by the government
- 15 available facts that help prove a case to be true

Courtesy of <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/>

*According to Webster's Dictionary, the preferred spelling is "judgment."

TEXAS ALP 69TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Waco, Texas * April 5-6, 2024

"Dazzled Determination"

REGISTRATION DEADLINE—MARCH 20, 2024

<p>REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/ST/ZIP _____</p> <p>Daytime Phone _____</p> <p>Mobile Phone _____</p> <p>E-mail _____</p> <p>Certifications</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ALP <input type="checkbox"/> PLS/CLP <input type="checkbox"/> PP</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CLA/CP <input type="checkbox"/> ACP <input type="checkbox"/> TSC</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RP <input type="checkbox"/> SC <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Local Chapter _____</p> <p>Current Texas ALP Position Held _____</p> <p>Current Local Position Held _____</p> <p>Current NALS Position Held _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NALS Life Member</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Texas ALP Past President (Year: _____)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This is my first Texas ALP meeting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I want to be a Texas ALP PAL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Special dietary request (notify Conference Chairs)</p>	<p>FULL REGISTRATION FEES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NALS Member* \$150</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Texas ALP Chair \$100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nonmember \$175</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Student \$100</p> <p>*Per Standing Rule No. 22, members are required to pay the full registration fee.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION FEES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Only – Nonmember (no meals) \$100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Only – Student (no meals) \$75</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Recognition Luncheon – Student/Nonmember \$25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Luncheon-Student/Nonmember .. \$25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presidents' Banquet (Saturday) \$50</p> <p>MEMBER'S GUEST REGISTRATION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Recognition Luncheon \$25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Luncheon \$25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presidents' Banquet (Saturday) \$50</p> <p>GUEST NAME: _____</p>
<p>SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Please mark each event you will attend)</p> <p>Friday, April 5, 2024</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am – 10:00 am Ethics (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10:15 am – 11:15 am Long-Term Care Planning (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Professional Development Luncheon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1:15 pm – 1:45 pm President-elect's Forum (plus meeting of 2024-2025 Chairs)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1:45 pm - 2:15 pm Open Forum</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Texas Rangers-Past and Present (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm – 4:15 pm Credential Check-in</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4:15 pm - 6:00 pm Texas ALP Annual Board Meeting</p> <p>Saturday, April 6, 2023</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am – 10:00 am Patent Court & Procedures (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10:15 am – 11:15 am Storytelling of Jury Trials (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Recognition Luncheon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm Appreciation of 2023-2024 TALP President</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm PI w/ Non-Visible Injuries (1.0 CLE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Special Needs Trust & ABLE Accts.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm President's Reception</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Presidents' Banquet</p>	<p>PAYMENT INFORMATION</p> <p>Total Amount Due: \$ _____</p> <p>Please make check payable to: Waco LPA Special Meeting Account (Federal Tax ID No. 74- _____)</p> <p>Notices: (1) A \$30 fee will be assessed for returned checks. (2) Refunds requested and confirmed in writing (less a \$25 processing fee) will be made until April 1, 2024.</p> <p>Conference Chairs: Emily Folsom 254.297.7300 • emf@pakislaw.com Donna K. Dendy, PP, CLP 254.716.2632 • dkd@pakislaw.com</p> <p>Mail registration form and payment to: Mary Bullard, ACP Registration Chair 5 Lake Stone Court Woodway, Texas 76712 254.214.1128 • marybtalp@gmail.com</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Hotel Reservations should be made directly with Holiday Inn Express & Suites Waco South, 5701 Legends Lake Parkway, Waco, TX 76712 (254.732.1028). To receive the discounted room rate of \$169 double/king (plus 17% tax). Quoted room rates are available until March 22, 2024.</p>	

TEXAS ALP 69TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
“Dazzled Determination”
Waco, Texas, April 5-6, 2024

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, April 5, 2024

8:30 am – 10:00 am	Registration
8:30 am – 4:00 pm	Vendors
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Ethics – Pete Rusek, Esq., Sheehy, Lovelace & Mayfield (1.0 CLE)
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – 11:15 am	Long-Term Care Planning – Garrett Beach, Esq., The Zimmerman Law Firm (1.0 CLE)
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Professional Development Luncheon – TBD (1.0 PD)
1:15 pm – 1:45 pm	President-elect’s Forum (plus meeting of 2024-2025
Chairs) 1:45 pm – 2:15 pm	<i>Open Forum</i>
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Texas Rangers – Past and Present – Travis Dendy, Texas Ranger, Company B (1.0 CLE)
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm	Credentials Check-in
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm	Texas ALP Annual Board Meeting

Saturday, April 6, 2024

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Registration
8:30 am – 4:00 pm	Vendors
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Patent Court and Procedures – David N. Deaconson, Esq., Pakis, Giotes, Burlson & Deaconson, P.C.
(1.0)	
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – 11:15 am	Storytelling of Jury Trials – Elizabeth Fraley, Esq., Professor, Baylor Law School (1.0 CLE)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Recognition Luncheon
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Appreciation of 2023-2024 TALP President
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Personal Injury with Non-Visible Injuries – Jim Hering, Esq., Pakis, Giotes, Burlson & Deaconson, P.C. (1.0 CLE)
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Special Needs Trust and ABLE Accounts – Carlie C. Gause, Esq., Pakis, Giotes, Burlson & Deaconson, P.C. (1.0 CLE)
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	TALP Fundraising Raffle
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	President’s Reception
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Presidents’ Banquet

The Texas Docket

Advertising Rates

The Texas Docket is the official publication of the Texas Association of Legal Professionals and is published quarterly each year as a service to the legal profession. Publication dates are July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1, with submission deadlines being May 1, August 1, November 1, and February 1. *The Texas Docket* is distributed electronically to its statewide network of members, subscribers, and others. Vendors who work in the legal field are welcome and encouraged to advertise in *The Texas Docket*.

<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

ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

_____ Company Name	_____ Ad Selection	
_____ Billing Address	_____ Signature	_____ Date
_____ Phone	_____ Printed Name	

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TEXAS ALP **2023-2024** ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

Chartered July 27, 1956



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PRESIDENT-ELECT	Laura DeLeon (Waco LPA)
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SECRETARY	Jerri Locknane, CLP (Lubbock LPA)
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Andrea D. Griffin, PP, PLS (Member at Large)

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EDUCATION	Marty S. Olson, PP, PLS, TSC-RE (Houston ALP)
FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE	Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS (San Antonio LSA)
FINANCIAL REVIEW	Aurora (Rory) Cavazos, PLS, CLA, CPS (San Antonio LSA)
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MEETINGS COORDINATOR	Donna K. Dendy, PP, CLP, TSC-RE (Waco LPA)
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NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS	Emily Folsom (Waco LPA)
PLANNING	Faynell Poe, PP, PLS (El Paso ALP)
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WEBMASTER	Rachel Scott (El Paso ALP)

Special Committee

TALP HUGS	Tina D. Hurley, PP, CLP (Dallas ALP)
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