



FALL 2012

CLINIC NEWS

The newsletter of the Texas Tech University School of Law
Clinical Programs



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW HOSTS 7TH ANNUAL FACULTY UPDATE SEMINAR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Clinical Program Welcomes New Members	2
From the Desk of Larry Spain	3
From the Desk of Wendy Tolson Ross	4
From the Desk of Nicie Pratt and Gene Valentini	5
From the Desk of Vaughn E. James	6-7
From the Desk of Patrick Metze	8-9
From the Desk of Donnie Yandell	10-11
Law and Justice Magnet Program	12
Faculty & Students Support Pro Bono	12
Volunteer Opportunity—Coalition Seeks VITA Volunteers	13
LITC Community Outreach	14
Cases of Interest	15
A Word from Our Students	16
Snapshot Corner	17-18
Faculty and Staff	19

2012 marked the seventh year the faculty from Texas Tech University School of Law offered a CLE program without cost to legal services attorneys and public interest practitioners. Texas Tech University School of Law began hosting the seminar in 2005. It was the first law school in the state to offer such a program which began after recommendations from a committee of the *Texas Access to Justice Commission* on how law schools can contribute to the delivery of legal services to the indigent.

Professor Larry Spain organized the program once again which showcased Texas Tech Law School's finest faculty on topics such as *Avoid being a Defendant: Estate Planning Malpractice and Ethical Concerns*; *Fifth Circuit Labor and Employment Law Update*; *Texas Style! Legal Research Technology*; 60 Resources in 60



Minutes; *Representing a Client Seeking Innocent/Injured Spouse Relief*; *Using Social Media in Practice*; *Ethics of Dealing with Diverse Clients/Parties*; *Parenting Plans*; *Changes in Spousal Maintenance in Texas*; and *Client Management and Ethical Concerns in Family Law Cases*.

In addition to their other *pro bono* and public service activities, the following members of the Law School presented at the 7th Annual Texas Tech Law School Faculty Update for Legal Services Attorneys, Public Interest Practitioners & Pro Bono Attorneys held October 11-12, 2012: Professors **Gerry W. Beyer**, **Angela Laughlin Brown**,

Charles Bubany, **Jarod Gonzalez**, **Vaughn James**, and **Larry Spain**; Associate Director for Law Library and Computing **E.H. Uwe Beltz**; Faculty Services Librarian **Eugenia Charles-Newton**; and Clinical Fellow and Supervising Attorney **Terri Morgeson**.



This annual CLE program provides training for public interest practitioners and *pro bono* attorneys without cost in a faculty member's area of expertise. The program was provided live in Lubbock and also webcast for public interest and *pro bono* attorneys across the state.

Approximately 55 individuals registered to attend the seminar either in person or via live webcast.

Attendees included attorneys from the Texas Attorney General's Office, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, Legal Aid Society of Lubbock, Texas Rural Legal Aid, Texas Tech University Student Legal Services, Disability Rights Texas, attorneys in private practice, and law school staff.

Thanks to all who helped make this seminar a great success!



CLINICAL PROGRAM WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



Meredith Nieto, Clinical Fellow – Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

Meredith Nieto is a Texas Tech School of Law graduate and obtained her Doctorate of Jurisprudence and Masters in Accounting (Taxation) degrees in May 2012. She took and passed the February 2012 bar exam and became a licensed attorney in June 2012. She attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas from 2006-2009 and obtained a BBA in Accounting. She enjoys spending time with her husband Paul and her family.

Meredith was hired to fill the part-time Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic Community Outreach Coordinator position with the added responsibilities as an Administrative Student Assistant during the 2011 summer tax clinic sessions to assist Professor James with overseeing the tax clinic cases. On June 1, 2012, Meredith was hired as the Clinical Fellow for the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic. She has been a great asset to the LITC and has assisted the LITC Clinic Director with various assignments. Welcome Meredith!



Nancy R. Mojica, Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic Community Outreach Coordinator

Nancy Mojica is a native of Lubbock, Texas and is married to Robert. They have two beautiful children. Nancy is the new LITC Community Outreach Coordinator for Texas Tech University School of Law Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic.

Before joining Texas Tech she was the Equal Justice Volunteer Program Coordinator for Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas for about 11 years and worked at Legal Aid of Northwest Texas a total of 22 years. She coordinated the pro bono legal clinics in and around Lubbock, recruited pro bono attorneys, law students, lay advocates and community volunteers to assist with pro bono clinics. She also organized workshops and educational events, prepared monthly reports, planned annual awards luncheons and handled a caseload of up to 150 cases.

Nancy was awarded the Liberty Bell Award by the Lubbock County Young Lawyers Association in 2005. She is currently on the Advisory Board for the Coalition of Community Assistance Volunteers, Inc. (CCAV). She is the Director of Lectors at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. She is a former member of the National Association of Pro Bono Professionals (NAPBro) and the Lubbock Legal Professional's Association (LLPA). Welcome Nancy!



Rebekah Filley, Clinical Fellow—Family Law and Housing Clinic

Rebekah Filley is from Tahoka, Texas. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Tech University in 2002 and her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Texas Tech University School of Law in 2005. While in law school, Rebekah taught undergraduate classes at Texas Tech University. Prior to joining the Family Law and Housing Clinic, Rebekah practiced in El Paso from 2005 through 2006 and Tahoka since 2006. Rebekah practiced in the areas of family law, criminal defense, served as special prosecutor, real estate, oil and gas leases and contracts, wind leases and contracts, title examines, estate planning, probate, business, civil litigation and municipal law. Rebekah served as City Attorney for the City of O'Donnell.

Rebekah is active in the community by having served as an officer for Tahoka Rotary, volunteering with the Tahoka Library, helping to raise funds for the Lynn County Hospital, serving on the Lynn County Harvest Festival committee, Senior Santa program, and serving as President of the Lynn County Historical Society.

Rebekah is married to Reed (Texas Tech University School of Law Class of '01) and they have a seven month old daughter, Kinley. Welcome Rebekah!

FROM THE DESK OF LARRY SPAIN - DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL PROGRAMS AND CIVIL PRACTICE CLINIC

During the fall semester, the following students were enrolled in Professor Spain's section of the Civil Practice Clinic: **Allison Brauer, Lindsey Cantu, Megan Fescenmeyer, Lauren Munselle, Bobby Murphy, Spenser Piercy, Vanessa Rosa, Abigail Rosen, and Lauren Serrano.** I have been ably assisted by **Terri Morgeson**, our Clinical Fellow, who has supervised students on individual cases and is always available to students for questions and individual assistance.

Over the course of the semester, a total of 45 new client cases were undertaken, 13 cases were completed and closed and 47 cases remain open and will be carried over to the spring semester. Each of the students, in addition to being exposed to a variety of legal problems through the evening *Pro Bono* Clinics,

participated in the *Night Court Divorce Project*, a program offered in collaboration with the Lubbock County Courts to provide representation to low-income individuals in simple divorces with hearings held before Judge Judy Parker in the evening at the Law School. In addition to these activities, each of the students has been kept busy carrying an individual caseload of 4-5 clients at all times throughout the semester and assumed primary responsibility for representing clients in matters involving family law, disability claims, wills and estate planning, employment, consumer matters, and VA claims.

During the semester, most of the students will have had an opportunity to

complete a divorce case from beginning to end and have a final hearing held before the court.

The Civil Practice Clinic has been the most valuable experience I have had throughout my law school education. Professor Spain and Terri Morgeson have taught me invaluable skills that will benefit me tremendously in my professional career. I am confident that my experience in the Civil Practice Clinic will make my transition into my legal career a success.

Vanessa Rosa
Civil Practice Clinic



Teaches Civil Practice Clinic, Family Law, Professional Responsibility, and Advanced ADR Clinic.

Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech, Professor Spain was the Director of Clinical Programs at the University of North Dakota School of Law for eighteen years, where he established several new clinical programs and expanded the range of clinical opportunities available to students. Prior to entering legal education, he worked for several legal services programs in Nebraska.

In addition to law teaching and legal practice, he has also been active in the field of alternative dispute resolution, serving as Chair of the Governing Board of a university-affiliated community dispute resolution center as well as being a frequent trainer and practitioner in mediation skills. He currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Office of Dispute Resolution for Lubbock County.

Pictured L to R:

Standing: Professor Spain, Spenser Piercy, Lauren Munselle, Bobby Murphy, Abigail Rosen, and Clinical Fellow Terri Morgeson

Sitting: Allison Brauer, Megan Fescenmeyer, Lindsey Cantu, Lauren Serrano, and Vanessa Rosa



FROM THE DESK OF WENDY TOLSON ROSS - DIRECTOR, FAMILY LAW AND HOUSING CLINIC

This year we had a new addition to the Family Law Clinic, **Rebekah Filley**. Rebekah is our new Clinical Fellow and assists with supervising students and managing case files. We want to welcome her to the clinical family. She has been a great help to both the students and me.

This semester I had nine (9) students to enroll in my section of Family Law and Housing Clinic. These students were: **Kyle Crowl, Stephen Doan, Valerie Finella, Denise Hernandez, Venessa Rodriguez, Paula Perez, and Tahlia Stewart.**

The majority of the cases worked on by the students were family law cases. We were able to provide representation for a young girl and her children in a protective order case. At the hearing, the student successfully persuaded the court to grant a protective order and

order that the abusive boyfriend vacate the house.

We have had several adoption cases this year. One case involves a disabled man who is seeking to adopt his stepson. We hope to be able to grant the child's wish of adoption for Christmas.

Additionally, we have also completed several divorces this semester. Some of these have involved children and others have been divorce with just property involved.

Finally, this semester we had several landlord-tenant cases. In a couple of these cases, we were able to work out settlement agreements that provided for the return of a portion of the security deposits to needy clients who were single-parents with several children.



Teaches Family Law and Housing Clinic, Negotiations, and Race and Racism.

Prior to joining Tech Law at the beginning of the 2005 summer sessions, Professor Ross was a Clinical Instructor of Law at St. Mary's University School of Law. She served as a Clinical Instructor from 1999 thru 2005. She was also Acting Associate Director for the Office of Academic Excellence. Professor Ross joined the faculty in the fall of 2005 to teach a section of the Civil Practice Clinic and to teach negotiations. She earned her B.A. from Texas Tech University and her law degree from University of Missouri - Columbia Law School. In addition to teaching the Family Law and Housing Clinic, Professor Ross also teaches Race and Racism, Negotiations Workshop, and Marital Property.

Professor Ross has also served on various community organizations throughout the years.

Pictured L to R:

Back Row: Venessa Rodríguez, Michael LeMond, Kyle Crowl, and John Langner

Front Row: Professor Wendy Ross, Stephen Doan, Paula Perez, Denise Hernandez, Tahlia Stewart, Valerie Finella, and Clinical Fellow Rebekah Filley



FROM THE DESK OF NICIE PRATT AND GENE VALENTINI HEALTH CARE AND BIOETHICS MEDIATION CLINIC

The fall Health Care Mediation Clinic started with a high level of national uncertainty and controversy about the American health care system. When **Casey Branach, Kelsey Brock, Braden Brown, Austin Carrizales, Manuel Hernandez, Brynea Landrum, Kristin McClendon, Elena McCoy, Elizabeth Morse, Ashirvad Parikh, Jason Staggs, Matthew Minich**, and three health care professionals, **Traci Phillips, Daniel Hardy, and Jackie Hanson**, began the fall semester spending a week learning about mediation. During the semester, physicians, case managers, risk managers, consumer advocates, and judges presented their perspectives about the law and health care. The Healthcare Industry is in transition with many questions remaining unanswered, which increases the need for problem solving knowledge and skills.

During the semester, the Texas Supreme Court proposed a new rule for civil actions whose amount in controversy is less than \$100,000. The Rule 169 states "unless the parties have agreed to engage in alternative dispute resolution or are required to do so by contract, the court must not-by order or local

rule-require the parties to engage in alternative dispute resolution" with the exceptions are governed by the Family Code, the property Code, Tax Code or Chapter 74 of the Civil Practice and Remedies code. While controversies of less than \$100,000 cannot be ordered after March 1, 2013 by a court, Justice Courts have a new rule that may become effective May 1, 2013 and are to utilize alternative dispute resolution.

Students were encouraged to increase their personal knowledge and awareness of the Healthcare Industry and Alternative Dispute Resolution especially within their own communities after graduating law school.

Students attended the 6th Annual Health Care Symposium on November 28th, which highlighted a variety of topics, including the Affordable Care Act; Texas HIPAA; Compliance Issues for Health Care Delivery Systems and the impact of the federal government's efforts to reduce health care costs.



D. Gene Valentini is the Director of the Dispute Resolution Department of Lubbock County, an administrative entity that manages an innovative ADR System, which began in 1985. He is also responsible for the statewide USDA mediation program. A mediator since 1981 and an active trainer for the past nineteen years, Gene is the Master of Dispute Resolution for the courts of Lubbock County, Dean of Texas' ADR System directors and also co-teaches the Spring ADR course.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

While in the Healthcare Mediation Clinic, I learned how to keep cool under stressful situations, and how to keep our participants calm and collected. This clinic trained me to mediate under difficult situations, and I enjoyed mediating real cases with actual people. The clinic taught me so much, and I am glad I had the opportunity to participate.

Matthew Minick
Health Care Mediation Clinic



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Jackie Hanson, Traci Phillips, Kelsey Brock, Dan Hardy, Matthew Minnick, Austin Carrizales, Jason Staggs, Braden Brown, Elizabeth Morse, and Nicie Pratt

Sitting: Gene Valentini, Casey Branach, Ashirvad Parikh, Elena McCoy, Kristin McClendon, Manuel Hernandez, and Renee Landrum

FROM THE DESK OF VAUGHN E. JAMES — DIRECTOR, LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC

In August, nine new Qualified Student Representatives joined us to represent low-income taxpayers in our service area before the IRS and the United States Tax Court. Sixteen weeks later, all nine – **Jackie Baltrun, Thomason Bush, Jonathan Ellis, Rebecca Land, Mariah Mayworm, Natalie Myers, Dag Teferawork, Nicholas “Nico” Toulet-Crump,** and **Dustin Wilson** – had individually and collectively clocked several hours of work in this noble cause. They have worked very hard, have served our clients well, and have had much success.

Yet, the work did not begin in August. It all began at the end of May when we welcomed our summer session students, **Chloe Evans, Rebecca Land, Anna Rains,** and **Yolanda Rodriguez.** Meredith Nieto continued as our Administrative Student Assistant until June 1st when she joined the Clinical Programs as the Clinical

Fellow for the LITC. Throughout the summer sessions and Fall semester, Meredith has helped our team of students prepare memos, letters and other legal documents, and has been a tremendous help in assisting with the supervision of the students.

The infamous **Nancy Mojica** (former coordinator for the Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas Equal Justice Volunteer Program) joined our LITC team on July 9, 2012. She came to us with a wealth of experience in community outreach efforts. She has been successful in organizing community outreach activities to educate the community about our existence and the services we provide, has organized community educational workshops, and has established *pro bono* Tax Clinics to be offered to the community.

(continued on page 7)



Teaches Elder Law, Federal Estate and Gift Taxation, Federal Income Taxation, International Taxation, Law and Religion, and the LITC.

He is admitted to practice in NY, Texas, US Tax Court, and the US District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

Outside the classroom, Professor James is very active locally, nationally and internationally. A musician and recording artist for over thirty years, Professor James still records and performs with his calypso and reggae band, *King Shakey & the Banned*. In May 2007, he was awarded the Heritage Legend Award by the University of the West Indies–Dominica Center. A graduate of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and an ordained minister of religion, Professor James spends most weekends in pulpits in America and the rest of the world speaking on religious topics, especially as they relate to Religious Freedom, the First Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended). He is involved in various organizations, has received numerous awards, and has authored several publications.



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Thomason Bush, Nicholas Toulet Crump, Natalie Myers, Jonathan Ellis, Rebecca Land, and Professor Vaughn James

Sitting: Jackie Baltrun, Mariah Mayworm, Dag Teferawork, Dustin Wilson, and Clinical Fellow Meredith Nieto



FROM THE DESK OF VAUGHN E. JAMES - DIRECTOR, LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC (continued from page 6)

We shall conduct many more workshops in 2013. We also plan to take our workshops beyond the confines of Lubbock. As usual, we shall also be volunteering at the CCAV's VITA program, where we shall prepare tax returns for low-income taxpayers. This has always been a rewarding experience; we look forward to another wonderful and educational tax filing season.

In closing, I admit that our Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic would not be able to survive without the countless efforts of Meredith, Elma, Nancy, and Jennifer Martin. The devotion and commitment these individuals make to the daily operation of the LITC is what makes it a success! Thanks, also, to the nine Qualified Student Representatives who

worked so hard this semester to provide this service to our community. I do have one item of bittersweet news: Rebecca Land will be graduating in December. Throughout the

I am so grateful for my experience at the Texas Tech Low Income Taxpayer Clinic this semester. The learning process has not only been educational but extremely rewarding. Helping our clients with their daunting tax liability, when they otherwise would have no where to turn has shown me how important a lawyer is to a person's life.

Mariah D. Mayworm
Low -Income Taxpayer Clinic

Fall semester, we regarded Becca as our Senior Qualified Student Representative—not because she was repeating the course, but because she had been with us for the summer and had decided to continue with us for the Fall. But now she must go on to other exciting things like the bar exam, sky-diving, and the practice of the law. We shall all miss Becca. Even while we do that, though, we shall continue the work we started this past summer, and shall continue to provide the best assistance possible to our clients and the people of West Texas.



Nicie Pratt currently serves as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel of the Texas and New Mexico region for the St. Joseph Health System of Orange, CA. Nicie resides in Lubbock, TX and works as the primary in-house legal counsel to Covenant Health System. She offers assistance on a broad range of health care and corporate legal matters including EMTALA, Fraud & Abuse, business transactions, Medicare regulations, non-profit status, medical staff matters, patient consent issues, etc. This will be her second year to co-teach the mediation class as an adjunct professor.

Before law school, Nicie began work with Covenant Medical Group in 1996 as their Business Services Manager and then Compliance Director where she created and implemented the Compliance Program, provided CME to physicians regarding coding and documentation guidelines and offered guidance regarding HIPAA and CMS regulatory compliance including fraud and abuse and false claims.

She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas in 1996 and her law degree from the Texas Tech School of Law in 2004.



Pictured L to R: Yolanda Rodriguez, Professor Vaughn James, Rebecca Land, Clinical Fellow Meredith Nieto, and Anna Rains

The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic has been one of the most edifying experiences from my time in law school. Discounting my new found familiarity with the I.R.C. and the invaluable experience gained in client interaction, it is just incredibly fulfilling to give a client some measure of peace and closure regarding a conflict with the IRS when only two or three months prior they felt like there was no hope.

Jonathan P. Ellis
Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

FROM THE DESK OF PATRICK S. METZE DIRECTOR, CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC

Just a short note to let everyone know the students in the Criminal Defense Clinic are, as always, busy representing real people in real cases in real time. Since the beginning of this semester, through October 30th, students have handled or are handling 55 cases for 42 different clients. Students handle all phases of representation from initial interview through appearance in Court.

The responsibility of representation falls entirely on the clinic students shoulders under the ever watchful eye of Clinic Fellow Terri Morgeson and the Clinic Director. Without the assistance of Ms. Morgeson, the heavy case load of the Criminal Defense Clinic would not be possible.

This semester, to date, of those 56 cases, 7 have been completed with 5 pleas

of guilty and 2 dismissals - for a 29% dismissal rate. Representing clients in the Magistrate Court, two Lubbock County Courts at Law, Lubbock Municipal Court and in the District Courts of Lubbock County are: **Irene Garcia, Elizabeth**

Howard, Chad Hughes, Robert Hundemer,

Kiara Martinez, Lindsay Phillips, Sonia Salinas, and Chris Schulte.

Please congratulate them all for their hard work. Space does not allow an individual account of all they have accomplished in about 2 months. Suffice it to say, these

students are practicing law at the highest level for the benefit of their clients every day. They are learning the real life lessons of the practice of law and putting their education to great use.

All students are members of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

and the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. These students have attended monthly meetings of the local organization, will attend the 32nd Annual Prairie Dog Lawyer Advanced Criminal Law Seminar in January and attended the two day 10th Annual Forensics Seminar in Dallas earlier in

October. As members of the State organization, all students may also attend a board meeting of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association to network with the best criminal defense lawyers from throughout Texas - and maybe land a job.

(continued on page 9)



Patrick Metzger became a full-time faculty member teaching and directing the Criminal Defense Clinic in 2008. Pat is an experienced criminal defense practitioner in Lubbock who is a Past President and Director of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and current Board member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He is enthusiastic about continuing the development of our Criminal Defense Clinic and providing a quality experiential program for our students.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from The University of Houston. He was admitted to practice in the State of Texas on April 29, 1974.

Prior to joining the faculty, he was one of only 14 attorneys qualified for appointment as first chair in Capital Murder cases in the 45 counties of the 9th Administrative Judicial Region and the only attorney in Lubbock who was qualified and solicited appointments to indigent clients for misdemeanors, juveniles, felonies, death penalty cases, and appeals in all courts.

There once was a clinic in Lubbock;
That was led by a man with a pickup;
Though they learned quite a lot when their clients got caught;
Their free time has suffered some hiccups.

The criminal defense clinic is a fantastic experience. It's a chance work with real clients, investigate real lives and take on real cases. The clinic gives me as a student the opportunity to learn how the law affects actual individuals, their families, their futures, as well as the future of our individual liberties as Americans. It re-emphasizes the important role of lawyers in today's society to protect the person from powerful actors who do not have their interests in mind.

Robert Hundemer
Criminal Defense Clinic

FROM THE DESK OF PATRICK S. METZE

DIRECTOR, CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC (continued from page 8)

Cases currently pending include: 2 Class B DWI, 2 Failure to Identify to Police Officer, 8 Possession of Marijuana <2 oz, 6 Class B Theft, 3 Class A Theft, 5 Domestic Violence Assault, 5 Criminal Trespass, 1 Driving While License Invalid, 2 Resisting Arrest, 1 Class A Assault, 2 Class C tickets, 3 Misdemeanor Application to Revoke Probation, 1 Prostitution, 2 Evading Arrest, 1 Deadly Conduct, 1 Theft of Service, 1 Obtaining Controlled Substance by Forgery, 1 Organized Crime, and 1 Discharging Firearm Illegally.

Cases already disposed of through pleas or dismissals include: 3 Class B Theft, 1 Interfering with Public Servant, 1 Domestic Assault, 1 Tampering with Government

Record, and 1 Class A Possession of Marijuana.

During the course of each semester each student will spend a minimum of 200 hours representing their clients. This equates to a total time investment during each semester of a minimum of 1600 hours of pro bono representation for the clinic clients. The Criminal Defense Clinic is proud to represent the indigent citizens of the South Plains by court appointment only and plays its part in the Law School's commitment to providing quality, ethical representation to the poor while educating each student of the importance of such work.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

Being in the clinic has been an enriching and life changing experience. The people I have met at the clinic especially my fellow Criminal Defense Clinic peers, have become good friends and a good source of support. Overall, I would describe our clinic as being more like a family with Professor Metzger at its head.

Sonia Salinas
Criminal Defense Clinic

The clinic offers a truly unique experience at Tech Law. While other programs might help in developing specific skill sets, none of them allow students to actually practice law while still in school. Once I graduate, I honestly feel that I will have an advantage over the competition for having participated in the clinic. I can't recommend it highly enough.

Christopher M. Schulte
Criminal Defense Clinic

On my first day in court as a student attorney, a judge scolded me for not filing a motion for continuance before the court date. At that moment I realized how invaluable this experience will be. There is no better way to learn the practice of criminal defense than to have an actual person's freedom entrusted to you. By dealing with clients, judges, and other more experienced lawyers, I constantly learn the way our criminal justice system really works. More importantly, I am reminded of why I came to law school in the first place.

Ibukun Adepoju
Caprock Regional Public
Defender Clinic



Pictured L to R:

Back Row: Chris Schulte, Sonia Salinas, Professor Patrick Metzger, Robert Hundemer, and Irene Garcia

Front Row: Chad Hughes, Lindsay Phillips, Kiara Martinez, Elizabeth Howard, and Clinic Fellow Terri Morgeson

FROM THE DESK OF DONNIE YANDELL

CAPROCK REGIONAL PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE



The Caprock Regional Public Defender Office/Clinic (CRPDO) has started its second year and is off and running. The student attorneys this year are:

Ibukun Adepoju, Zach Gore, Neil Harris, Mitchell Mills, Lauren Mullins, James Phillips, Sulema Retana, Yolanda Rodriguez, Audrey Rugg, Sarah Stefaniak, Liza Trevino and Nathan Young.



After last year's accomplishments, I thought it would be hard to top their successes. Well, it happened. Just recently the 7th Court of Appeals overturned two convictions on one client whose case was tried last year. The Court of Appeals remanded one of the convictions for retrial and rendered a NOT GUILTY verdict on the second charge. After speaking with the County Attorney involved, it sounds like we are going to get to try the remanded case again. (Please don't throw us in the briar patch!!!) So, for now, the CRPDO has tried two cases with a total of three charges and has a 100% win rate at jury trial. Please keep in mind, these student attorneys did

everything on these cases beginning with client interviews to voir dire, opening statements and closing statements. Assistant Public Defender Charlie Pelowski and I supervised and assisted where needed but this was tried by the student attorneys handling the case. The appeal was completed over the summer by Charlie and Lesley Washington (Mrs. Washington is no longer with the office and sorely missed.) since we do not have students over the summer.

This year's student attorneys have already been thrown into the mix. Currently the office has a dismissal rate of approximately 60% on 57 cases! The student attorneys have handled or will handle sixteen possession of marijuana, fifteen DWI first, nine criminal trespass, seven assault bodily injury, seven terroristic threats, six burglary of a building, six DWI second, six burglary of a vehicle six

possession of marijuana in a drug free zone, six evading arrest or detention, six domestic violence assault, five theft (MA), four theft (MB), three driving while license invalid, three reckless driving, three harassment, 3 criminal mischief (MB), three possession of a dangerous drug, two failure to appear, two failure to identify, two theft by check, one driving without a license, one driving while license suspended, one fail to leave information upon striking a vehicle, one theft of service, one deceptive business practices, one deadly conduct, one cruelty to animals, one failure to identify (fugitive), one indecent exposure, one possession of a controlled substance, one resisting arrest, search or transportation and finally, one driving without insurance. The student attorneys handled these cases in twelve different counties involving twelve different prosecutors and twelve different judges.

Thus far the student attorneys have definitely learned the value of not being afraid to go to trial. On several of the above cases, we have announced ready for trial. We are not currently set for trial on any cases and most of them have been dismissed.

(continued on page 11)

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

My time thus far in the clinic has rejuvenated my drive and passion to become a criminal trial attorney. We, law students, go through the day-to-day toil of classes, reading, classes, (perhaps some more reading) for so long that it's easy to lose perspective of what we are really after. Why did we enroll in the first place? Through my work at the Caprock Regional PD's office I have been able to not only serve clients, but also apply what I've learned both in and out of the classroom in the past two years. It is quite the feeling knowing that at the culmination of law school I will have useful hours of practice under my belt and be ready to attack the world.

Nathan D. Young
Caprock Regional Public
Defender Clinic

I feel so honored to get to participate in the unique and practical experience that the clinical programs offer. I have learned so much from all those involved in the criminal clinics, from both the supervising attorneys and my fellow student attorneys. I will have acquired some tremendously invaluable skills that will guide me through my practice of law after graduation. I could not have picked a better way to spend my 3L year than in the Caprock Regional Public Defender's Office with such a wonderful group of individuals.

Sarah Anne Stefaniak
Caprock Regional Public
Defender Clinic

Professor Metze and Terri Morgeson have been great mentors every step of the way. Their confidence in our abilities has given us the determination we need to effectively represent our clients.

Irene Garcia
Criminal Defense Clinic

"The right of one charged with crime to counsel may not be deemed fundamental and essential to fair trials in some countries, but it is in ours."
- Gideon v. Wainwright (1962)

FROM THE DESK OF DONNIE YANDELL

CAPROCK REGIONAL PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE (continued from page 10)

All student attorneys are members of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers

Association and the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. These student attorneys have attended monthly meetings of the local organization, will attend the 32nd Annual Prairie Dog Lawyer Advanced Criminal

Law Seminar in January and attended the two day 10th Annual Forensics Seminar in Dallas earlier in October. As members of the State organization, all student attorneys may also attend a board meeting of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association to network with the best criminal defense lawyers from throughout Texas.

During the course of each semester, the student attorneys will spend a minimum of 200 hours representing their clients. This equates to a total time investment during each semester of a minimum of 2400 hours of pro bono representation for the clinic clients all thanks to Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University School of

The Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic works to prepare law students for legal experiences out in the real world. The Clinic has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to jumpstart my legal career and to put what I have learned in law school into practical use. Each day I work in this clinic, I am becoming better prepared for success after graduation.

Liza Trevino
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

Law, the Texas Indigent Defense Commission and participating counties in the CRPDO. Without the assistance this office receives from each of you, this opportunity for the student attorneys and the individuals they represent in your communities would not be possible.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

I have learned more about the day to day practice of law in this clinic than the two previous years of law school. Furthermore, before I started, I was completely unaware of how little I actually knew. The clinic has proven to be an invaluable experience in getting me truly prepared to practice immediately after graduation, and I wholeheartedly encourage anyone interested in practicing criminal law to join one of the criminal law clinics.

Zach Gore
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

The Caprock Regional Public Defender Office has given me the chance to interact with real clients and engage in the supervised practice of law before graduation. The guidance provided by our knowledgeable supervising attorneys provides an opportunity learning practical skills that simply cannot be taught in a classroom. It's been an amazing experience thus far and I think that participation in the clinic will give me an advantage when it comes time to entering the job market.

Sulema Retana
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

From the moment I was accepted into Tech Law, I knew I wanted to be a part of the Criminal Defense clinic. The type of experience that the clinic offers is invaluable. The clinic is a "class" that I truly enjoy coming to everyday. The Criminal Defense clinic has given me the confidence I need to meet with a D.A and ensure that justice prevails and a client's protected rights are not overlooked.

Kiara Martinez
Criminal Defense Clinic



Pictured L to R:

Top two rows: Irma Shepler, Mitchell Mills, Donnie Yandell, James Phillips, Charlie Pelowski, Nathan Young, and Professor Patrick Metz

Bottom two rows: Ibukun Adepoju, Audrey Rugg, Neil Harris, Liza Trevino, Joseph Gore, Yolanda Rodriguez, Lauren Mullins, Sulema Retana, and Sarah Stefaniak

THANKS TO FACULTY AND STUDENTS SUPPORTING PRO BONO

Thanks to the following faculty and staff members who assisted at *Pro Bono* Clinics held in conjunction with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas during the fall semester of the 2012-2013 academic year: **Professors Dustin Benham** (1 clinic), **Gerry Beyer** (2 clinics), **Cassie Christopher** (2 clinics), **Sally Henry** (1 clinic), **Vaughn James** (5 clinics), **Eric Johnson** (1 clinic), **Patrick Metze** (1 clinic), **Brian Shannon** (1 clinic), **Larry Spain** (7 clinics); Faculty Services Law Librarian **Eugenia Charles-Newton** (2 clinics), and **Celeste Villareal** (2 clinics).

The Law School faculty co-sponsored two *Pro Bono* Clinics held at St. John's United Methodist Church during the month of September and assisted with three *Pro Bono* Clinics during the fall semester organized by the Student Public Interest Initiative (SPII),

Volunteer Law Student Association (VLSA), and Family Law Society. In addition, all students in the Civil Practice Clinic and Family and Housing Clinic participate in the *Pro Bono* Clinics as part of their clinical work. In addition, the following students from the Student Public Interest Initiative and Family Law Society assisted at the *Pro Bono* Clinics during the fall semester: **Ibukin Adepoju**, **Michael LeMond**, **Chad Hughes**, **Lindsee Cantu**, **Victoria Braun**, **Yolanda Rodriguez**, **Kaelan Henze**, **Malorie Crosley**, **Leo Casanova**, **Karla Cantu**, **Kregg Wallace**, **Lindsay Phillips**, **Lauren Mullins**, **Robert Hundemer**, and **Heather Botello**.

If you are interested in participating in a future *Pro Bono* Clinic, contact Elma Moreno, elma.moreno@ttu.edu or Larry Spain, larry.spain@ttu.edu for more information.

Clinical Program Continues to Provide Preceptorship to Estacado High School Law and Justice Magnet Program

Estacado High School Law and Justice Magnet Program students were very helpful to the clinical programs during the Fall semester. Students assisted Clinical Program staff with administrative and clerical duties. The students who completing their rotation this semester were **Malik Williams** (pictured on the right), and **Manuel Ortiz**.

The preceptorship in the clinical program is the continuation of a partnership between the School of Law and the Estacado High School

Law and Justice Magnet Program which intends to provide additional educational resources and help guide students toward their goals of attending law school.

Elma Moreno worked closely with the students and the program instructor, Lucio R. Trevino, to make the preceptorship rotation visits a learning and helpful experience.



The Clinical Programs hosted a table with information regarding the *Clinical Program Open House* on Wednesday, August 29, 2012, in the forum during the **Student Fair**. Several students helped disseminate information.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Mikela Bryant (Civil Practice Clinic 2011-2012) - Currently working in the Property Tax, Real Estate, Right of Way and Claims Division as part of ConocoPhillips Company's Real Estate and Facilities Services in Odessa, Texas.

Bradley Phillips (Tax Clinic 2011-2012) - Currently at a firm in Dallas - *Robertson, Grieger, & Thoele*.

Susanna Meringola (Family Law & Housing 2011-2012) - Working an Assistant Potter County Attorney in Potter County (Amarillo).

Jorge Catumbela (Tax Clinic 2011-2012) - Is working on his LLM in taxation at Boston University School of Law and volunteering at *Greater Boston Legal Services LITC*. He is thinking about taking the Massachusetts and New York bar at the same time.

Christina Woods (Family Law & Housing Clinic 2011-2012) - Has accepted a position as an Attorney at *Richards, Elder & Green* in Lubbock. Is working primarily with Robin Green, who is specialized in civil litigation.

Chris DeAnda (CRPDO 2011-2012) - Is currently working in Midland as an Assistant District Attorney.

Shannon Crenshaw (CRPDO 2011-2012) - Is currently practicing civil defense at *Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan* in El Paso, Texas.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY— COALITION SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR UPCOMING TAX SEASON



As a member of the Board of Directors of the *Coalition of Community Assistance Volunteers* I am seeking volunteers to assist with the tax season around the corner. The *Coalition of Community*

Assistance Volunteers is asking that you consider volunteering your time and talents to prepare and e-file income tax returns FREE for low income taxpayers in our community.

For more than 20 years Tech Law students have played an important role in the community by serving as volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. CCAV who oversees the VITA project is asking that you consider volunteering your time and talents to prepare and e-file income tax returns **FREE** for low income taxpayers across the South Plains. Last year our volunteers enabled more than 2,904 taxpayers to save approximately \$435,000 in unnecessary tax prep and rapid refund loan fees, while bringing more than \$4.5 million in refunds into the local economy.

Volunteers are needed to prepare basic individual income tax returns on an easy-to-use computer software program. Volunteers are trained by CCAV members and IRS employees, and enjoy protections under state and federal Volunteer Protection Acts. Since students leave for the holiday break, we ask that you take the on-line training and testing

provided through the IRS Website at <http://www.irs.gov/app/vita/index.jsp> (Link N Learn Taxes Course);

While volunteer Tax Preparers may choose to train and test at three different levels (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced), they are **only required to train and test at the Basic and Intermediate levels.**

We hope you'll choose to participate with us during the upcoming tax season which runs from January 22nd thru April 16th by volunteering 4-6 hours of your time per week. If you are interested and you were unable to attend the information session, please feel free to contact me at elma.moreno@ttu.edu if you have any questions or if you would like to pick up a packet.

Please note that, since our volunteers handle so much confidential information, a new policy has been implemented requiring a criminal background check be performed on each volunteer. Of course, this will be done at no cost to you.

Again, if you are willing to assist in the preparation of simple tax returns, and help make a difference in our community, we are in need of your help. Please contact me in the clinic offices at 742-3787, Ext. 222, or by sending an e-mail to elma.moreno@ttu.edu.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Doug Montgomery (Civil Practice Clinic 2011-2012)
- Plans to move to San Marcos, Texas very soon to accept an of counsel position with David K. Sergi & Associates. David Sergi is a long time mentor and friend. He also plans to develop his own practice on the side.

Allie Hallmark (Civil Practice Clinic 2011-2012)
- Is living in Pennsylvania and passed the bar exam there. While she looks for long-term employment, she will be working as a law clerk for a solo practitioner and helping plan a moot court competition to take place in New York City.

Natalie Cepak (ADR - 2010) - Will be going into the Air Force in January and by next April will actually start working. She has 5 weeks of commissioned officer training and then three months of JAG school. (dates are contingent upon getting sworn in soon enough to get the paperwork going).

Cara-Beth Bass (CRPDO 2011-2012) - Assistant County Attorney in Midland, Texas.

Tammy T. Fisher (Civil Practice Clinic 2011-2012)
- Will be opening her practice in Sonora, Texas, the first week of December
- Tammy T. Fisher, Attorney at Law & Mediation Services, PLLC

For more information on becoming a volunteer for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, please visit: www.freetaxprep4u.org, call 687-2228 or email Elma Moreno at elma.moreno@ttu.edu



LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

by Nancy Mojica, Community Outreach Coordinator



I'm delighted to be working as the new LITC Community Outreach Coordinator for the Texas Tech School of Law Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic. Since I started my position on July 9th, I have been busy with direct and in-direct outreach. I have traveled in and around Lubbock and met with agencies to advise them of the wonderful service our tax law students have to offer to the taxpayers in our service area. In mid-July I started traveling to our outlying counties to spread the news as well. In-directly I have sent out numerous Public Service Announcements to local and surrounding newspapers, bilingual newspapers, radio, television, and 211 directories as well as community agencies and schools in our 88 county service area.

I have attended several workshops, community action meetings and information fairs and handed out flyers, posters and brochures. It was a pleasure meeting all the wonderful people who put these workshops, meetings and fairs together. They have a great source of information to offer.

The first LITC Outreach Clinic was held on September 27th at the St. John's United Methodist Church. We have two future clinics scheduled for 2013 on January 24th and March 21st. These clinics will be held at the same location.



Rebecca Land and Mariah Mayworm (supervised by Meredith Nieto) presented a workshop on October 11th to the employees of Catholic Charities on the *Earned Income Tax Credit*. The Director for Catholic Charities needed to train 31 employees/taxpayers on this topic to inform their clients the importance of the EITC before the tax season began.

Natalie Myers lead a presentation on October 20th titled "Who needs to file and penalties for not timely filing" to an audience of 40 taxpayers at the Patterson Library. The workshop was hosted by the Lubbock Area Client Council and Legal Aid of Northwest Texas. Three other law students were on hand to help with Q & A.



Several law students and I participated in the South Plains Career Expo on October 30th held at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Jonathan Ellis, Nico Toulet-Crump, and Dustin Wilson aided me in handing out



brochures and educational workshop posters to over 3000 students and teachers from Lubbock and surrounding areas.

I will be scheduling interviews with the bilingual television and radio stations in Lubbock during the month of December to reach as many taxpayers as possible and promote our upcoming Tax Law Clinics to be held in January and March of 2013.



I look forward to continue working diligently with other agencies to build relationships and promote additional workshops and clinics in Lubbock and in our 88 county service area.



WORDS FROM OUR CLIENTS

"They gave me the best assistance excellent and professionally handled. Thank you all for your time and concern on my case."

LRA
Tax Clinic Client

The students that helped me with this matter were accurate, courteous, made sure I understood the matters discussed. They did an awesome job and I have recommended this office to someone already. Thanks, keep up the great work!

PH
Tax Clinic Client



Several of the students participating in the Clinical Programs assisted in promoting the first annual *Clinical Programs Open House!*

Thank you students for helping us promote the event! The Open House was held to promote all clinics and encourage students to attend and ask questions!

RECENT CASES OF INTEREST

Caprock Regional Public Defender Office Clinic

In January of 2012 the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office Clinic tried a case to a jury. The two student attorneys handling the case were Pat Sloane (2012) and Shannon Crenshaw (2012). Although Mr. Sloane and Ms. Crenshaw tried the case, everyone in the clinic was involved in helping them prepare. Charles Blevins even took time from his Christmas break to go to the trial and assist as issues presented themselves. Donnie Yandell, Chief Public Defender (2001), and Charlie Pelowski, Assistant Chief Public Defender (2010), supervised the students during the trial and assisted as needed. After a two day battle, the jury convicted the client of both counts charged and sentenced him to serve time in jail.

Immediately after the conviction, the student attorneys announced that their client would be appealing the conviction. Charlie

Pelowski and Lesley Washington drafted the appeal and submitted their brief to the Court of Appeals in Amarillo. The Amarillo Court of Appeals overturned both convictions. On one conviction, the Court reversed and remanded the charge for another trial. On the second charge, the Court reversed and rendered a Not Guilty! The State filed a Motion for Rehearing which was denied. The case has been remanded for a new trial and we have announced ready.

This is not only a win for the office's client, it is a win for the clinic and all the students who had a part in defending this citizen accused. I believe this also shows that the Texas Tech School of Law is turning out quality students who are ready to hit the ground running at graduation. Good job everyone!

Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Success Stories

The taxpayers were assessed a total of \$52,743 for seven tax years in which they failed to file their tax returns. This year, the LITC submitted and the IRS accepted an Offer-in-Compromise for \$1,000. The taxpayers will pay this amount in \$100 monthly installments over 20 months.

The taxpayer was denied the head of household filing status, dependency exemptions, and the earned income credit for the 2010. The LITC filed a Tax Court petition on behalf of the taxpayer and successfully proved the taxpayer had filed correctly as head of household, correctly claimed his sons as dependents, and correctly took the earned income credit for the 2010 tax year. The taxpayer received a refund of \$4,769 for the 2010 tax year.

The taxpayer was denied the head of household filing status, dependency exemptions, and the earned income credit for the 2010 and 2011 tax years. The LITC successfully proved that the taxpayer filed correctly and the earned income credit was recertified for the following tax years. The taxpayer will receive a refund of \$4,669.15 for the 2010 tax year and \$4,060.85 for the 2011 tax year.

The taxpayer was denied the head of household filing status, dependency exemptions, and the earned income credit for the 2007 and 2008 tax years. The LITC successfully proved that the taxpayer filed correctly and the earned income credit was recertified for the following tax years. The taxpayer will receive a refund of \$984.60 for 2007 tax year and \$4,680 for 2008 tax year.

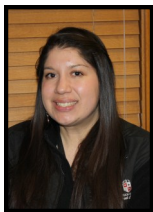
The taxpayers were assessed a tax liability of \$5,316 for the 2009 tax year and \$4,550 for the 2010 tax year due to unreported income on their 2009 and 2010 1040 returns. The LITC submitted a Tax Court petition for the 2009 tax year and an identity theft investigation for the 2010 tax year on behalf of the taxpayers. The LITC successfully proved that the unreported income was the result of identity theft and the taxpayers were relieved of the tax assessments for 2009 and 2010. Therefore, the taxpayers have no tax liability for the 2009 and 2010 tax years.

The taxpayers had applied for ITINs four separate times in order to file their 1040-NR and file as married filing jointly with a dependent child and were unsuccessful. The LITC successfully obtained ITINs for the spouse and child and amended the taxpayers' 2008, 2009, and 2010 1040-NR returns. The taxpayers received refunds of \$1,657 for the 2007 tax year, \$63 for the 2009 tax year, and \$1,019 for the 2010 tax year.

The taxpayer incorrectly took an adoption credit for \$26,340 and was assessed an accuracy related penalty of \$5,330.13. The LITC filed a petition with the Tax Court on behalf of the taxpayer and successfully proved that the taxpayer mistakenly took the credit and the accuracy related penalty should be removed. The LITC successfully settled the case for no tax due.

The taxpayer was assessed a deficiency of \$1,360 for the 2009 tax year resulting from a fraudulent return filed on his behalf. The LITC filed a petition with the Tax Court and successfully proved that the taxpayer should not be liable for the deficiency because he did not file or sign the fraudulent return. The LITC successfully settled the case for no tax due.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS



The Caprock Regional Public Defender Office Clinic is much more than a wonderful learning experience. The Caprock Clinic is an opportunity for a fortunate group of people to work with great mentors, work on actual cases, and affect people's lives. In the short period that I have been working with the Clinic, I've learned not only a great deal about the profession but also, a great deal about myself. Every docket call brings me closer to my future and every dismissal brings me closer to my goal; to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, to fight for the rights of all who are destitute, to speak up and judge fairly and defend the rights of the poor.

Yolanda C. Rodriguez
Caprock Regional Public
Defender Clinic

My experience with the Family Law and Housing Clinic has been invaluable. No other course has given me the opportunity to receive rewarding, hands-on experience all while being able to help the indigent community of Lubbock. I cannot think of a more valuable learning experience in the entirety of my law school career than that of my time as a student attorney in the Family Law and Housing Clinic. I could not imagine graduating from law school and beginning my career without this experience. Every day is a challenge, an adventure, and an opportunity to make a difference in the Lubbock community.

Denise D. Hernandez
Family Law and Housing Clinic



The Clinic Office is like the largest most convenient carrel you will ever have the opportunity to enjoy at Tech Law.

John Langner
Family Law and Housing Clinic

The Civil Practice Clinic has given me the opportunity to be exposed to a variety of types of civil law ranging from VA benefits claims to criminal records expungement. These are areas of law that I have not been exposed to in the classroom and have helped to give me a more well-rounded legal education.



Bobby Murphy
Civil Practice Clinic

Healthcare mediation clinic experience reinforced my desire to work in the healthcare industry. Professors did an outstanding job training and preparing students for a real-life experience. It is my favorite class in law school because here, students' thoughts matter in that they actually influence people's lives.

Elena McCoy
Health Care Mediation Clinic

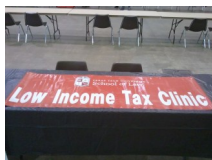


Congratulations to **Jonathan Ellis (Tax Clinic)** for having his paper "Prohibiting the Garden Because You Can't See the Curb—the IRS's Inconsistent Enforcement of the 501(c)(3) Prohibitions" picked second place winner in the State Bar of Texas Section of Taxation 2012 Law Student Paper Writing Competition!

*Selection process for Clinical Program will be held in mid-February for the 2013-2014 academic year!
Watch for announcements in
late January and visit the clinic website for more information.*

SNAPSHOT CORNER

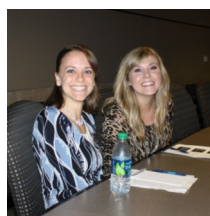
Tax Clinic Students Conduct Workshops and Outreach in the Community and Bid Farewell to Rebecca Land!



Civil Practice Clinic and Family Law/Housing Clinic Students Participate in Divorce Night Court— Presiding Judge William Sowder



Faculty Update Seminar

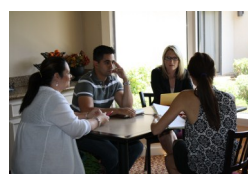


Student Fair

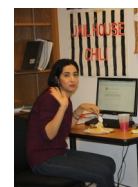


SNAPSHOT CORNER

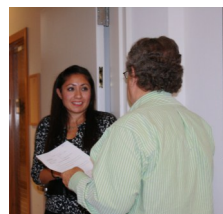
Health Care Mediation Clinic Orientation



Clinical Programs Thanksgiving Feast!



Just for Fun!



CLINIC DIRECTORS:

Larry R. Spain
Civil Practice Clinic
Advanced ADR Clinic

Wendy Tolson Ross
Family Law and Housing Clinic

Vaughn E. James
Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

Patrick S. Metze
Criminal Defense Clinic
Capital Punishment Clinic
Caprock Regional Public Defender
Clinic

**CO-DIRECTORS/
INSTRUCTORS:**

Gene Valentini
Adjunct Professor
Health Care Mediation Clinic
Advanced ADR Clinic

Nicie Pratt
Adjunct Professor
Health Care Mediation Clinic

Donnie Yandell
Chief Public Defender
Caprock Regional Public Defender
Office

Charles Pelowski
Assistant Public Defender
Caprock Regional Public Defender
Office

CLINIC FELLOWS:

Terri Morgeson
Civil Practice Clinic
Criminal Defense Clinic

Meredith Nieto
Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

Rebekah Filley
Family Law and Housing Clinic

STAFF:

Elma Moreno
Office Manager/Legal Assistant

Jennifer Martin
Sr. Business Assistant/Clinic
Secretary

Nancy Mojica
LITC Community Outreach
Coordinator

Irma Shepler
Office Manager/Legal Assistant
Caprock Regional Public Defender
Office



FROM

***FALL 2012 CLINICAL PROGRAMS
FACULTY AND STAFF***



Not Pictured: Nicie Pratt



CLINIC NEWS

Fall 2012 Edition

1802 Hartford Avenue , Lubbock, Texas 79409

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