

# TEXAS TECH<sup>TM</sup> LAWYER



SCHOOL OF LAW  
MARK AND BECKY LANIER  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**“THE FIRST IN THEIR FAMILIES”**  
TEXAS TECH LAW PROVIDES UPWARD  
PATH FOR FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

pg 16

WINTER 2021



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# From the Dean's SUITE

I am very pleased to share that we have seated a wonderful new class of almost 160 1Ls this fall. Notably, this year's entering class has one of the highest median LSATs in the Law School's history—as well as a wide array of other impressive credentials and accomplishments. These excited 1Ls are joining our amazing 2L and 3L students for a total enrollment of over 430 future lawyers in the law building.

We are glad to be back in person at the Law School—with almost 90% of our classes face-to-face and regular on-campus and off-campus events for students, faculty, and staff. Masks are very welcome and sanitizing supplies are readily available.

We continue to celebrate our many points of pride from the last 12 months! In advocacy, we are ranked No. 2 in the nation by the ABA in their skills competition championship ranking. In moot court, we are ranked No. 3 in the nation by the Blakely Advocacy Institute. We are ranked the No. 16 “Best Value” law school in the nation by the *National Jurist*—given our low cost and great educational outcomes. And we are ranked the No. 25 best legal writing program in the nation by *U.S. News*.

Our bar pass numbers were outstanding this year, and we were proud to rank No. 3 in the State of Texas on the July 2021 Bar Exam. We were also proud to rank No. 2 in the State of Texas in the ABA's most recent “ultimate” bar pass measure—with a 95.9% 24-month success rate. Our May 2021 graduates had an almost 91% bar pass rate which speaks volumes about the fantastic legal education students receive at Texas Tech Law and our intense commitment to preparing students for the bar exam (especially during the many challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic).

Our scholarship support for students continues to grow—with the support of our generous alumni, including the transformational legacy gift of Bob Collier ('73). Almost 76% of our 1L students this year received at least \$1,000 in scholarship support. For the third year in a row, 100% of our law students who are first-generation college graduates have received a scholarship award of at least \$2,000. And I am pleased to say that, through the generosity of alumnus David W. Copeland ('82), we now have \$500,000 in matching funds for our alumni and friends who want to establish scholarship endowments to further support our first-gen students.

The Law School also supports our students in other ways—with important diversity programs, wellness programs, a food pantry for students experiencing food insecurity, and much more. Our

students and recent graduates continue to make us proud in return, including Avery Rios, winner of Baylor Law's Paper Chase student writing competition for law students across the State of Texas, and Brooke Bohlen, winner of Scribes' national Best Brief Award, a “best of the best” award selected from among best brief winners of a number of national competitions.

We are also pleased to be able to support our faculty—with the generous help of our alumni and friends. The Law School recently appointed Professor Wendy-Adele Humphrey ('01) to the Brock Endowed Professorship, newly established in honor and memory of outstanding Lubbock-area attorneys Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock ('75) by our alumni Carolyn F. Moore ('79) and Elaine Brock ('88). This generous professorship endowment provides crucial recognition and support for an outstanding faculty member while helping inspire future generations of attorneys with the memory of Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock.

The Law School is thriving, and throughout this last year, we have all learned much more deeply the value of our community and of so much that we so easily take for granted. We remain grateful for each other and for all the Law School's friends and supporters, and we are looking forward to the rest of this academic year as our very best school year yet.

Guns up!

~Jack Wade Nowlin

Dean and W. Frank  
Newton Professor  
of Law



# YEAR *in* REVIEW

This year, the Texas Tech Law community enjoyed wonderful events that inspired the community both in person and virtually. We are eager to carry forward everything we learned from months of virtual events, which gave our students access to outstanding speakers, allowed us to expand our reach to alumni far and wide, and inspired a desire to continue virtual CLE offerings. Be on the lookout for future CLE and virtual event offerings from the Texas Tech Law Alumni Association.

## HEALTH SYMPOSIUM



**November 20, 2020**

The *Texas Tech Law Review* did an outstanding job hosting the Texas Tech Mental Health Law Symposium this November, transitioning the symposium to a completely virtual format and attracting over 800 registrants.

Like the previous two symposiums on mental health law, this year's program addressed practical legal and policy issues that can contribute to improvements in our public mental health system and help address the significant challenges faced by our criminal justice system and law enforcement with regard to alleged offenders with mental illness.

Among the featured speakers for this year's symposium were John Petrila, the senior executive vice president of policy for the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute. He addressed the lessons learned from community assessments conducted around the state, including the Lubbock area. Judge Milton Mack, a state court administrator emeritus from Michigan, discussed the successful legal reforms that have been adopted in his state.

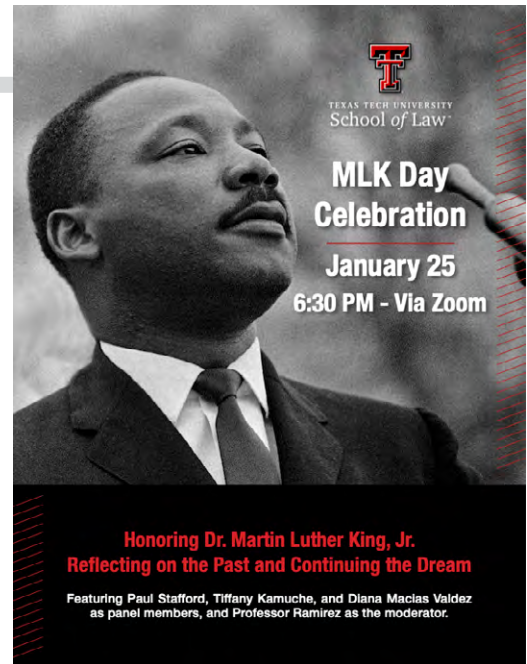
Other symposium speakers included Sabah Muhammad, a legislative and policy counsel for the Treatment Advocacy Center in Arlington, Virginia; Tarrant County judges Brent Carr and Nelda Cacciotti; Beth Lawson, the CEO of StarCare Specialty Health System in Lubbock; and Lee Johnson, the deputy director of the Texas Council of Community Centers.

Horn Distinguished Professor Brian Shannon was the final speaker, addressing recent significant Texas mental health legislation and proposals for the upcoming year. Professor Shannon is one of the leading advocates for reforming and improving the judicial system when it comes to those with mental illness or a mental disability and an expert on the judicial system and how it deals with mental illness.

## THIRD ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CELEBRATION

January 25, 2021

The Law School's third annual Martin Luther King commemoration event, "Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Reflecting on the Past and Continuing the Dream", was a virtual panel discussion moderated by Professor Jorge Ramirez and Texas Tech law alumni panelists Paul Stafford '94, Diana Macias Valdez '04, and Tiffany Kamuche '11. Discussion focused on the impact of Dr. King on the civil rights movement—and where we are as a nation more than 50 years later.



## 13TH ANNUAL ESTATE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAW JOURNAL CLE

February 26, 2021

*The Estate Planning and Community Property Law Journal* (EPJ) hosted a stellar 13th Annual EPJ CLE & Expo virtually in February.

Thanks to the leadership and creativity of 3Ls Andrew Beck (Executive Symposium Editor) and Ben Laney (Editor-in-Chief), the CLE had over 500 registrants with almost 400 attending "live"

during the full day event. The remaining registrants had access to the lectures until April 1, 2021 and the opportunity to view the presentations on the EJP website.

The symposium featured eight distinguished speakers from around the country, as well as three Texas Tech EPJ student speakers. As leaders and experts in the industry, speakers

addressed a wide range of topical legal issues in the modern practice of estate planning and community property law.

The 14th Annual Seminar will be held on February 25, 2022 in both live and live-streamed formats. In the past, the seminar has been limited to Texas practitioners. For 2022, EPJ is expanding to reach a national audience. Make plans to attend!



**CLE & EXPO**  
Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal



## 17TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA

**March 6, 2021**

This year, the 17th Annual Scholarship Gala celebration was virtual and by video. The Law School was proud to honor Doug Atnipp '85, Julie Caruthers Parsley '90, Philip Weems '82, and Art Hall '96 in the video and looks forward to celebrating these 2020 distinguished alumni and distinguished service award recipients in person at the 18th Annual Scholarship Gala in Lubbock on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

The Annual Scholarship Gala is a wonderful way to celebrate alumni

achievements and raise money for student scholarships. At the 16th Annual Gala, over \$140,000 was raised for student scholarships. Messages from our first-generation students about the impact of receiving a scholarship included in the 17th Annual Gala video inspired a \$250,000 matching gift from the David W. Copeland ('82) Family Foundation for scholarship endowments directed to students who are the first in their immediate families to graduate from college. Thanks to an enthusiastic response of fellow alumni, David

committed another \$250,000, opening the door for \$1 million in new scholarship support.

Texas Tech Law is a school that believes in creating opportunities for students. The money raised at the Scholarship Gala each year expands the educational opportunities that are available and transforms the lives of students.

Make plans to join fellow alumni at the 18th Annual Scholarship Gala in Lubbock on Saturday, March 5, 2022!

## 12TH ANNUAL WALTER B. HUFFMAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

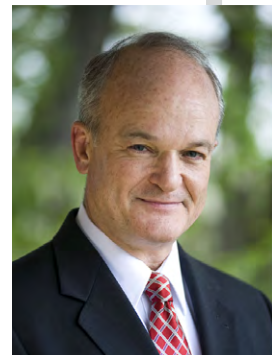
**March 12, 2021**

*Texas Tech Law Review* welcomed Jack L. Rives, Executive Director of the American Bar Association and former Judge Advocate General for the United States Air Force, as its 2021 Huffman Distinguished Lecturer in early March. The lecture was approved for 1 hour of Texas ethics CLE credit.

Rives began a 33-year career in the United States Air Force as a judge advocate (JAG). He served as the Judge Advocate General (TJAG) of the United States Air Force, the senior U.S. Air Force attorney, and he was the first military attorney to attain the three-star rank of lieutenant general. Rives began his service as the Executive Director of the American Bar Association in 2010. In that role, he has overall management responsibility for staff operations at the Association's headquarters in Chicago, at its Washington, DC office, and at program sites in California, Texas, and several dozen countries throughout the world.

Rives shared "Leadership Lessons for Lawyers", focusing on attributes that are essential for an attorney to be a good leader. The presentation centered on the acronym P.R.I.D.E.—Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Determination, Enthusiasm. This refers "to the kind of pride that comes from taking on responsibility and being accountable for results," Rives explained. He shared historical examples of leaders who exhibited the different aspects of PRIDE. Rives ended his presentation summing up three rules for leadership: "Always do your best, always do what's right, and always treat everyone with dignity and respect."

*Texas Tech Law Review* has hosted the lecture series since 2010 in honor of Major General Walter B. Huffman, Dean Emeritus of the Law School, past editor-in-chief of the *Texas Tech Law Review*, and retired Judge Advocate General (TJAG) of the United States Army.



# LEGAL WRITING

Lawyers write and write and write. That's why Texas Tech Law is proud to boast exceptional Legal Practice professors, like Wendy-Adele Humphrey '01 and Brie Sherwin '01, who maintain a pioneering program in Legal Research and Writing—currently ranked the No. 25 best legal writing program in the nation by the *U.S. News and World Report*.

Everything these professors do is to encourage confidence among Texas Tech law students and to train them to become the best legal advocates in the country. They do this through innovative teaching in the classroom and a top-ranked national advocacy program, which boasts more than thirty national teams a year. This commitment to legal research



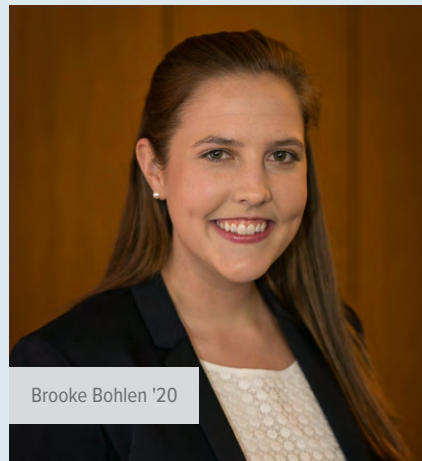
Avery Rios '21

and writing is clear in the successes of Texas Tech law students.

Brooke Bohlen '20 won the 2021 Scribes Brief-Writing Award. The American Society of Legal Writers gives the award each year to the best student-written brief, drawing from a select pool of “best briefs” from all national moot court competitions.

Avery Rios '21 won the 2021 Paper Chase Legal Writing Competition, the most competitive legal writing contest in Texas. The competition is hosted by Baylor Law School and entrants are judged by members of the Texas Young Lawyer Association (TYLA). Her winning memo focused on a circuit split over the government's ability to use a defendant's post-arrest, pre-Miranda silence in its substantive case-in-chief.

Texas Tech advocates excelled, winning five Best Brief awards, including the prestigious National



Brooke Bohlen '20

Best Brief Award at the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition.

Texas Tech law students also redefined legal scholarship. Thanks to Dean Nowlin's passion for student publishing and his Academic Legal Writing course co-taught with Professor Jamie Baker, 17 Texas Tech law students were selected for publication—both externally and in the Law School's two journals. With publications aimed to present fresh perspectives, Texas Tech law students produce scholarship that is highly relevant to practice and inspires change that makes the world more just.

As the evidence clearly shows, Texas Tech Law has a fantastic writing program that teaches the writing skills students need to succeed.

## WALK FOR REFORM: BEYOND THE COURTROOM, ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES —AN EVENING WITH LEON REED '03

**April 7, 2021**

In the sweltering heat of summer 2020, Leon Reed '03 completed a 200-mile walk from his home in Fort Worth to Austin and spent 35 days outside the Texas Capitol advocating for improved police and community relations. This April, the Law School was proud to host an evening with Leon via Zoom. He shared the inspiring story of his journey and his vision for change with the Law School community.

Tom Hall '81, foundation board president and member of the Alumni Special Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice, opened the evening with an update on some of the Law School's DEI initiatives and an excerpt from Robert Kennedy's "Ripple of Hope" speech.

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope... those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance," quoted Tom.

"Leon's journey to Austin to change the policies of Texas

to ensure a more just society," said Tom, brought the speech's words to mind.

Leon's leadership in social action started while he was still in law school. He shared the story of a road trip funded by the Law School with stops at smaller colleges and universities, allowing Leon to speak about his experience and encourage other students to consider law school. Leon said this experience showed him that "The spirit of our Law School isn't about talking the talk; it's about walking the walk."

His message for our students emphasized that lawyers "have responsibilities beyond the courtroom."

"You're going to have a vital role in the preservation of society as a whole and have special responsibilities for the quality of justice," said Leon.

Mimi Coffey '94, foundation board trustee and member of the Alumni Special Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice, asked Leon if he had a personal message for



**Walk for Reform: Beyond the Courtroom,  
Ethical Considerations and Civic Responsibilities**

**An Evening with Leon Reed '03**

**Introduction  
Tom Hall '81**

**Discussant  
Mimi Coffey '94**

**Thanks to our sponsors:**

**BLSA**

**Diversity, Equity, and  
Inclusion Committee**

**Alumni Special Committee  
on Diversity, Equity,  
Inclusion, and Justice**

**April 7  
5:30 PM  
Via Zoom**

our students as they start their careers.

"Trust what got you into the Texas Tech School of Law," advised Leon.

"I think a lot of people will join you in your next steps," said Dean Nowlin as he closed the evening.

Leon envisions future Walk for Reform events that will allow more people to participate in cities across Texas. He continues to fight for reform and to create "ripples of hope" through his dedication to justice.



# ADVOCACY

Texas Tech Law's moot court and mock trial teams continued to shine on the national stage.

Jay Evans, Taylor Holley, and Alicia Mpande, claimed the Law School's 47th National Championship at the American Bar Association's National Appellate Advocacy Competition—the largest, and arguably most prestigious, moot court competition in the country. The win was the Law School's second since 2013, and the fifth time in the last nine years Texas Tech has reached that tournament's national final round. It also swept the Texas Young Lawyers Association State Moot Court Competition this summer, winning not only the state title, but the tournament's Best Advocate and Best Brief award as well.

Aside from the NAAC championship, the program saw seven of its teams advance to national championship rounds, including the New York City Bar's National Moot Court Competition and the ABA Arbitration Competition. Texas Tech law students also won eight Best Brief and Best Advocate awards.



From left to right: Alicia Mpande, Taylor Holley, and Jay Evans

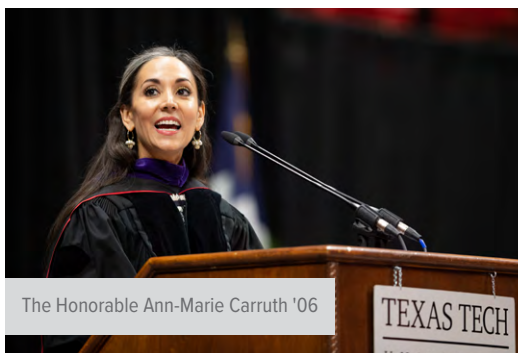
- All that success contributed to the program
- landing a number-three year-end ranking in
- moot court by the Blakely Advocacy Institute,
- and a number-two ranking in the ABA
- Competitions Championship. This marks the
- fourth straight year Texas Tech has placed either
- first or second in the ABA ranking.

- Texas Tech law students, under the phenomenal
- leadership of Professor Rob Sherwin '01,
- continue to achieve incredible results on the
- national stage and ensure our reputation for
- success precedes us.

## MAY 2021 AND 2020 HOODING CEREMONIES

The opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates is always a highlight of the Law School year. This year's festivities felt even more special thanks to the return of in-person events and the long-awaited in-person ceremony for our May 2020 graduates—not to mention the chance to recognize two classes of outstanding students who completed law school in extraordinary times.

We celebrated the Class of 2021 on May 15, 2021, with The Honorable Ann-Marie Carruth '06 as the featured commencement speaker. Judge Carruth previously served as judge for Precinct 4 and Court-at-Law #3 in Lubbock County. She was appointed by Governor Abbott as the judge of the 72nd District Court.



"Our paths to this point may have been different, but as we sit here today, the end result is exactly the same," said Judge Carruth, addressing the graduates. "And now, you are entrusted with the integrity of this profession... Go and be a good human."

On June 5, 2021, our May 2020 graduates were also honored for the second time—this time in person. The

previous year, the Law School held a virtual commencement ceremony for these graduates with the promise of a face-to-face ceremony when it was safe to celebrate together.

Holland O'Neil '87, a partner at Foley & Lardner, LLP

## CLINICS

Every year students serving in the Law School's eight clinics benefit from hands on, practical training. During a mostly virtual school year, this was no exception. Under guidance from seasoned professors, this group gained experience with a wide variety of cases and learned to practice with creativity in a virtual system.

The Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic tackled unique challenges assisting clients with the distribution of the economic impact payments in the face of significant pandemic-related IRS delays. In spite of these challenges, students also closed eight cases resulting in \$62,028 in corrected liabilities and \$8,230 in released refunds.

- Civil Practice Clinic students assisted clients with cases involving family law, disability claims, consumer issues, estate planning, name changes, and other civil matters. Over the course of the spring semester, students interviewed and counseled 34 individuals by phone on a range of issues through Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas's Legal Aid Line when the in-person pro bono clinics were canceled. They also took on 16 new client cases and closed 10 cases.

- There was significant effort and professionalism shown by students in all of the Law School's three criminal defense clinics this year. Responding to the pandemic, students in the Capital Punishment Clinic



and a member of the firm's Management Committee, made the trip to Lubbock to reprise her role and again deliver the keynote address. In addition to her sage advice for students at the start of their careers, Holly announced a donation establishing the Class of 2020 Endowed Scholarship in recognition of these students' extraordinary achievements.

Regent Mark Griffin '79 and Dean Nowlin were also inspired to contribute, and the Class of 2020 Endowed

Scholarship launched with funding of \$25,000. As a class, these students supported each other through the challenges of completing law school during a pandemic. Now, they have the opportunity to join together in support of the scholarship and future generations of Texas Tech law students.



worked from home, each completing a major project for clients of the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases. Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic students, under its Chief Public Defender Donnie Yandell '01, closed 61 cases — 9 felonies, 49 misdemeanors, and 3 juvenile. Criminal Defense Clinic students, under the direction of Pat Metze, handled 148 cases for 92 clients. They also performed over 3,000 hours of pro bono representation.

“The most important lesson conveyed to the students during this year was that criminal defense lawyers must perform their duties to their clients despite the complications of a once-in-a-century pandemic,” said Professor Metze.

In addition to casework, Innocence Clinic students, under the direction of Allison Clayton '07, drafted statutory amendments relating to the testimony of jailhouse informants. Those amendments have passed the House and are making their way through the Senate. Students also filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court.

The pandemic continued to present challenges for clinical students, but with a lot of hard work and creativity, they ensured every client felt valued. These students served as a bright spot for clients facing dark times and effected positive change in the community and in the lives of their clients.



## 2021 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Alumni Association Awards recognize and highlight the great work and achievements of Texas Tech Law alumni and friends. Recipients are selected for their personal and professional accomplishments, community or public service, and contributions to Texas Tech School of Law. These awards are traditionally presented at the annual Texas Tech Law Alumni Reception at the State Bar of Texas Annual meeting. The Annual meeting was not held in person this past year due to concerns about the spread of COVID-19, but the Law School looks forward to celebrating these award recipients in the future.

The six outstanding recipients of the 2021 Alumni Association Awards are individuals who embrace and support the Law School's spirit and mission.

### HERSHELL L. BARNES AMBASSADOR AWARD

**Thomas G. Hall '81** is Board Certified in Personal Injury by the State Bar of Texas Board of Legal Specialization and has helped serious injury victims fight for justice for over 30 years at the personal injury Law Offices of Tom Hall. He serves as president of Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board.



Tom's belief in giving back to those who gave him a chance has led him to teach at the Law School and to provide donations and scholarships—hoping to make a difference in the lives of young lawyers the way others made a difference in his. He is an outstanding ambassador who never misses an opportunity to sing the praises of the Law School. Tom received the Law School's Distinguished Service Award in 2008.

### DANIEL H. BENSON PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

**Laura A. Pratt '09** practices commercial litigation, administrative law, and agricultural law with a focus on real property litigation at Brady & Hamilton. Laura is an award-winning director for the Texas Young Lawyers Association and the Lubbock Area Bar Association, a Texas Bar Foundation fellow, a member of the Texas Bar College, and a member of the board of directors of OneVoiceHome, a non-profit seeking to establish a safe home for girls who have been trafficked in the West Texas region. Laura has spent her career being the type of lawyer, leader, and public servant that our profession needs, and she is a tireless supporter of the Law School and our students.



### RISEING STAR AWARD

**Natasha N. Taylor '09** is a partner in the firm of Wright Close & Barger, representing clients in state and federal courts nationwide. Whether helping to build and run her law firm's associate mentorship program, coaching moot court teams, or through her participation in bar activities and programs, Tasha is working to strengthen the profession by passing on what she knows to those who come behind her. Tasha brings credit to both the legal profession and to Texas Tech Law, modeling service, leadership, and professionalism.



## GRADUATES OF THE LAST DECADE (G.O.L.D.) AWARD

**The Honorable Elizabeth N. Rainey '11** serves as the



Magistrate for the Midland County Drug Court. The court combines her passion for serving the people of Midland and helping those individuals suffering from addiction find recovery. Coordinating a team of Probation Officers, Counselors, Prosecutors,

Defense Attorneys, and Law Enforcement Officers to build the Midland County Drug Court from the ground up, Judge Rainey is helping the participants, their families, and the community by providing tools to help participants break the cycle of dependency on drugs and alcohol. Her meaningful work shows how dedicated and skilled Texas Tech law graduates are changing communities and making the world a better place.

## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

**Eric D. Bentley** serves as Vice Chancellor and General



Counsel for the Texas Tech University System, overseeing an office of 25 employees including 17 attorneys across the TTU System's component institutions. Eric and his office are always eager to serve the Law School and our students by providing

internships and externships—and this year, by funding a new position for a twelve-month post-graduate as a Legal Fellow.

## D. MURRAY HENSLEY SERVICE AWARD

**Brandon E. Beck '12** is an appellate attorney with the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the



Northern District of Texas and adjunct professor of legal practice at Texas Tech Law. As a law student, some of Brandon's proudest accomplishments were in advocacy. He won several regional championships and the National Moot Court Competition.

Today, Brandon is a beloved adjunct professor at the law school and remains highly involved as a volunteer advocacy coach.

***Do you know*** a fellow classmate who brings honor to the profession, who is passionate about our Law School, or who is selflessly committed to community service? Nominations for the 2022 Alumni Association Awards can be submitted at [www.depts.ttu.edu/law/alumni/aa-nomination.php](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/law/alumni/aa-nomination.php)

## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

**August 9-11, 2021**

When the 158 members of the Class of 2024 walked through the Law School doors in August, one thing became immediately clear—they are a lively, diverse, and warm group of students. Over the course of the three-day in-person orientation, this class bonded with each other and became members of the Texas Tech law family.

The class, which has a median LSAT score of 157 and median GPA of 3.56, is a wonderfully diverse group with 36% students of color and 19% first-generation college students. As the costs of higher education climb across the nation, the Law School is proud that almost 76% of these incoming students received at least \$1,000 in scholarship support and that 100% of the first-generation college graduates received a scholarship award of at least \$2,000.

Going into this new chapter, the Class of 2024 started with great enthusiasm and a positive outlook. This group is ready to take on the challenges of law school and take advantage of all the opportunities that come their way. It will be wonderful to see them learn, grow, and discover how they want to make a difference in the world.





# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND JUSTICE

The Law School, as a diverse educational institution and as a school of law, is committed to fostering resilience and resolve as we train outstanding attorneys who will pursue their careers and the public good.

Throughout the year, the Office of Student Life and various Law School committees work with student organizations to host events that encourage a robust exchange of ideas. Students enjoyed many virtual events, including a “Virtual Evening with Dr. Tanisha Ford” during Women’s History Month, a panel discussion honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as part of the Law School’s 3rd annual MLK Day celebration, and three outstanding events during Diversity Week.

The Asian Pacific American Law Student Association also hosted a wonderful academic panel, “Call to Action: Supporting Our APALSA and AAPI Community,” that examined important issues surrounding the increase in violence and harassment directed against Asian Americans since the start of the pandemic.

Alumni also joined the effort to increase awareness of issues related to diversity and to promote a more

welcoming campus environment. The Alumni Special Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice began a mentoring program piloted with students from the Law School's Diversity Advisory Board. Many alumni also participated in virtual events, including Mimi Coffey '94, Tiffany Kamuche '11, Leon Reed '03, Paul Stafford '94, and Diana Macias Valdez '04 who all served as guest speakers at various diversity events.

Each year, the Law School will continue to work to improve its already robust array of initiatives and programs advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. In that effort, in the fall of 2020, the Law School launched an annual diversity report cataloguing significant activities and accomplishments in crucial areas such as events and lectures, student support and engagement, professional development and training, and recruitment and onboarding. The Law School also outlined selected action items to be addressed each spring for the coming year. Both are available on the Law School's website.

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Law™**

An Evening to Honor  
**Justice Ginsburg**

**November 11**  
**6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**  
with  
**Barbara Runge '74 | Krisi Kastl '99 | Brandon Beck '12**

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The Texas Tech University  
Women's History Month Lecture Series Presents:  
a conversation with historian  
*Dr. Tanisha C. Ford*  
about her recent book,  
**Dressed in Dreams:**  
*A Black Girl's Love Letter to the Power of Fashion*

Free and open to the public.

**Moderators:**  
Emily Isombaro (Assistant Professor of History)  
Stephanie Chase (Black Women on the Board of Directors as well as LGBTQ+ Education & Engagement)  
Wendy Morris (Associate Professor of Communication & Women's Studies)

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND | 7:00 PM CT**  
**HELD VIA ZOOM | TO REGISTER, USE THE LINK BELOW:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/9456182426?pwd=ZkFMcUJkdzRldjVkbGtScEYwZWpBdDZkdz09>

Made possible by the Department of History | Honors College | Humanities Center | Women's and Gender Studies | Office of Research & Innovation | Office of LGBTQIA Education & Engagement | Law School

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Law™**

**APALSA** Asian Pacific American Law Student Association

**Call to Action:**  
**Supporting Our APALSA and AAPI Community**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**  
**6:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Via Zoom**

RSVP [\*\*events.law@ttu.edu\*\*](mailto:events.law@ttu.edu)

# the first in their

# FAMILIES

Texas Tech Law  
provides upward path for  
first-generation students



Class of 2022 First-Generation College Students | **Front row from left** // Jorge Dominguez, Yesenia Soria, Lisette Moreno, Alexis Mejia, Abigail Ebrom, Alec Perez, Megan Greer, Jose Castaneda-Gonzalez, Ayissa Maldonado, Carlos Gracia, Efrain Cantu, Santos Garcia. **Back row from left** // Victor Perez, Jessica Longoria, Ashly Hart, Sean Lewis, William Hooten, Jimmy Vaughn, Diamond Williams, Kyrsten Horgan.

| by Staci Semrad



While raising five kids, Sean Lewis's parents had little time or money to attend college, but they valued



Sean Lewis '22

education and kept a trunk full of books at home that revealed the realities of the past and inspired him to ponder possibilities for the future.

Those books included biographies of famous people who became Sean's childhood heroes—his favorite being Thurgood Marshall, a lawyer and civil rights activist who, in the 1960s, rose to become the United States' first black solicitor general and first black Supreme Court justice.

"Justice Marshall's lifework not only inspired me, but it also introduced the possibility of becoming a lawyer," 3L Sean said. "I wanted to be like Thurgood Marshall."

Thus began Sean's quest to get the education he needed to become a lawyer—a challenging goal for most students and especially for Sean and others whose parents did not have the higher education experience to guide them or the financial means to pay for their college expenses.

Concerned about the extra burdens carried by students whose parents did not graduate from college,

Texas Tech University School of Law and some of its generous alumni have increased focus on providing special support to this demographic in the form of scholarships and other resources, making it perfectly positioned to meet the needs of these first-generation students.

"Here at Tech, we have many students with humble beginnings," said Dean Jack Wade Nowlin, himself a first-generation college graduate. "Each year, about 20% of our entering students are first-generation college graduates. They are hardworking and extremely talented but often thinly resourced because of their backgrounds. We are a great choice for first-gen students, and we are working hard to recruit and serve outstanding first-generation students."

## A COMMUNITY PARTNER



Alumnus Mark Griffin '79 developed an interest in first-generation opportunities through his service on the board of the CH Foundation, a private Lubbock nonprofit. In addition to being one of five trustees on the foundation's board, he is vice chairman of the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents and president and CEO of Rip Griffin Truck Service Center Inc. and Pro Petroleum Inc. Mark is also a former president and current emeritus trustee of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board and, in 2009, was

named a distinguished alumnus of the Law School.

"Over time, I saw the CH Foundation being particularly interested in opportunities for first-generation students, and I thought that the Law School would be a natural extension of that historic commitment," Mark said.

Several years ago, he suggested that the Law School submit an application for establishing a new scholarship for first-generation law students. The CH Foundation board approved a \$150,000 grant to Texas Tech Law in 2017 and renewed the grant in 2020.

The money, combined with other support for first-generation students, has translated to scholarships of at least \$2,000 per student the past few years, Nowlin said.

"Thankfully, we have great support from the CH Foundation and our alumni that enables this level of financial assistance," he said.

Texas Tech Law is committed to reducing student debt and maintaining affordable tuition in this era of rising costs. That's why the Law School is proud to be named the No. 1 "Best Value Law School" in the state of Texas by the *National Jurist*,



Mark Griffin '79





First-Generation College Students | **Front row from left** // Marilyn Haithcock, Brenda Hernandez Lazalde, Leena Al-Souki, Judy Tejeda-Gonzales, Mario Carranza-Flores. **Second row from left** // Jessica Longoria, Abigail Ebrom, Yesenia Soria, Haley Marlow, Santos Garcia. **Third row from left** // Alexis Hill, Megan Gower, Princess Rodarte, Alexis Mejia // **Fourth row left**: Gordon Jones, Malik Williams, Alex Antoniou.

said Danielle Saavedra '15, assistant dean of admissions.

“These first-generation scholarships make that value even better for students who will be the first in their immediate family to go to college and who might never have thought they would have this opportunity,” she said. “And not only do they have the opportunity, but now some of that financial burden has been removed.”

The scholarships help make law school more viable, especially at Texas Tech Law where tuition is one-third that of some other schools and the bar pass rate is high, she said.

“Being able to decrease their student loans, combined with the knowledge and comfort that they’re going to have a very strong chance of passing the bar, really transforms the way that they’re thinking about law school and their experience,” Saavedra said.

These scholarships benefit first-generation students tremendously, something Mark knows from reading their letters of appreciation.

“Almost without exception, the scholarship money was a necessary component in the recipe for them to go to law school,” he said. “And I can tell by their words and their message that they do not take it lightly.”

## ALUMNI STEP FORWARD

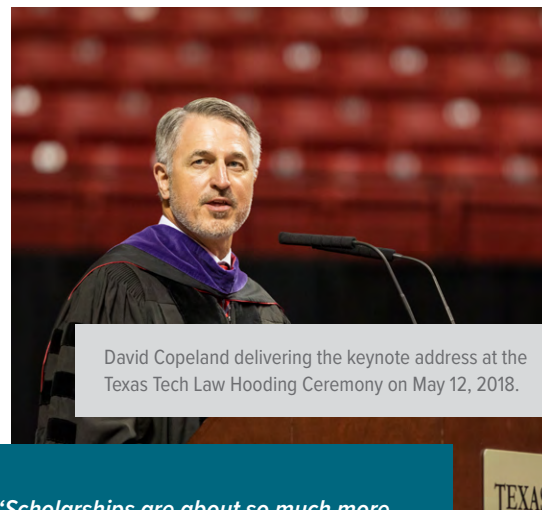


David Copeland '82 has led the way among alumni, providing help to support first-generation

law students. David has generously supported Texas Tech Law for many years, recently pledging \$250,000 in summer 2021 to match donations made to scholarship endowments benefiting first-generation students.

“I’ve always been proud of the fact that Texas Tech attracts so many first-gen students,” said David, himself a first-generation college graduate who went on to become a highly successful corporate oil and gas attorney.

David is executive vice president and general counsel of SM Energy Company, an independent exploration and production company based in Denver, Colorado. David also serves on the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board of Trustees and was named a distinguished alumnus of the Law School in 2011.



David Copeland delivering the keynote address at the Texas Tech Law Hooding Ceremony on May 12, 2018.



*“Scholarships are about so much more than financial support. Receiving a scholarship says that someone believes in you. They inspire and motivate students to succeed and give back. It’s amazing that so many alumni have joined the Law School in that message of belief for these first-generation students.”*

- David Copeland



The Law School Foundation's minimum threshold for endowing a scholarship is \$25,000, but David's pledged match from his David W. Copeland ('82) Family Foundation enabled donors to endow a scholarship with just half that amount.

Alumni were inspired to join with David to create 13 new endowed scholarships supporting first-generation students.

"I would like to say how grateful and humbled we are for the overwhelming and quick response we received to the first-generation idea," David said. "Folks were so gracious and supportive."

Motivated by the amazing response, David led the way again, committing another \$250,000 in October 2021, opening the opportunity for a total of \$1 million to be raised for these scholarships.

"Scholarships are about so much more than financial support," David said. "Receiving a scholarship says that someone believes in you. They inspire and motivate students to succeed and give back. It's amazing that so many alumni have joined the Law School in that message of belief for these first-generation students."

First-generation college graduate Nirav Patel '16 was among the Texas Tech law alumni who was inspired to establish an endowed scholarship with matched funds from Copeland's foundation. His endowed scholarship is named the Nirav N. Patel ('16) and Family Endowed Scholarship.

"It's important to recognize and give back to the communities that helped you get to where you are today, and that's my goal," said Nirav, an associate



Nirav Patel '16

*It's important to recognize and give back to the communities that helped you get to where you are today.*

- Nirav Patel

with Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP in Fort Worth. "This is a small part of what I hope will be a continuing effort to give back to the folks that helped me along the way."

## DOUBLE THE CHALLENGES



Originally from Detroit, Michigan, where his dad was a firefighter, Sean Lewis is the business manager for the *Texas Tech Law Review* and serves in the Law School's Civil Practice Clinic. During Sean's undergraduate studies at



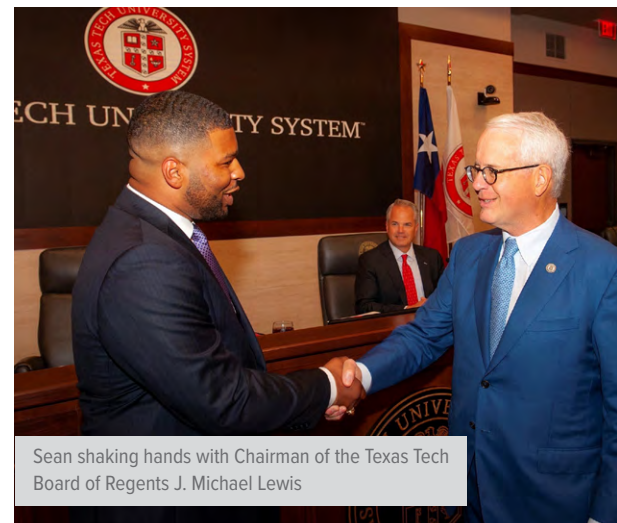
Texas Tech University, he did a summer internship at the White House, served as student body president, and was the first black student appointed as student regent on the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents.

All of that came at an enormous cost. Indeed, the biggest challenge Sean faced in going to college was paying for it. Getting his undergraduate and legal education has meant amassing over \$100,000 in debt. Such numbers underscore the extra drive and determination that first-generation and other socio-economically disadvantaged students must have to achieve their dreams.

Asked what motivated him to make that steep financial commitment, Sean said with a laugh, "Necessity. But I am just staying true to my goals, staying true to my passion for advocacy, my passion for the law, my passion for public service. That's what fuels me every day."

Sean emphasized that the cost of school extends beyond tuition and books to include other necessities.

"A number of my friends and peers use the food pantry here at the Law School,



Sean shaking hands with Chairman of the Texas Tech Board of Regents J. Michael Lewis



because they don't have enough money to get food," he said.

The financial challenges associated with pursuing a legal education are not new. Dean Nowlin and many alumni who have helped raise money for the food pantry and for emergency funding empathize because they experienced and overcame similar obstacles.

Nowlin's parents had modest incomes and no college degrees. His dad was an industrial electrician in San Angelo, Texas, who worked on oil rigs, cotton gins, and ranch generators, and his mom ran a small grocery store.

"Because of my background, when I was a kid, it never occurred to me that I could be a lawyer," Nowlin said, noting that limited horizons are all too common among first-generation students. "So it is important to me to make sure that we do everything we can to help those students succeed."

Likewise, David was raised in North Texas by hardworking parents who did not graduate high school. His dad was an oil field worker who managed operations for a small oil and gas company, and his mom worked in the school cafeteria and did ironing and other jobs. Beginning in elementary school, David began contributing to the family's resources by selling newspapers, mowing lawns, working in

a gas station, and bagging groceries. In high school, he gave up spring sports to work alongside his dad in the oil field after school and on weekends, which he continued into his 1L summer.

"I've had a job since I was about 8 years old," he said. "My parents had a tremendous work ethic and instilled that in both my older brother and me."

David worked his way through college and law school.

"I had pretty humble beginnings and know what it takes to pay for law school. I know how hard it is to pay those bills," he said.

Many other first-generation college graduates are immigrants or the children of immigrants. Nirav and his family moved from India to the United States when he was 7 years old. Nirav's parents came to the United States seeking better economic opportunities. They worked as housekeepers, cleaning hotel rooms seven days a week for several years, and saved enough money to buy their own hotel in Snyder, Texas, when Nirav was 14 years old. As a teenager, Nirav helped his parents clean hotel rooms on weekends and during the summer.

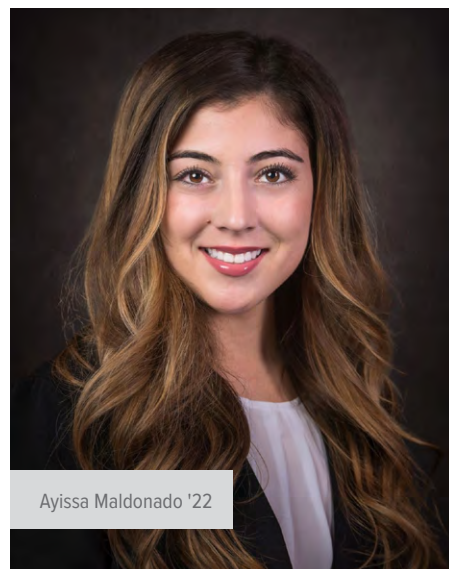
"My parents definitely instilled the value of hard work and the value of putting time and effort into something you believe in to provide for your family, so I admire them a lot," he said. "The biggest challenge for me was not having parents who grew up in the U.S. They didn't go to college and didn't have a professional, white-collar background, so they didn't know the process of applying to college."

Nirav's parents also lacked the financial resources to pay for his college education and were opposed to his



taking out loans, so his only option was to make good grades so he could receive academic scholarships. That he did. In fact, scholarship offers from Texas Tech Law are what made it his top choice and made law school affordable, he said.

The scholarship package from Texas Tech Law was key for 3L Ayissa Maldonado too: "That set Texas Tech apart from other law schools."





The biggest challenge Ayissa faced as a first-generation student was figuring out what direction to take with her career and not being able to turn to her parents for direction, she said. So she welcomed financial relief from Texas Tech Law, which included a \$2,000 first-generation scholarship.

“Books on their own are very expensive, and the \$2,000 first-generation scholarship went a long way to covering the cost of books for that entire first year,” she said.

## RESPONDING WITH RESOURCES



In addition to raising scholarship dollars, Texas Tech Law has put extra effort into providing resources and services tailored to the needs of first-generation students.

“For first-generation college graduates choosing between law schools, we’re a great choice because we make extra efforts to welcome these students and offer special programs and support they might not get elsewhere,” Nowlin said.

For example, the Law School’s food pantry, created with Texas Tech Law School Foundation leadership and support from generous alumni, is housed in a discreet location and stocked with food that students in need can get free of charge. And thanks to alumni support, the school’s emergency fund is available for students who have financial exigencies.

“An additional \$250 or \$500 made available immediately to someone having an unexpected personal financial need can make a huge difference,” said Sofia Chapman, associate dean of student life.

Students also can take advantage of the support offered in the school’s wellness room, which provides resources to manage stress and stay emotionally healthy.

“That’s important for everybody because lawyers have twice the level of anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and alcoholism as the general population. It’s particularly important for first-generation students because they often grow up with a different set of pressures, which change as they make the jump to a white-collar professional existence,” Chapman said.

Because first-generation college students can feel alone in their journey, the Law School holds social events geared toward introducing these students to each other and to first-generation faculty and staff members.

“One thing first-generation folks often have in common, along with other diverse students, is imposter syndrome – a feeling that they do not belong here. So we work hard to make sure that they know they belong here and we believe in them,” Nowlin said.

The Law School also has various career and professional services to help

first-generation students who might be less familiar with professional culture and customs. The school’s annual etiquette dinner, for example, teaches and prepares students for business interviews done over a meal.

“If your parents are attorneys, or if you have attorneys in your family or other professional people, there are all kinds of advantages that come with that. So we try to provide academic and other support to make sure the playing field is level and everybody can be successful,” Nowlin said.

Academically, the Law School supports first-year students by providing free tutoring and offering a special introductory course to the study of law. Sean and Ayissa said the tutoring, provided by upper-level student peers who had succeeded in those courses, made a difference for them.

They also have found considerable support from membership in student organizations: Ayissa in the Hispanic Law Student Association; and Sean in the Black Law Students Association. In his first year, Sean developed friendships and received mentoring from more senior students in BLSA, some of them first-generation.



“These relationships were so transformative for me because they imparted their best practices on me and showed me the ropes,” he said.

## FIRST-GEN AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE



First-gen students are a diverse group in terms of race, ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic status.

“We have a lot of diversity programs, and the first-generation college focus helps promote all of them,” Nowlin said.

Increasing first-gen access to law school also enhances access to justice because first-generation law graduates often empathize with and want to help people in their communities of origin. Some first-gen graduates give back to those communities by doing public interest work, and others, such as David, give back through their time and philanthropy.

Saavedra said first-generation students often write in their applications for admission about their concern for access to justice.

“It’s a topic that many of them choose to write about in their personal statement,” she said.

Ayissa exemplifies this trend. She is the executive managing editor of *Texas Tech Law Review* and recently wrote about access to justice issues in an article accepted for publication in U.C.L.A.’s *Chicanx Latinx Law Review* titled: “Tried and (Inherently) Prejudiced: Disposing of the Prejudice Requirement for Lack of Counsel in Removal Proceedings.” Her grandfather who emigrated from Mexico was part of her inspiration, she said.

“Indigent immigrants don’t have a statutory right to counsel, and they can’t afford counsel, so they have to go through these proceedings by themselves,” Ayissa said. “That was something that really struck a chord with me, because going through law school, I realized how complex these legal issues are.”

Jorge Ramírez, the Walter and Anne Huffman Professor of Law and a professor of international law, has a similar passion and perspective from growing up in McAllen, Texas. A first-generation college student who went to Harvard Law School, Ramírez spent part of his legal career working for Texas Rural Legal Aid helping people like those in the community in which he was raised.

“First-generation law graduates are better qualified through experience, culture and language in most cases to relate to people in their communities,” Ramírez said, adding that this relational connection enhances the trust their clients have in them as lawyers.

## EMPOWERED BY PARENTS



First-generation students often express deep admiration and appreciation for their hard-working parents.

“These parents typically model and instill in these students a strong work ethic, and that is exactly what we want in a Texas Tech law student,” Saavedra said.

Now in their third year of law school, Sean and Ayissa look back on their educational journeys and praise their parents for the sacrifices they made and the wisdom they imparted. Following

graduation and completion of the bar exam, Ayissa will join Husch Blackwell as a labor and employment associate in Austin, Texas, and Sean will join the employment practice group at Haynes and Boone in Dallas. It has taken grit and stamina to get there.

Ayissa and Sean are among Texas Tech Law’s many first-gen success stories, which include students who have become law review editors, advocacy champions, student organization leaders, published authors, and prestigious judicial clerks.



Ayissa and her grandfather Jose Cuellar

“Given the work ethic they learned from their parents, paired with our student support services and scholarship support from donors, it’s not surprising that first-gen students can be found among our very top students,” Saavedra said.

Texas Tech is dedicated to increasing its support of first-gen students and starting them on the path to fulfill their dreams and serve their communities, Dean Nowlin said, noting, “The impact of this support is enormous—for the students, the Law School, the profession, and all the communities that lawyers serve.”

# CREATING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

## FOR FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS



David W. Copeland '82, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of SM Energy Company, became the first member of his family to graduate from college when he walked the stage at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls in 1979.

He has many great memories from his time at Texas Tech Law. He also remembers the expenses associated with being a law student, which is why he gives back to Texas Tech Law.

David has supported the Law School for many years, establishing the Copeland Energy Law Endowment, the Copeland Fellows Program, and the Janet Scivally and David Copeland Endowed Professor of Energy Law. He has also

been a principal donor to the Walter & Anne Huffman Professorship Endowment, the Energy Law Lecture Series, the Student Food Pantry, the Annual Gala, the General Scholarship

Fund, and numerous other Law School initiatives. Additionally, he was instrumental in establishing the Texas Bar Foundation's Terry Lee Grantham Memorial Award—in memory of his classmate and good friend.

Today, he is leading the way in support of first-generation college students. The David W. Copeland ('82) Family Foundation pledged \$250,000 to match donations made to scholarship endowments directed to students who are the first in their immediate families to graduate from college.

Inspired by the enthusiastic and immediate response of fellow alumni, David has committed another \$250,000. With your help, the David W. Copeland ('82) Family Foundation match will generate ***\$1 million in new scholarship support!***

The future is in the hands of our outstanding students. And creating a bright tomorrow, filled with opportunity and success, depends on the support of people like you.

With a minimum gift of \$12,500, you have the unique opportunity to create a named scholarship. Join with David and others as part of the match, and your gift will provide an additional \$120,000 to support first-generation college students throughout their three years at Texas Tech Law.

Please reach out to me to establish your personal scholarship endowment and provide life-changing opportunities for generations of Texas Tech law students.

Karen Holden

Senior Director of Development and Donor Relations

806.834.4910

karen.holden@ttu.edu



# UPDATES

Texas Tech law faculty are dedicated to supporting students and fostering a collaborative, inclusive learning environment. They author innovative scholarship, present at conferences across the nation, and hold prestigious leadership positions that make the world a better place. But they are more than just exceptional scholars—they are caring mentors guiding students through the law school experience.



## JAMIE J. BAKER

*Associate Dean and Director of the Law Library; Dean's Distinguished Professor of Law*

Associate Dean Baker worked with an international team from Atomium – European Institute for Science, Media and Democracy to finalize a contribution to “The AI4People’s Ethical Framework for a Good AI Society.” Associate Dean Baker is furthering her research in this area with forthcoming works outlining a comprehensive regulatory framework for the use of algorithms in law. Associate Dean Baker also published a piece titled, “The Intersectionality of Law Librarianship & Gender,” in the *Villanova Law Review*. Associate Dean Baker is currently leading a space and

collection update in the Law Library to continue to support the curricular and research needs of the Law School Community.



## DUSTIN B. BENHAM

*Professor of Law*

Professor Benham continues to study and teach civil and criminal litigation and court transparency. He served as 2021 Chair of the Section on Teaching Methods for the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) and was recently appointed co-chair of the Newer Law Professors Programming Committee for the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS). His article, “Foundational and Contemporary Court Confidentiality” was published in the *Missouri Law Review* in Winter 2021. Professor Benham is also actively engaged in practice issues, presenting on current litigation topics, serving on the State Bar of Texas Pattern Jury Charge Committee (2021), and consulting for, or representing, civil and criminal clients.



## GERRY W. BEYER

*Governor Preston E. Smith Regents Professor of Law*

Professor Beyer continued his student-focused approach by developing innovative teaching methods for his classes which had both in-person students and students attending remotely due to COVID-19 concerns.

Professor Beyer was an invited presenter, either in-person or virtually, at over thirty programs for the nation’s most prestigious estate planning conferences. His prolific writing included authoring new editions of four books and dozens of continuing legal education articles. Professor Beyer’s scholarly impact on Social Science Research Network (SSRN) remained in the top .001% of authors.

Professor Beyer maintained leadership positions in organizations including serving as a Regent for the American College of Trust and Estate Council, the ABA as the editor of a magazine column, and the Texas Bar

Association as the Editor-in-Chief of the *REPTL Reporter*.

He is also organizing the *Estate & Community Property Journal’s* 14th Annual CLE & Symposium, which is set for February 25, 2022.



## STEPHEN BLACK

*Professor of Law*

Professor Black’s article, “Who Owns Your Data?”, appeared in the *Indiana Law Review*. He also participated in multiple invited presentations, podcasts, and news stories dealing with cybersecurity and breaches.



## BRYAN CAMP

*George H. Mabon Professor of Law*

Professor Camp continues to publish weekly articles in his popular “Lesson From The Tax Court” series on “TaxProfBlog”. In 2020,

his articles received over 1.5 million page views, and his March 22, 2021 Lesson “When Corp Payments To Sole Shareholder Are Wages” is the most read blog post ever on TaxProfBlog, collecting well over 245,000 page views.

Professor Camp is currently working on articles about the taxation of marijuana businesses and the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the Anti-Injunction Act in the case of *CIC Services v. IRS*. He continues to be ranked in the top 1% of scholars on SSRN as measured by both recent downloads and all-time downloads.

Professor Camp also continues to coach the Tech Law Tax Moot Court team, in partnership with Professors Outenreath and Black. And he continues to terrorize first year students in Civil Procedure, and upper-level students in Tax, and has recently begun teaching a Statutory Interpretation course.



**ERIC A. CHIAPPINELLI**  
*Frank McDonald Endowed Professor of Law*

Professor Chiappinelli is completing the revision of his casebook on Business Entities. The fifth edition will be published in the spring by Aspen/Wolters Kluwer. He is the sole author of this book, which has been used at dozens of law schools throughout the country.



**CATHERINE MARTIN CHRISTOPHER**  
*Associate Dean for Bar Success;  
Dean’s Distinguished Service Professor of Law*

Professor Christopher continues to serve the students and alumni of the Law School as the Associate Dean for Bar Success. In her related scholarship, she is finalizing an article proposing a modern diploma privilege—an alternative to the state bar exam. She has presented this proposal at both the Association for Academic Support Educators annual conference and the Central States Law Schools Association annual conference. In 2021, she also published her article, “Error Correction Mechanisms for Transactional Script Smart Contracts,” with the *Kansas Law Review*.



**J. WESLEY COCHRAN**  
*Jack F. Maddox Professor of Law*

A new edition of Professor Cochran’s gaming and racing law casebook was published by Carolina Academic Press in the spring of 2021. In addition, he is working on a student study aid focused on Texas community property law. Professor Cochran announced his retirement from full-time teaching next

## THANK YOU to our adjunct professors!

You are crucial to broadening our curriculum and enriching our students’ academic experience. We appreciate you choosing to teach at Texas Tech Law and for sharing your expertise.

- Brandon Beck '12
- Eric Bentley
- Charles “Chuck” P. Bubany
- B. Allison Clayton '07
- Aaron R. Clements '96
- Donna L. Courville '94
- Richard Davis
- Ronnie “Ronn” Garcia '08
- Sarah M. Gunter '01
- Hon. Leslie F. “Les” Hatch '88
- Hon. Wes Hendrix
- William H. “Willie” Hornberger
- Hon. Melissa J. McNamara '94
- Rebecca Moss
- Alison Myhra
- Dean Pawlowic
- Don R. Richards '84
- Marion Sanford
- Paul K. Stafford '94
- Stephen Stone
- David N. Strange
- Gary R. Terrell '77
- Lori Truitt '08
- D. Gene Valentini
- Denette Vaughn '81
- Roderick E. Wetsel
- Ty Wood '06

summer, following his 31st year on the faculty. He plans to continue teaching on a part-time basis for at least the next several years.



### JAROD S. GONZALEZ

*J. Hadley and Helen Edgar Professor of Law*

Professor Gonzalez has been actively involved in research and service-related activities during the past year. He serves as a co-editor of the State Bar of Texas *Labor and Employment Law Section Newsletter*. This publication includes summaries of important employment law decisions from federal and state courts in Texas. On October 9, 2020, Professor Gonzalez made a virtual presentation regarding employment law regulation of employee microchipping at the 15th Annual Colloquium on Scholarship in Employment and Labor Law hosted by the University of Louisville, Brandeis School of Law. Professor Gonzalez also recently published a law review article related to this presentation in the *Mississippi Law Journal* entitled “Stop Before It Starts: Regulating Employee Microchipping in the COVID-19 Era.”



### DELEITH DUKE GOSSETT

*Professor of Law*

In addition to teaching Legal Practice, Professor Gossett teaches Professional Responsibility and chairs the Gender Equity Committee. She was pleased to organize a Point/Counterpoint on SB8: The Texas Fetal Heartbeat Law with the bill’s author, Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola). Professors Cassie Christopher and Rick Rosen provided the counterpoint and Professor Gossett moderated.



### AMY HARDBERGER '05

*George W. McCleskey Professor of Water Law; Director of the Center for Water Law and Policy*

Professor Hardberger completed her first year back at Texas Tech in Spring 2021. Although COVID-19 added challenges, she was able to remotely teach Water Law and Land Use.

In addition to teaching, she completed an article on the future of Texas groundwater litigation that was accepted for publication by *William and Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review*, and she presented her work at the Texas Groundwater Summit. Professor Hardberger also published an op-ed in the

San Antonio and Lubbock papers about the relationship between water and power outages during winter storm Uri. She also guest co-wrote the “It’s Debatable” column in the Lubbock paper. In September 2021, her co-authored UNESCO paper about groundwater governance in conflict-affected countries was released, and she is scheduled to participate in a virtual event for all the chapter authors at the World Water Congress in Korea.

She also partnered with science departments on campus to apply for grants and continues to serve on the city council appointed San Antonio Water System Board of Trustees.



### SALLY M. HENRY

*John E. Krubmer Banking and Commercial Endowed Professor of Law*

Professor Henry is serving as president-elect of the Bankruptcy Section of the Federal Bar Association. She has also been busy with research this year, publishing two updates of the treatise *Ordin on Contesting Confirmation*, for which she is now the sole author. She also wrote the 2021 edition of *The Portable Bankruptcy Code and Rules*, which is published by the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association and contains an essay updating the bar on recent changes to the Bankruptcy Code as well as an update on recent case law and

legislation. In addition, she has presented multiple continuing education law courses on issues including small business reorganizations, recent changes to the Bankruptcy Code and Rules, and ethical issues arising from practice in the time of COVID-19. Moreover, she serves as faculty advisor to the *Texas Bank Lawyer*, a monthly publication for members of the Southwestern Association of Bank Lawyers.



### VAUGHN E. JAMES

*Judge Robert H. Bean Professor of Law*

Professor James continued to serve as a contributing editor of the “Nonprofit Law Prof Blog”, where he and a group of tax law professors from around the country blog on a rotating basis on issues relevant to taxation of tax-exempt entities. Professor James’ blogs focus on taxation of religious institutions. During the past year, he wrote and published over 60 blogs. His new book, *Contemporary Issues in Law and Religion*, was published by Esquire Books in January 2021. He has also completed his next book which will be published in January 2022. Professor James also participated in two co-lectures with Professor Doug Dendy of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center: one to students of Professor Dendy’s Physical Therapy class; and the other to the faculty of the Physical Therapy Department. During



the past year, Professor James also contributed 138 hours of pro bono legal service to indigent citizens.



### **WILLIAM R. KEFFER**

*Professor of Practice; Janet Scivally and David Copeland Endowed Professor of Energy Law; Director of Energy Law Lecture Series; Assistant Director of Bar Preparation Resources*

The University's new interdisciplinary master's degree in Energy was launched in Fall 2020, and Professor Keffer, who is also co-director of the program, taught one of the courses in

the Law School's module in Summer 2021. Professor Keffer was invited to join the board of a statewide organization promoting infrastructure investment called "Invest Texas Council" and published an op-ed in the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* in March 2021. He also published an op-ed in the *Dallas Morning News* in March 2021 on energy education and the University's MSIS in Energy degree program. He was a guest speaker for the Tarrant County Bar Association's Energy Section, as well as the Law School's annual New Mexico CLE seminar. He also moderated a panel at the Texas Lyceum's conference on energy in Midland. He and Professor Rod Wetsel led students on a wind-farm trip to Sweetwater,

and he led students on an oil-and-gas trip to Midland. He and a group of 3Ls also received approval to launch a new energy-law publication called the *Journal of the Energy Law Practitioner*.



### **DWIGHT MCDONALD '93**

*Clinical Instructor*

Professor McDonald was elected to represent District 16 on the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors for a 3-year term beginning in June of 2021. He also continues to serve as a board member for

the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and was elected vice-president of the Lubbock Area Bar Association for the 2021-2022 term. Professor McDonald will also serve as Chair of the Community Foundation of West Texas beginning in January 2022.



### **PATRICK METZKE**

*Professor of Law and Director of Criminal Defense Clinics*

Professor Metzke received the President's Award for his service to the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

## **ARNOLD HERBERT LOEWY**

*George R. Killam Jr. Chair of Criminal Law*

**JUNE 9, 1940 – JULY 5, 2021**



Our dear friend and colleague Arnold H. Loewy passed away on July 5, 2021, just one month after his retirement from Texas Tech Law.

Professor Loewy—known as "Arnie" to his many, many friends—enjoyed an

illustrious 57-year career as a criminal law scholar of the highest national reputation.

He joined the law faculty at Texas Tech in 2006 as the Law School's inaugural George R. Killam Jr. Chair of Criminal Law after a lengthy and much esteemed career at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

At Texas Tech, Professor Loewy started and led *Texas Tech Law Review's* Annual Criminal Law Symposium that brought leading criminal law experts from around the world to Lubbock to discuss the latest issues in criminal law research and scholarship. The Symposium was a highlight of the year for many scholars in criminal law across the nation as well as for the Texas Tech Law community.

The Tech Law community has felt deeply the loss of his passing.

To honor the memory of Professor Loewy, the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board established the Professor Arnold H. Loewy, George R. Killam Jr. Chair in Criminal Law, Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship is for the support of one or more student law review editors with principal responsibilities in the area of journal symposia.

*Texas Tech Law Review* Book I of Volume 54 will also be dedicated in memory of Professor Loewy, and the Law School will hold a memorial in the spring of 2022 to celebrate his wonderful life and legacy.

for 2020. He continues to serve as a board member on the Texas Tech University Institutional Review Board. Professor Metze was an invited moderator at the Texas Tech University School of Law 14th Annual Criminal Law Symposium on the topic: “Under what circumstances should a retrial be permitted following a mistrial?” He also presented on the topic “Negotiations” at the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association’s Prairie Pups Nuts and Bolts Seminar in Lubbock, Texas. But most proudly, he served as the Director of Tech Law’s four criminal clinics during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. He and his staff elected in early summer 2020 to conduct their instructional duties in the clinic in person. Although many hearings were held remotely, the daily work of the clinic occurred in person at the school and throughout the community. From August, at the start of the first semester, until the completion of the Spring semester and their graduation, the students endured and were at work every day.



### **BRITTANY MORRIS**

*User Services Librarian and Assistant Librarian of Law*

Professor Morris joined the Texas Tech Law Library faculty in August 2021. Her

retrospective manuscript tentatively titled “Programing in a Pandemic” has been accepted for publication with *Spectrum*, a publication of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). She completed another paper called “Law Libraries Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic” on law libraries’ pandemic response and how libraries frequently served as the main point of contact for students. Professor Morris is currently working on a paper exploring TikTok and copyright.



### **RICHARD MURPHY**

*AT&T Professor of Law*

This year Professor Murphy has been working on three forthcoming law review articles: “The DIY Unitary Executive” in *Arizona Law Journal*, “UnFoxing Judicial Review of Agency Policy Reversals” in *University of Richmond Law Review*, and “Due Process, Political Questions and Kill Lists” in *Loyola Law Review*. In addition, he co-authored a new edition of the casebook, *Administrative Law: Cases and Materials*, and authored updates for Volumes 32 and 33 of the treatise *Federal Practice and Procedure*.



### **ALYSON OUTENREATH '00**

*Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Erwin and Elaine Davenport Endowed Professor of Law*

Associate Dean Outenreath fills an important role in the life of the Law School as the associate dean for Faculty Development. She continues to serve in the State Bar of Texas Tax Section on the Past Chair Advisory Board, as a council member representing the Law School, as co-chair of the Law School Outreach Committee, and as a co-chair on the CLE Committee. Her most recent article, “Battle Against Liquor: Will Wal-Mart Soon Be at the U.S. Supreme Court?” was published by the *Mississippi Law Journal*.



### **JORGE A. RAMÍREZ**

*Walter and Anne Huffman Professor of Law*

Professor Ramírez continues serving in a variety of roles for local and international organizations, including as an editor of the *Baltic Journal of Law & Politics* at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania; as a Steering Committee

Member of the ABA International Law Section’s Contracts Committee; and as a Board Member of the Covenant Health System. He is under contract with West Publishing to update their NAFTA/USMCA coursebook and continues to teach international law courses as well as a required course in Commercial Law. He moderated several panels throughout the year, including one celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. and another on “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.” Finally, he volunteers with a campus-wide conversation program called “Civil Counterpoints,” which addresses volatile contemporary issues.



### **RICHARD ROSEN**

*Glenn D. West Endowed Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Military Law & Policy*

Professor Rick Rosen revised and updated a military law treatise published by Thomson Reuters (Huffman & Rosen, *Military Law: Criminal Justice & Administrative Process* (2021 ed.)), and wrote an article entitled “Deterring Pre-Viability Abortions in Texas Through Private Lawsuits,” which deals with the Texas Fetal Heartbeat Act and the Lubbock Sanctuary City for the Unborn Ordinance. The *Texas Law Review* will publish the article in volume 54 in

February 2022. Professor Rosen has also been interviewed by local, state, and national news organizations about the Texas statute and Lubbock ordinance, as well as military justice reform, the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for military personnel, and the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.



### WENDY TOLSON ROSS

*Professor of Law; Director of the Family Law and Housing Clinic; Director of Diversity*

Professor Ross's article "Protecting the Child Bride: Following the Texas' Middle-Ground Approach," was published in *The University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law Review*. She served on the panel "Preventing and Responding to Vicarious Trauma" at the AALS Annual Clinical Conference in May 2021 and as a panelist at The Second Forum with the Lubbock Police Department on Anti-Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Hate Crimes in September 2021. Professor Ross continues to serve on the YWCA Board, the Humanities Center Anti-Racism Speaker Series Committee, and the Women's & Gender Studies Advisory Board.



### BRIAN SHANNON

*Paul Whitfield Horn Distinguished Professor and Texas Tech University Faculty Athletics Representative*

Horn Distinguished Professor Brian Shannon is widely regarded as the state's leading expert on mental health law. Professor Shannon was recently reappointed to a second term on the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health and is an appointee to the Commission's Legislative Committee; he also serves on a Model Law Drafting Group that is developing new national standards for court-ordered mental health services. In addition, he is organizing the *Law Review's* 4th Mental Health Law Symposium, which is set for April 8, 2022.

Professor Shannon was the recipient of the 2021 Frank M Adams/Gladdie Fowler Board Service Award by the Texas Council of Community Centers, which collectively provide services and support for people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and substance abuse disorders across Texas.

Professor Shannon also continues in his role as Texas Tech's NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) and will serve as the national Parliamentarian for the NCAA's special conventions to consider

revisions to the NCAA constitution in November 2021 and January 2022.



### BRIE D. SHERWIN '01

*President's Excellence in Research Professor of Law and Director of Dual Degree and Concentration Programs*

This past year, Professor Sherwin won the campus-wide Spencer A. Wells Award for Creativity in Teaching. She also continues to work across various departments on campus. In the summer of 2021, she created and taught a new asynchronous, online Environmental Law course, as part of Texas Tech's new Interdisciplinary Master of Science Degree in Energy. Professor Sherwin also continues to publish scholarship in Legal Practice and in the area of law and science. Professor Sherwin recently co-wrote a chapter on her experience in incorporating service-learning into the legal research and writing classroom for the new book: *Integrating Doctrine and Diversity Inclusion and Equity in the Law School Classroom*. Her latest law review article, "Anatomy of a Conspiracy Theory: Law, Politics, and Science Denialism in the Era of COVID-19," was published in the *Texas A&M Law Review* in Spring 2021.



### ROBERT T. SHERWIN '01

*Champions in Advocacy Endowed Professor of Law and Director of Advocacy Programs*

The Law School's Advocacy Program had another banner year under Professor Sherwin's leadership. Tech Law claimed its 48th National Championship at the American Bar Association's National Appellate Advocacy Competition—the largest, and arguably most prestigious, moot court competition in the country. The win was the Law School's second since 2013, and the fifth time in the last nine years Texas Tech has reached that tournament's national final round. It also swept the Texas Young Lawyers Association State Moot Court Competition this summer, winning not only the state title, but the tournament's Best Advocate and Best Brief award as well. Aside from the NAAC championship, the Law School's teams appeared in six other national title rounds, including the 149-team National Moot Court Competition and the ABA Arbitration Competition, and won eight Best Brief and Best Advocate awards. All that success contributed to the program landing a number-two ranking in the American Bar Association's Competitions Championship, and a number-three ranking



## ASSOCIATE DEAN WENDY-ADELE HUMPHREY '01 NAMED INAUGURAL BROCK ENDOWED PROFESSOR OF LAW

The Brock Endowed Professor of Law was established in memory of Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock through a generous gift from Carolyn Moore '79 and Elaine Brock '88. The professorship supports a faculty member who is “an exemplary advocate for the rule of law and demonstrates outstanding service to the profession.” The professorship is further designed for a faculty member who views the ability to serve others through the practice of law as a privilege and who adheres to, and promotes, the legal code of ethics.

Associate Dean Wendy-Adele Humphrey was selected as the inaugural Brock Professor of Law. Associate Dean Humphrey is an accomplished law professor and administrator. She is an effective leader at the local, state, and national levels. She is a caring mentor and a community servant. Associate Dean Humphrey is someone who truly exemplifies outstanding service to the profession.

As a professor, Associate Dean Humphrey teaches in the nationally ranked Legal Practice Program, in which first-year law students learn a wide variety of fundamental lawyering skills. She also teaches an upper-level Externships course and teaches undergraduate students in the TTU Pre-Law Academy. Moreover, she is a key member of the Law School’s administrative team—currently serving as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Assessment.

She has received many campus-wide awards including the Faculty Leadership Award, the President’s Excellence in Diversity & Equity Award, and the Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award.

Associate Dean Humphrey is also active in a variety of law-related organizations. She is a past president of the Lubbock Area Bar Association and currently serves on the State Bar of Texas (SBOT) Local Bar Services Committee. At the state level, she served as an at-large director on the SBOT Board of Directors from 2018-2021 and is also a former director on the Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) Board of Directors. In 2021, she received a Presidential Citation for her outstanding service as a member of the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors. At the national level, she serves on the Legal Writing Institute Board of Directors and the ABA Arbitration Competition Committee. In addition, she will serve as the 2022 Chair of a national associate deans’ organization.

In the Lubbock community, Associate Dean Humphrey is a past president of the Lubbock Junior Women’s Club and is a sustainer in the Junior League of Lubbock. She previously served on the board for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the South Plains and is currently a wish granter for Make-A-Wish North Texas. In 2020, she received the YWCA Women of Excellence Award, honoring her for achieving excellence in her profession and for making



contributions to the community.

Endowed professorships are an investment in the faculty who make the Law School great—with their talent, accomplishments, and dedication to students.

“The importance of service to Ralph and Ralph H. Brock cannot be overstated,” said Carolyn. “Both believed that to serve others through the practice of law is a privilege. That the Brock professorship will foster and support a faculty member who models servant leadership in the profession for Texas Tech law students truly honors their respective careers. And Associate Dean Wendy-Adele is a wonderful inaugural Brock Professor of Law.”

Both Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock were raised in West Texas and were dedicated community servants who shaped the legal profession.

Ralph distinguished himself as a Navy lieutenant and practiced law for sixty-five years. A respected and valued member of the community, Ralph was the longtime chairman of the Lubbock County Democratic Party and delegate to the 1968 National Convention. He served on the board of directors of the State Bar of Texas

and as president of the Lubbock County Bar Association. One of the first to be recognized as “Distinguished Senior Lawyer”, the county courthouse flag

flew at half-mast on the day of Ralph’s funeral, and The Texas House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring his exemplary life and career.



Ralph H. was referred to by colleagues as a lawyer’s lawyer. Elected director of the State Bar of Texas, his

leadership helped create the Appellate Section. He was the only man to be president of the Women and the Law Section. Ralph H. was a prolific writer, authoring scholarly legal articles, articles on Texas history, and editing the State Bar College newsletter. He received the first Lubbock County Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award from the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Law School’s Distinguished Service Award. His legal career was devoted to individual rights and justice.

Mirroring the careers of Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock, Associate Dean Humphrey’s work as an administrator, a professor, and a leader, highlights a whole-hearted commitment to outstanding service to the profession.

by the University of Houston’s Blakely Advocacy Institute.



## NANCY SOONPAA

*Professor of Law and Dean Richard B. Amandes Senior Scholar in Legal Practice*

In 2021, Professor Soonpaa served as the Chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Family & Juvenile Law and the Chair-elect of the AALS Section on New Law Professors. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the AALS Section on Women in Legal Education. She presented at the AALS Annual Meeting, the AALS Workshop for New Law School Teachers, the ALWD Biennial Conference, and SEALS. She was also elected to serve on Tech’s Teaching Academy Executive Council and on the Association of Legal Writing Directors Board of Directors; she also serves on several SEALS committees. She serves as senior advisor to the International Negotiation Competition and is coaching teams for two national negotiation competitions in Fall 2022.



## LARRY SPAIN

*Alvin R. Allison Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs and the Civil Practice Clinic*

Professor Spain continues teaching his regular courses and as Director of Clinical Programs and the Civil Practice Clinic. In addition to teaching, he is active in the field of alternative dispute resolution serving as Chair of the Advisory Board for the Lubbock County Office of Dispute Resolution. He also regularly volunteers at virtual Pro Bono Clinics sponsored by Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas.



## DONNIE YANDELL '01

*Clinical Instructor and Chief Public Defender for the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office*

Professor Yandell is a member of the Assessment Committee as well as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee at the Law School as well as a member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer Association Law School Committee, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer Association Rural Practice Committee and the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer Association Technology Committee.

## NEWS

We gladly publish alumni news and photos. Please send your submissions to the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni.law@ttu.edu](mailto:alumni.law@ttu.edu)

**1975:**

**John Blake Hansen** has retired from the Kelly, Morgan, Denis, Corzine & Hansen law firm where he served as a member and shareholder since 1979. He has been active in the Odessa community by serving as board member and past president of the Ellen Noël Art Museum, as board member and past president of United Way of Odessa, as board member and past president of Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas, Inc., board member of

Securing Samaritan's Vision, Inc., and as board member and chairman of the board of directors of Odessa Regional Medical Center.

The Honorable **Phil Johnson** was appointed to the Judicial Compensation Commission by Governor Greg Abbott. The commission recommends the proper salaries to be paid by the state for all justices and judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Criminal Appeals, Courts of Appeals, and state district courts. Justice Johnson is a former Texas Supreme Court Justice. He also served as Justice and later Chief Justice of the Seventh Court of Appeals.

He is a Veteran of the Vietnam War where he served as an Air Force pilot and instructor pilot. He received the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross – twice, the Vietnamese

Cross of Gallantry and multiple Air Medals before he was honorably discharged.

**1978:**

**Daniel W. Carney** was honored with a 2021 Weatherford College Distinguished Alumni Award. Dan is a partner at Vick Carney LLP in Weatherford. He is past president of the Parker County Bar Association, a fellow with the Texas Bar Association, and a member of the Weatherford College Board of Trustees.

**1983:**

The Supreme Court of Texas appointed 274th District Court Judge **Gary L. Steel** to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. The Commission investigates alleged violations of judicial

misconduct or incapacity. Gary will be the only District Judge on the Commission. He is elected by his colleagues to be Local Administrative Judge for Hays County, Chairman of the Guadalupe County

Juvenile Board, and Vice-Chairman of the Comal County Juvenile Board.

**1984:**

**Alyce Bondurant** has retired after 13 years as Associate Judge of the North Texas Child Protection Court. Alyce was the first female attorney to practice law in Iowa Park and was in private practice for 17 years. She was inducted into the North

Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1988 and was named Assistant Attorney General of the Year for the 86-county region based in Lubbock by then Attorney General Greg Abbott in 2011.

**1985:**

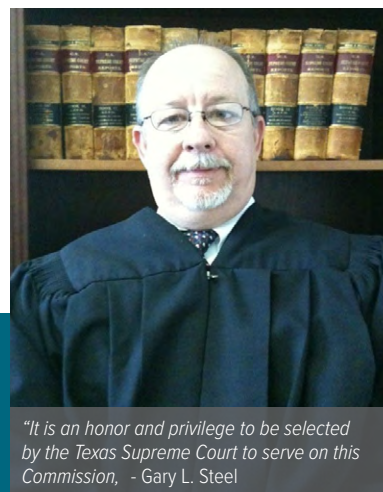
**James R. Dennis** has published a new collection of poetry, *Listening Devices*. This follows an earlier collection of poetry, *Correspondence in D Minor*, and a series of five mystery novels set

on the Texas Gulf Coast, written with two friends under the pen name Miles Arceneaux. James also writes and teaches on spiritual matters throughout Texas.

**1986:**

**Kern Lewis** has joined the personal injury practice at Bailey & Galyen as a Director of the Catastrophic Injury

Phil Johnson

JAMES R. DENNIS  
LISTENING DEVICES



Section of the firm. He previously practiced in the Dallas Offices of Frank L. Branson. He is double Board Certified in Civil Trial Law and Consumer and Commercial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, a designation only 12 other attorneys in Texas hold. He handles all types of serious and catastrophic loss, with a particular focus on traumatic brain injuries.

## 1987:

**Jeffrey Gamso** was a 2021 recipient of the Lifesaver Award for Excellence in Capital Litigation from the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (OACDL). Jeff has been a longtime capital defense attorney—with an expertise primarily in appeals, post-conviction, habeas corpus, and policy. His advocacy has freed several people from death row in Ohio. He worked many years as a private practitioner focusing on capital appeals and habeas cases. He has also served as a statewide litigation director for the ACLU and in the Appellate Division of the Cuyahoga County Public Defender's Office. Jeff is also a former president of OACDL.



## 1991:

President Biden appointed **Charlotte A. Dye** as the Acting General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA). The General Counsel has direct authority over, and responsibility for, all employees in the Office of General Counsel (OGC), including those in FLRA's Regional Offices. The OGC is the independent investigative and prosecutorial component of the FLRA. Charlotte has 30 years of experience in federal labor-management relations. She began her career with the FLRA in 1992

in the Dallas Regional Office, where she served in a number of roles, such as Dispute-Resolution Specialist, Regional Attorney, and the final Regional Director of the Dallas Regional Office. In March 2019, Charlotte moved to the headquarters office of the OGC to serve as the Deputy General Counsel.

**John D. McElroy** was appointed Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Texas by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. John worked as an AFPD for the EDTX from 2009 to 2021, in the Beaumont Division, where he handled cases in both the Beaumont and Lufkin Divisions. Prior to his service with the Federal Public Defender's Office, he was a Criminal Justice Act panel attorney. John spent most of his 15 years in private practice with the firm of Barton, Price, McElroy, & Townsend, handling plaintiff personal injury cases, with particular emphasis on Maritime Law and Federal Workers' Compensation claims under the Longshore & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and Defense Base Act. Additionally, he was an Assistant District Attorney in the Orange County DA's Office for several years, serving as the chief of the Civil Division and an assistant in the Criminal Division.

## 1992:

**Tim Newsom** has joined the Law Offices of Frank L. Branson, P.C. Tim has nearly 30 years of experience handling a range of high-stakes litigation. Outside the courtroom, he is involved in leadership roles in community and legal professional organizations and is a frequent speaker and writer on legal issues and the civil justice system. Tim is also Vice President of TEX-ABOTA, the regional organization for the American Board of Trial Advocates, and is past president of the Amarillo Area Bar Association.

## 1993:

**Amy Luhrs** was named as a Title IV-D Associate Judge in the Concho Valley area. As a Title IV-D Associate Judge, she will preside over child support suits filed by the Office of Attorney General in

## ALUMNI RECOGNIZED FOR RECORD VERDICT IN MIDLAND COUNTY



In recognition for their successful pursuit of justice in the face of adversity, Christopher Carr '94 and Stephen Higdon '13, along with fellow Lyons & Simmons attorneys Michael Lyons and Chris Simmons, have been awarded the Dallas Trial Lawyers Association's prestigious 2021 John Howie Award.

The honor is based on the trial team's work representing an Alabama mother who lost three children in a tragic West Texas highway accident. The trial team secured a \$5.9 million verdict—reportedly the largest for a personal injury case in Midland County history.

Lyons & Simmons, LLP is a trial boutique firm based in Dallas representing clients in wrongful death, personal injury, products liability, and complex "bet-the-company" business litigation matters across the country.

Chris Carr, partner with Lyons & Simmons, has tried numerous cases in state and federal courts and before arbitration panels throughout his 25-year legal career.

Stephen Higdon, partner with Lyons & Simmons, has extensive courtroom experience handling a wide range of civil litigation at both the trial and appellate levels with a focus on personal injury litigation and complex business disputes.

Coke, Concho, Irion, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green, Crockett, Gillespie, Kerr, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Sutton, and Mills Counties. Amy was previously the managing attorney for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in San Angelo, whose duties include representing the Department in child protection cases.

#### 1994:

Gov. Abbott appointed **Renee Foshee** to the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy protects the public by ensuring that persons issued certificates as certified public accountants possess the necessary education, skills, and capabilities and that they perform competently in the profession of public accountancy. Renee is an Assistant Professor at Angelo State University. She is a member of the San Antonio and San Angelo Chapters of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the State Bar of Texas, and the American Bar Association.

#### 1997:

**Cari Starritt-Burnett** has been appointed as Judge of the 169th Judicial District Court in Bell County by Gov. Abbott. She is a member of the State Bar of Texas and its Family Law Section and past president and member of the Bell County Bar Association. Additionally, Cari is a member of the Bell County Women's Bar Association and the College of the State Bar of Texas. She is president-elect and former secretary of Foster Love of Bell County, board member of the City of Belton Buildings and Standards Commission, member of the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce, and volunteer for various community events.

#### 1998:

**Mike Painter** has been appointed Director of Programs for the Montgomery County Food Bank. In his role, Mike will oversee the food bank's programs, develop and manage relationships with the food bank's partner agencies including schools and senior care

partners, and increase equitable food access among those who experience barriers to sufficient, nutritious food.

**Scott Schallchlin** has been appointed deputy executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Specialty Care System. Scott has served as associate commissioner for the state supported living centers (SSLC) since 2013, both at the legacy Department of Aging and Disability Services and at Texas Health and Human Services since 2017. He has also served in various leadership roles over intellectual and developmental disability community services and waiver programs, SSLCs, and Medicaid managed care programs. Scott has worked at Rusk State Hospital, Lubbock SSLC, Waco Center for Youth, as well as StarCare Lubbock and two psychiatric prisons operated by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**Lori Williams**, a longtime leader in collegiate athletics and university administration, has been named LSU's Deputy Director of Athletics for Leadership and Strategy. She provides oversight and leadership for diversity, equity, inclusion initiatives, human resources and compliance, and she works as a liaison to the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX, the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability.

**Wesley P. Williams** joined Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld as a partner in the firm's Dallas office. Wes, who will serve as co-head of Akin Gump's energy team, represents a variety of public and private energy companies, as

well as private equity funds and other private capital providers. Prior to joining Akin Gump, he spent more than two decades at Thompson & Knight, leading its corporate and securities practice for the last seven years. Wes received a Texas Tech Law School Distinguished Alumnus award in 2019.

#### 1999:

**Jennifer C. Smith** has joined Husch Blackwell as senior counsel to its Chattanooga office. Jenni, who is licensed in Tennessee, Georgia, Texas, and Arkansas, is a private wealth attorney with extensive experience preparing personalized estate plans and documents for clients. She joins the firm's Financial Services & Capital Markets industry group.

**Roger Rodriguez** has been reappointed to the Advisory Committee to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments by Gov. Abbott. The committee advises the board and the director of the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments on matters related to offenders with medical or mental impairments and performs other duties imposed by the board. Roger is a presiding judge of a municipal court within El Paso County. He is vice president of the Binational Commission Rule of Law and former member of the Texas State Bar Municipal Court Association, Texas State Bar Committee on Taxation, and the Texas State Bar Committee on Criminal Justice.

#### 2001:

**Juan Carlos Rodriguez** has joined Garcia & Block, PLLC in San Antonio. Juan Carlos is a Board Certified Immigration Attorney by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Prior to joining Garcia & Block PLLC, he was a partner in the law firm of DeMott, McChesney,



Lori Williams

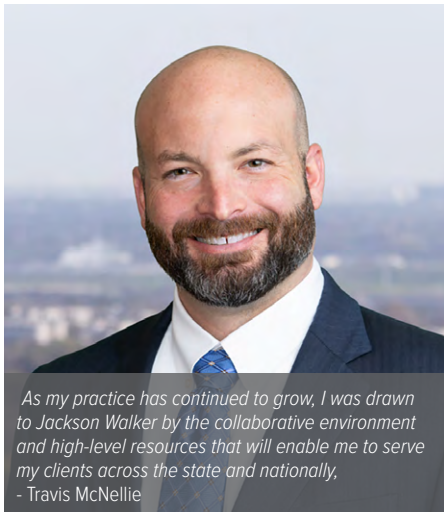


Wesley P. Williams

Curtright, & Armendariz, LLP, where he spent a decade representing hundreds of clients before the Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and the United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS).

### 2003:

Gov. Abbott reappointed **Erica Hall** to the Upper Colorado River Authority (UCRA) Board of Directors for a term set to expire on February 1, 2027. The UCRA is tasked with the control, storage, and preservation of the waters of the Colorado River and its tributaries within the district's statutory boundaries. Erica is owner of Law Office of Erica E. Hall, PLLC. She is a member of the Texas Bar Foundation, the State Bar of Texas, the National Center for Children's Literature Board of Directors, and Beyond the Bench-Taylor County. She also provides legal training for CASA of the Big Country.



*As my practice has continued to grow, I was drawn to Jackson Walker by the collaborative environment and high-level resources that will enable me to serve my clients across the state and nationally.*  
- Travis McNellie

**Travis W. McNellie** was named a partner at Jackson Walker in the Fort Worth office. Travis handles commercial leases, particularly those involving office and industrial properties, across Texas and the United States. He primarily focuses on representing institutional landlords of office and industrial projects, and he also has extensive experience representing tenants. In addition to leases, Travis handles the acquisition, development, and disposition of various types of real property.

### 2004:

**Charles A. Dayoub**, who was serving as section chief in the Counterintelligence Division at FBI headquarters, has been named special agent in charge of the Kansas City Field Office. Charles began his career as a special agent in 2005, when he was assigned to the El Paso Field Office in Texas, investigating counterterrorism as a member of the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Prior to joining the FBI, he was

enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and practiced law in Dallas.



Brooke Paup

### 2005:

Gov. Abbott named **Brooke Paup** chair of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The board provides leadership, planning, financial, and technical assistance for the responsible development of water for the State

## ALUMNI SERVE ON THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS



The Law School is proud to have Pat Gordon '83 and Mark Griffin '79 serving on the Board of Regents of the Texas Tech University System. The board is composed of nine members appointed by the governor for staggered terms of six years each.

Mark was named vice chairman of the board on December 10, 2020, where he was nominated and affirmed by a unanimous vote by the board. He also currently serves the board as chairman of the Regents' Rules Review Committee and vice chairman of the Facilities Committee.

Mark is President and CEO of The Griffin Companies and Pro Petroleum Inc., which are wholesale fuel marketing, distribution, and storage companies.

He previously served as president of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board of Trustees and was named a distinguished alumnus of the Law School in 2009.

Pat was appointed by Gov. Greg Abbott to the Board of Regents of the Texas Tech University System on April 13, 2021. He currently serves as vice chairman of the Academic, Clinical and Student Affairs Committee, and he is a member of the Regents' Rules Review Committee.

Pat is the president of Gordon Davis Johnson & Shane P.C. and is a partner and attorney of practice whose focus is business, corporate and tax law. He advises on issues concerning business sales and acquisitions as well as domestic and international tax law.

Pat and his wife, Laura, also a Law School graduate, established the Pat and Laura Gordon Endowed Scholarship for Texas Tech law students in 2006.



## 2021 BOB BLACK BAR LEADERS

The Bob Black Bar Leaders recognition celebrates all the Texas Tech law alumni who have, during the past year, served as president of a bar association. This recognition is named in honor of Texas Tech law alumnus and Texas Legal Legend Bob Black '80 who served as president of the State Bar of Texas during 2011–2012.

Onzo B. Anderson	'15	ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Andrew J. Cavazos	'16	EL PASO YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Daisy Chaparro	'15	EL PASO COUNTY TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Sara E. Collins Norman	'14	JEFFERSON COUNTY YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
David M. Diaz	'99	MESQUITE BAR ASSOCIATION
Michele N. Dodd	'05	REAGAN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Lance T. Evans	'91	FALLS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Richard M. Forrest	'83	NACOGDOCHES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Sarah M. Gunter	'01	LUBBOCK AREA BAR ASSOCIATION
Andrew T. Hawkins	'02	TRAFFIC LAWYERS OF TEXAS
Brian P. Heinrich	'91	PANHANDLE TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Mary Ellen W. Hicks	'74	BLACK WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF TARRANT COUNTY
Kelsey O. Huddleston	'14	ABILENE YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Chad A. Hughes	'13	ELLIS COUNTY CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Scott W. Johnson	'80	REEVES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
James B. Johnston	'84	PANHANDLE CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Sarah B. Loehman Johnson	'12	LUBBOCK CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Daniel N. Maclemore, IV	'02	FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION - WACO CHAPTER
Jordan G. Magee	'14	ABILENE BAR ASSOCIATION
Rick McPherson	'76	PANOLA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Gary L. Medlin	'82	TARRANT COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Derek L. Mergele-Rust	'17	DALLAS LGBT BAR ASSOCIATION
Derek L. Montgomery	'06	32ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT BAR ASSOCIATION
Douglas G. Montgomery	'12	HAYS-CALDWELL COUNTY YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Amy A. Nichols	'03	EL PASO FAMILY LAW BAR ASSOCIATION
Gabriel S. Perez	'08	BORDER BANKRUPTCY BAR ASSOCIATION
Yvette Perez	'15	LUBBOCK COUNTY WOMEN LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION
William D. Price	'15	ARLINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION
April Gregston Prince	'07	SHELBY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Justin E. Reed	'05	CEN-TEX BAR ASSOCIATION
Anna M. Ricker	'91	HOCKLEY AND COCHRAN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Lytza M. Rojas	'03	WILLIAMSON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Sara N. Stribling	'16	TOM GREEN COUNTY YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
James E. Teague	'99	ARANSAS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Christopher L. Tolbert	'11	L. CLIFFORD DAVIS LEGAL ASSOCIATION
Ian Van Reenen	'12	LUBBOCK COUNTY YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Abel Villarreal, Jr.	'14	STARR COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Stephen J. Zayler	'82	ANGELINA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

of Texas. Brooke is the first woman to be named chair of TWDB. Prior to her appointment to the Board, Brooke served as the director of legislative affairs for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. She is formerly the deputy division chief of intergovernmental relations and former special assistant for policy and research for the Office of the Attorney General.

**Ben Webb** was appointed by the Lubbock County Commissioner's Court to preside as judge for Lubbock County Court at Law #3. Ben is a former member of the Lubbock Independent School District school board. He represented District 3 on the school board from 2018 to 2021, resigning when he was appointed to the Lubbock County court.

### 2006:

Gov. Abbott appointed **Ann-Marie Carruth** as Judge of the 72nd Judicial District Court in Crosby and Lubbock Counties. Ann-Marie previously served as judge of Lubbock County Court at Law #3 and Lubbock County Justice of the Peace Precinct #4. She is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the Lubbock Area Bar Association, life fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, a board member of the Texas Bar College, and an honorary lifetime member

of the West Texas Justices of the Peace & Constables Association.



Lori Cobos

**Lori Cobos** has been appointed by Gov. Abbott to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). The PUC regulates the state's electric, water, wastewater, and telecommunications utility industries, implements respective legislation, and offers customer assistance in resolving consumer complaints. Lori has served as Chief Executive and Public Counsel for the Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC) since April 2019. She also has over 17 years of broad experience in the Texas electric power industry in both the public and private sector. She served in several senior-level positions at the PUC, including serving as an advisor for two PUC Commissioners, assistant counsel to the PUC Executive Director, and senior policy analyst in the PUC's policy development division, and served as in-house counsel at ERCOT.

Dallas City Councilman **Chad West** was named Mayor Pro Tem. The mayor pro tem leads council meetings when the mayor is not present. And in case the mayor leaves office early, he would serve as mayor until a special election could be held. Chad is the principal attorney of the Law Office of Chad West, PLLC. His practice focuses on personal injury and criminal defense.

#### 2007:

**Rachel Anthony** joined LeMaster & Ahmed PLLC in their Houston area office. Rachel began her legal career as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Jeffrey V. Brown during

his tenure as Justice at the 14th Court of Appeals in Houston. Most recently, Rachel worked for a small general litigation practice, spending much of her time on estate planning, probate matters, and general litigation on the plaintiff's side before joining the team at LeMaster & Ahmed PLLC. Rachel brings her insurance defense industry experience to her practice, which is focused on the areas of personal injury and insurance.

**Mindy Hamm** has been appointed Vice President and General Counsel for Midland Health. Mindy was a partner in the Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe & Dawson litigation section. During the past 14 years, she has defended clients in contract negotiations,



Mindy Hamm

**Sam Patranella** joined Mayer Brown LLP as a partner in the firm's Corporate & Securities, Private Equity and Energy Transactions practices. He represents public and private companies, private equity funds, and management teams in the domestic and international energy space. Previously, Sam guided Luxe Energy LLC and Luxe Minerals LLC, two private equity backed companies, as vice president, general counsel & corporate secretary

through M&A, divestments, capital raises, operations, and a myriad of other matters from formation to exit.



Dustin Howell

#### 2008:

Gov. Abbott appointed **Dustin Howell** as Judge of the 455th Judicial District Court in Travis County for a term set to expire on December 31, 2022. Dustin is the former judge of the 200th Judicial District Court and 459th Judicial District Court, both in Travis County. He previously served as an associate at Baker Botts and McKool Smith P.C., and as an assistant solicitor general for the Office of the Texas Attorney General. He is board certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

#### 2009:

**Laura Pratt** was named 2021-2022 Vice President of the Texas Young Lawyers Association. Laura is an associate at Brady & Hamilton LLP in Lubbock, Texas, where she manages complex litigation matters involving eminent domain, administrative, agricultural, and environmental law. She is a director for the Lubbock Area Bar Association, a Texas Bar Foundation fellow, and a member of the Texas Bar College. Laura also serves on the Board of Directors for OneVoiceHome.

#### 2011:

**Sarah H. Frazier** has joined the Houston office of Blank Rome LLP as a partner in the firm's Finance, Restructuring,

and Bankruptcy practice group. Sarah focuses her practice on the representation of financial institutions, private equity funds, other credit providers, and borrowers in connection with secured and unsecured transactions, including syndicated lending, acquisition financing, oil and gas secured financings, note purchase and sale transactions, and the workout and restructuring of credit facilities.

**Jillian Gordon Foerster** was elevated to shareholder at Chamberlain Hrdlicka White Williams & Aughtry PC. Jillian advises clients on employee benefits, executive compensation, and issues related to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. She has a focus on health care compliance issues and is also part of Chamberlain Hrdlicka's data security and privacy practice. She works remotely and is based out of the firm's San Antonio office.



Chris Taylor

Gov. Abbott appointed **Chris Taylor** to serve as the judge for the 48th District Court. Chris, who has been with the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office for nearly four years, will be the 13th judge of this court that was established in 1891. This is the second oldest court in Tarrant County. He is a member of the Texas County and District Retirement System Board of Trustees, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Advisory Board, and the Texas District & County Attorneys Association. He volunteers as a board

member of the Women's Center of Tarrant County and the Alliance for Children.

"I am honored and humbled to take over the leadership of such a historic court," said Chris in a statement. "I look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Tarrant County and promise to always follow the law."

## 2012:

**Timothy J. Craddock** was elevated to member at Cole Schotz P.C. Tim is a member of the Intellectual Property Group, as well as in the Litigation Department, and is located in the firm's Texas office. Tim primarily focuses on intellectual property litigation involving a broad variety of technologies including computer chipsets, data communications hardware, software-based appliances and applications, and mechanical devices. Prior to his legal career, Tim worked as an Engineering Scientist Associate in the Space and Geophysics division of UT Austin's Applied Research Laboratories developing hardware and software for the maintenance and improvement of the Global Positioning System.

**Jason Jordan** was named partner at Haynes and Boone, LLP. Jason is a member of the Appellate Practice Group in the firm's Dallas office. He works with clients in various industries, such as the financial, energy, and transportation sectors, and his practice spans all stages of legal disputes. He has experience not only preparing briefing and presenting oral arguments to state and federal courts of appeals, but also handling pre-suit analysis, risk management, and filing and defending against trial court and arbitration proceedings.

## 2015:

**Jesse Beck** has joined Hallett & Perrin in Dallas as part of the firm's litigation

group. Jesse is a commercial litigator who handles complex matters for individuals and businesses in state and federal courts throughout Texas. His experience includes litigating complex contractual disputes, oil and gas matters, fiduciary obligations, and fraud claims. Jesse also serves as the area director of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel.



Daisy Chaparro

**Daisy Chaparro** has been promoted to Partner at Flores, Tawney & Acosta PC. She has helped hundreds of clients seek justice by representing victims in wrongful death and serious injury cases. She has successfully fought for individuals at the trial level and the appellate level, recently winning at the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. She has been recognized as a Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers Texas Rising Star, The National Trial Lawyers Top 40 Under 40, and the El Paso Bar Association's Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year.

**Michelle Miller**, special assistant to the president and Title IX coordinator at Angelo State University, has been appointed to the Safety Planning Working Group for the Texas Governor's Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force (SASTF). Its mission is to establish a collaborative and coordinated response to sexual violence experienced by adults and children in Texas. As ASU's Title IX coordinator, Michelle



heads the Title IX Office and has the primary responsibility for coordinating the university's compliance with state and federal laws that address sexual misconduct and gender equity.

## 2016:

**Sara C. Thornton** joined Jackson Walker as an associate. In her practice, Sara focuses on a wide range of real estate and real estate finance matters. She regularly represents landlords and tenants in commercial leases, and has experience handling landlord-tenant disputes. She also represents purchasers,



Sara C. Thornton

owners, and developers in connection with the acquisition, disposition, development, and finance of improved and unimproved real property.

## 2019:

**Holton L. Westbrook** joined the Amarillo office of Sprouse Shrader Smith as an associate attorney. Holton's

primary focus is to assist clients with civil litigation issues. He also has litigation experience including oil and gas, personal

injury law, real estate, contract disputes, debt collection, employment law, and construction claims.

## 2020:

**Catherine (Cat) Baldo** joined Cherry Petersen Landry Albert LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation section.

**Austin L. Caldera** joined Bourland, Wall & Wenzel as an associate. His practice is primarily focused on general civil litigation, as well as legal research and drafting documents for all sectors of the firm.

# IN MEMORIAM 2021

Douglas L. Baker	'82
Billy L. Ballard	'01
Lillian E. Blancas	'09
Joan Blanscet	'69
R. Paul Brauchle	'71
Richard C. Bruse	'76
Hardy F. Burke III	'72
Ruth F. Cantrell	'84
Jack B. Cowley	'69
Sean M. Crowley	'08
Jeffrey S. Davis	'93
Orlando F. Dehoyos	'87
Scott R. Donaho	'82
Louisa F. Duva	'90
Edgar Egeland	'78
John D. Elder	'94
Harold R. Hayes III	'84
Jerry D. Hunt	'77
M. Chris Inabnett	'73
Robert L. Love	'72
James W. McDonald	'72
Owen W. McWhorter Jr.	'75
Bradford L. Moore	'77
Florence K. Moore	'92

Steve D. Moore	'97
James D. Nations	'90
Jane M. Seaver	'81
William G. Shaw	'70
Tom H. Whiteside	'76
David M. Williams	'73
Ellen M. Wilson	'09

## ANN C. BURBRIDGE OF LUBBOCK

1925-2021



Ann Burbridge joined the Law School in September 1966 as an administrative assistant. Ann served the Law School for twenty-five years, becoming the school's first registrar in 1969 and continued in that capacity until her retirement in 1991. At the time of her retirement, "Dean Burbridge," as she was affectionately called because of her vast knowledge of the Law School, had been employed at the Law School longer than any other person. She was honored for her dedicated service to the Law School by the Texas Senate with a resolution that was introduced by Sen. John Montford and signed by both Montford and Lt. Gov.

Bob Bullock. Ann and her husband Robert have previously supported the clinical programs. Ann also left a generous bequest gift, earning her a spot as a Partner in the Law School's Honor Giving Society.

# A STRONG FOUNDATION

## WINTER 2021



This has been a year of remarkable financial growth in the endowment. The total value of the Law School's endowment now exceeds 30 million dollars, with over \$15 million endowed in scholarships.

In just seven years, the value of the Texas Tech Law School endowment has doubled. This is in large part thanks to the leadership, expertise, and support of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board. These trustees know that a healthy endowment is crucial to the Law School's future success, and they are committed to continue growing it in the years to come.

Of course, growth would not be possible without the amazing community of alumni and friends who established endowments this year. They have created permanent legacies that will help the Law School transform the lives of generations of Texas Tech law students.

### FY21 NEW ENDOWMENTS

Scott and Renee Almy Endowed  
Scholarship

Brock Professor of Law

Ralph Brock & Ralph H. Brock  
Endowed Scholarship

Jefferson Cano Endowed  
Scholarship

Class of 2020 Endowed Scholarship

Paul and Amber Cash Endowed  
Scholarship

John A. Freels Endowed Scholarship

Travis R. Hanson Family Endowed  
Scholarship

Elizabeth Henderson Jepson  
Endowed Scholarship

Stephen and Karen Johnson First-  
Generation Endowed Scholarship

Phil and Carla Johnson First-  
Generation Endowed Scholarship

Bruce Magness Endowed  
Scholarship

Matt and Melissa Orwig Endowed  
Scholarship

Thomas Rhodes Endowed  
Scholarship

Rusty Howard & Barbara Runge  
First-Generation Endowed  
Scholarship

Gary A. Ward Endowed Scholarship

### FOUNDATION BOARD

#### PRESIDENT

Tom Hall '81, Fort Worth

#### VICE PRESIDENT

M.C. Carrington '82, Beaumont

#### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jack Wade Nowlin, Lubbock

### 2020–2021 TRUSTEES

Hon. Chris Antcliff '95, El Paso

Doug Atnipp '85, Houston

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Alberto "Beto" Cardenas '99, Houston

Amber Cash '09, Albuquerque, NM

Mimi Coffey '94, Fort Worth

Joseph Coniglio '97, Dallas

David W. Copeland '82, Denver, CO

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Lance Evans '91, Fort Worth

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Rankin Gasaway '88, Dallas

James Gill '73, Dallas

Laura P. Gordon '83, El Paso

Gregory Gowan '95, Corpus Christi

Link Grimes '86, Midland

Anna Gryska '14, Houston

**Endowments impact every aspect of the Law School—they support the faculty who make us great and create opportunities for educational advancement for our students.**

Art A. Hall '96, San Antonio  
 Brad Hancock '96, Houston  
 David Hart '86, Colleyville  
 Jay Harvey '82, Austin  
 David Joeckel, Jr. '86, Dallas  
 Krisi Kastl '99, Dallas  
 Roger A. Key '76, Lubbock  
 W. Mark Lanier '84, Houston  
 Ann Manning '84, Lubbock  
 William Mateja '86, Dallas  
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 Frank McDonald '79, Colleyville  
 Holland O'Neil '87, Dallas  
 Chris Peirson '77, Dallas  
 Richard Roper, III '82, Dallas  
 Barbara K. Runge '74, Houston  
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 Scott Summy '90, Dallas  
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 Diana M. Valdez '04, El Paso  
 Darryl Vereen '92, El Paso  
 The Honorable Sue Walker '86, Arlington  
 Glenn D. West '78, Dallas  
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 Jo Ben Whittenburg '73, Beaumont

## EMERITUS TRUSTEES

William Allensworth '74, Austin  
 W C "Dub" Bratcher '75, Lubbock  
 John Crews, Lubbock  
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 Suzan E. Fenner '72, Richardson  
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 Mark Griffin '79, Lubbock  
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 John Huffaker '74, Aurora, CO  
 George Nelson, Lubbock  
 David H. Segrest '70, Dallas  
 John Simpson '74, Lubbock  
 Jessica Whitacre Thorne '95, Dallas  
 Hon. Jeff Wentworth '72, San Antonio

# Newest Trustee

**David Weinstein '81,**  
*Houston*

Dave is the senior partner of Weinstein Tippetts & Little LLP. He has tried over a hundred cases to jury verdict and is routinely retained to handle high-exposure litigation matters across the country in both commercial and personal injury matters. In addition to his trial practice, he has handled appellate cases at all levels of state and federal courts, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. While in law school, Dave won the best oralist award at the 1980 National Moot Court Competition, where the three-person team won the Law School's first national championship.





# DONOR HONOR ROLL

▷▷ **A heartfelt thank you** to all the alumni and friends of Texas Tech Law School for your generous support. We are exceedingly grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their support over the past fiscal year (September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021). Your generosity has a profound impact on our students, faculty, and staff.

## FISCAL YEAR

# 2021

### **\$500,000-\$749,999**

Douglas '85<sup>1</sup> & Veronica Atnipp

### **\$100,000-\$349,999**

Elaine Brock '88

Professor Charles P. Bubany<sup>3</sup>

David '82<sup>1</sup> & Laurie Copeland

J. Hadley\* & Helen\* Edgar

Brett '90 & Cynthia Govett

Killam Endowment Trust

Carolyn Moore '79 & Allan Mackenzie

### **\$50,000 - \$99,999**

Bryant Edwards Foundation, Inc.

The CH Foundation, Inc.

Ann Burbidge\*

Erwin '75<sup>1</sup> & Elaine Davenport

J. S. & Valerie Freels

Mark '79<sup>2</sup> & Claudia Griffin

Travis '10 & Corinne Hanson

Frank '79<sup>1</sup> & Denise McDonald

### **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

Scott '94 & Renee Almy

S. Carl '79 & Karen Friedsam

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Charles '75 & Jan King

Bruce '71 & Janice Magness

Rob & Taylor Magness

Matthew '84 & Melissa Orwig

Barbara Runge '74<sup>1</sup>

### **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers  
Association

Texas Association of Counties

Texas Bankers Association

The Honorable John & Carroll Akard

The Honorable Christopher '95<sup>1</sup> & Linda  
Antcliff

Robert Black '80

Emma Cano '02<sup>1</sup> & Mark Tapia

M.C. '82<sup>1</sup> & Mary Sue Carrington

Paul '09 & Amber '09<sup>1</sup> Cash

Tom '72 & Melissa Duren

Kevin Glasheen '88<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Hall '81<sup>1</sup>

Brad '96<sup>1</sup> & India Hancock

George & Linda Henderson

The Honorable Philip '75 & Carla Johnson

Stephen '82 & Karen '82 Johnson

Ainsley Nelson

Jack Wade Nowlin<sup>1,3</sup>

Holly '87<sup>1</sup> & Kelly O'Neil

William '77 & Chris '77<sup>1</sup> Peirson

Rhonda Rhodes '88 & Terry Howard

David '70<sup>2</sup> & Sarah Segrest

Richard & Cherryll Simms

P. Scott '90<sup>1</sup> & Lenna Summy

David '81<sup>1</sup> & Candace Weinstein

### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

American Board of Trial Advocates Central  
West Texas Chapter

Field, Manning, Stone, Hawthorne &  
Aycok, P.C.

Jefferson Cano

LawProse, Inc.

Texas Bar Foundation

The Lanier Law Firm, P.C.

Weller, Green, Touns & Terrell, L.L.P.

R. Andy & Shelagh Aycok

Daniel '99 & Kelly '00 Benzon

James & Joyce Braus

Beto '99<sup>1</sup> & Norma Cardenas

Mimi Coffey '94<sup>1</sup> & Tony Mancil

Denis '90<sup>1</sup> & Tatiana '13 Dennis

Jerry '81<sup>1</sup> & Deborah Dixon

Dan '80 & Carol '80 Donovan

Charles '80 & Desire Dunn

Whitney '12 & Glen Ellis

Suzan '72<sup>2</sup> & Peter Fenner

T. Mike and Jayne Field

Guy '74 & Cindy Fields

The Honorable Greg '95 & Anita Perry  
Fouratt

The Honorable Kem '83<sup>1</sup> & Frederick Frost

Karolyne '06<sup>1</sup> & Bryan Garner

Rankin '88<sup>1</sup> & Jennifer Gasaway

Patrick '83 & Laura '83<sup>1</sup> Gordon

Gregory Gowan '95<sup>1</sup>

Nolan Greak

D. Link '86<sup>1</sup> & Melissa Grimes

Chester '81<sup>2</sup> & Laura Grudzinski

David '86<sup>1</sup> & Nancy Hart

Holly '05 & Shawn Haseloff

Samuel '96 & Thresa Hawthorne

Walter '77 & Kathy Huffman

David '86<sup>1</sup> and Reecanne Joeckel

Roger '76<sup>1</sup> & Ann Key

W. Mark '84<sup>1</sup> & Becky Lanier

James '77 & Barbara Leeton

William '96 & Tanya Mahoney

Nevill '74 & Ann '84<sup>1</sup> Manning

Arlene Matthews '00<sup>1</sup>

William '86<sup>1</sup> & Cassandra Mateja

Wade '81<sup>1</sup> & Kim Shelton

Stephen & Dianne Stone

James '10 & Andrea Tawney

Mitchell '82<sup>1</sup> & Tonya Touns

Darryl '92<sup>1</sup> & Meg Vereen

W. Burgess '73 & Margaret Wade

The Honorable Carey '84 & The Honorable  
Sue '86 Walker

Jo Ben '73<sup>1</sup> & Diane Whittenburg

J. David & Amanda Williams

Wesley '98 & Sue Williams

Darren '85 & Maria Woody

Considerable care has gone into the preparation of the Donor Honor Roll. Each donor is very important to us, and every effort is made to achieve accuracy. If we have overlooked anyone, or if you would prefer that your name not be listed in the future, please contact the Office of Development and Donor Relations at (806)834-4910 or karen.holden@ttu.edu.

### **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Crenshaw, Dupree & Milam, L.L.P.  
Scott & Carisa Armey  
Raymond '10 & Melissa '09 Baeza  
Joseph Coniglio '97<sup>1</sup>  
Briana Cooper '11  
Lance '91<sup>1</sup> & Lori Evans  
R. Tim '69 & Rita Evans  
Art '96<sup>1</sup> & Stephanie '97 Hall  
Alfred Herrera

John '74<sup>2</sup> & Charlotte Huffaker  
Kristina Kastl '99<sup>1</sup> & Sean Sullivan  
Joe '87 & Patricia Lovell  
Richard '82<sup>1</sup> & June Roper  
Paul '94<sup>1</sup> & Nicki Stafford

### **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Financial Planning Association of West Texas  
Happy State Bank and Trust Company  
Lubbock County Bar Association

Midland Odessa Business and Estate Council  
ROB-BEN Rental Solutions  
The Community Foundation of West Texas  
Wetsel, Carmichael, Allen, & Lederle, LLP  
Diane Atkinson  
William Apt '82  
Russell '95 & Melissa '95 Cawyer  
Dan '75 & Cynthia Claiborne  
David & Alice Clark  
The Honorable Weldon '76 & Cynthia Copeland

## **Honor** *Giving Society*

The Honor Giving Society offers special recognition to the generous donors who contribute \$100,000 or more to Texas Tech Law. The following donors are included on the Donor Honor Wall recognition display in the Law School and receive special membership benefits.

### *Visionary*

#### **\$5,000,000 AND UP**

Robert Don Collier '73\*  
Becky and Mark '84 Lanier

### *Founder*

#### **\$2,500,000 - \$4,999,999**

Beaumont Foundation of America  
Wayne A. '74 and Dana Reaud

### *Philanthropist*

#### **\$1,000,000 - \$2,499,999**

Copeland Family Foundation  
Kevin Glasheen '88  
Killam Endowed Trust  
W. Frank Newton, West Texas Legal Legend  
The J. T. and Margaret Talkington Charitable Foundation

### *Leader*

#### **\$500,000 - \$999,999**

AT&T Foundation  
Karen (Harrison) Brand '79 and Stephen R. Brand  
Families of Ralph Brock and Ralph H. Brock

Patrick R. '83 and Laura Prendergast Gordon '83

The Griffin Family  
Thomas G. Hall '81  
Frank G. McDonald '79  
Reaud Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
Glenn '78 and Christy West

### *Benefactor*

#### **\$250,000 - \$499,999**

Doug '85 and Roni Atnipp  
Forrest Bowers\*, West Texas Legal Legend  
Bryant Edwards Foundation, Inc.  
Erwin '75 and Elaine Davenport  
J. Hadley\* and Helen\* Edgar  
W. Royal Furgeson, Jr., West Texas Legal Legend  
Chancellor Emeritus Kent Hance  
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Brian Loncar '87\*  
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James H. Milam\*, West Texas Legal Legend  
David Herman Segrest '70  
Travis D. Shelton\*, West Texas Legal Legend  
Broadus A. Spivey\*, West Texas Legal Legend

### *Partner*

#### **\$100,000 - \$249,999**

Administrative & Public Law Section – State Bar of Texas  
The Honorable John C. Akard  
Hershell Barnes '70\*  
Louis A. Beechler and The Bosque Foundation  
Ann Burbridge\*  
M.C. Carrington '82  
The CH Foundation  
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Martin '74 & Darci L. Dies  
Suzan E. '72 and Peter R. Fenner  
Chester '81 and Laura Grudzinski  
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Justice Phil '75 and Carla Johnson  
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Ms. Barbara Runge '74 and Mr. Rusty Howard\*  
Bill '74 & Chris '74 Peirson  
Jay Harvey '82 and Jeanene Smith  
Jessica Whitacre Thorne '95  
Southwest Association of Bank Counsel  
Noe Valles '93

\*Deceased

# Planned *Giving Society*

The Planned Giving Society honors the generous donors who share documentation of a gift provision in their estate plans for the benefit of the Law School through the Texas Tech Law School Foundation or the Texas Tech Foundation. These generous individuals understand leaving a planned gift is a wonderful way to show appreciation for the Law School and its mission while furthering their own philanthropic goals. These donors are celebrated on the Donor Honor Wall recognition display in the Law School.

## *Guardian*

**\$1,000,000 AND UP**

Charles '80 and Desire Dunn  
Thomas G. Hall '81

## *Ambassador*

**\$500,000 - \$999,999**

Doug '85 and Roni Atnipp  
Robert Don Collier '73\*  
Chester '81 and Laura Grudzinski  
Glenn '78 and Christy West

## *Advocate*

**\$100,000 - \$499,999**

The Honorable John C. Akard  
Ann Burbridge\*  
J. Hadley\* and Helen\* Edgar  
Suzan E. '72 and Peter R. Fenner  
Brett '90 and Cindy Govett  
Scott L. Larson '99  
John T. and Debbie Montford

\*Realized Gifts

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Richard '74 & Susan Hile  
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Michael '77 & Frances Morgan  
Alison Myhra<sup>3</sup>  
The Honorable Judy '85 & D. Scott Parker  
Walter Phillips  
David '88 & Heather Poole  
Dan & Karen Pozza  
Fred '80 & Kimblynn Raschke  
Daniel '78 & Kimberly Renner  
J. Andrew '82 & Karyn Rogers  
Richard<sup>3</sup> & Randee Rosen

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There is no substitute for professors who care about their students as people, make them excited about learning, inspire them to achieve, and encourage them to pursue their dreams.



For five decades, Professor Charles P. Bubany has been that kind of professor. He has created an engaging, challenging, and supportive environment for students and has played a crucial role in shaping the law school experience for everyone at Texas Tech.



As we celebrated Chuck's 50 years of teaching, many alumni, colleagues, and members of Chuck's family joined together to honor his legacy through the creation of the Charles P. Bubany Endowed Professorship.

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We are excited to establish the Charles P. Bubany Endowed Professorship and to continue attracting faculty who will enlighten, challenge, and prepare Texas Tech law students to lead successful and impactful lives—just like Chuck has done for the past five decades and continues to do today.

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## *18th Annual* **Scholarship Gala**

March 5, 2022  
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## *State Bar of Texas* **Annual Meeting Alumni Reception**

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## *Annual Alumni* **Tailgate**

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## *19th Annual* **Scholarship Gala**

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