

# Houston Bar Bulletin

A Publication of Houston Bar Association

www.hba.org

Vol. 117 Number 6

November/December 2017

## Support 68<sup>th</sup> Harvest Celebration

Join your colleagues for the legal community's premier fundraising event at the 2017 Harvest Celebration on Monday, November 13, 6:30-10:00 p.m. at River Oaks Country Club. One hundred percent of net proceeds from the Harvest Celebration go to the Houston Volunteer Lawyers, providing life-changing pro bono service to low-income individuals, senior citizens, U.S. armed forces veterans, rural residents, and families in Houston

and the surrounding areas.

Event co-chairs are Houston Bar Foundation Chair Travis Sales of Baker Botts L.L.P. and HBA Treasurer Benny Agosto, Jr. of Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz.

Tickets are \$200 per person, or \$150 for members of the judiciary, attorneys licensed five years or less or those working for charitable organizations. Underwriters receive tickets commensurate with their contribution level, as

well as recognition on signage, in HBA publications, and in an ad that will appear in the *Houston Chronicle*.

For tickets and underwriting information, please visit [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org). The deadline to purchase tickets is noon on November 9. Tickets are limited and **no tickets are sold at the door**.

For a complete list of underwriters as of press time, *see page five of this publication*.



### Judicial Evaluation Opens in November

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, the HBA board approved postponing the 2017 Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire until November 1. Members will access the questionnaire through an email that will be sent to all current HBA members for whom the HBA has a valid email address. You must also be current with your 2017-2018 HBA dues to participate.

If you do not have a current email on file with the HBA and would like to participate in the Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire, please send your email address to Ron Riojas at [ronr@hba.org](mailto:ronr@hba.org).

You will notice a number of changes made by [BallotBoxOnline.com](http://BallotBoxOnline.com) to make your participation easier, while still maintaining the security of the poll. Instructions and contact information will be included in the email you receive from BallotBox. Prior to the opening of the Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire for voting, you will receive an email from the HBA to alert you to watch for the email that gives you access.

### Proof HBA Pictorial Roster Entry, Nov. 27-Dec. 8

The 2018 HBA Pictorial Roster proof will be in the HBA office November 27 through December 8, 2017. Plan to come by the HBA office at 1111 Bagby Street, FLB 200, to proof your Roster information between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Please remember you will not appear in the roster if you joined the HBA or renewed your membership after August 31, 2017. There will be a charge of \$20 per listing for any changes made during proofing. If you have questions, contact the HBA membership department at (713) 759-1133 or [ronr@hba.org](mailto:ronr@hba.org).

## Law Firms Support Legal Services after Harvey with \$100,000 Donations to Houston Bar Foundation

Two Houston law firms have made donations of \$100,000 each to the Houston Bar Foundation for pro bono legal services to help Houstonians impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

The partners of Gibbs & Bruns LLP announced the firm's \$100,000 donation to

underscore the importance of supporting the legal services necessary for the many people impacted by Hurricane Harvey in the Houston area. The partners of Williams Kherkher Hart Boundas LLP announced a matching donation of \$100,000 in honor of the pro bono commit-

ment of firm partner, John Eddie Williams, Jr., a former chair of the Foundation.

Gibbs & Bruns also announced a donation of \$150,000 to Lone Star Legal Aid for pro bono legal services related to the storm.

# 33<sup>rd</sup> HBA John J. Eikenburg Law Week Fun Run

## Help The Center Rebuild after Harvey Flooding

When Hurricane Harvey hit Texas, the facilities of The Center -- an organization that has promoted the pursuit of choice, growth, and personal independence for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Houston since 1950 -- received major damage. The Center's dental clinic, classrooms, workspaces, and activity centers experienced up to 12 feet of flooding.

To give relief to The Center's workers, volunteers, residents and families, the HBA Fun Run Committee has heightened the fundraising goal of its annual event to \$100,000. You can help reach this ambitious goal -- and help The Center rebuild -- by underwriting the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual HBA John J. Eikenburg Law Week

Fun Run. Net proceeds from the Fun Run, which will take place on Saturday, February 17, 2018, go to The Center.



The Fun Run is the only 8K event of its kind in Houston and has raised over \$1 million for The Center. This family friendly event is open to the public and includes a 1K children's run as well as a non-competitive one-mile walk and post-race activities.

Underwriters are included on the race card sent to all HBA members and in other race packets, the race website, commemorative T-shirt, event Facebook page, race announcements and in HBA publications. Underwriting commitments must be made by November 17 for inclusion on race cards and December 15 for inclusion on T-shirts. For information, contact Bonnie Simmons at (713) 759-1133 or [bonnies@hba.org](mailto:bonnies@hba.org).

## Lawyers for Literacy Fall Book Drive Collects 22,837 Books for Houston Readers

Thanks to HBA members and other donors, 22,837 books will find new homes with readers of all ages through the 2017 Fall Book Drive, sponsored by the HBA's Lawyers for Literacy Committee and co-chaired by Sarah Cabello, Victoria Gipson, Gary Johnson and Megan Prout.

There were 116 offices that participated in the book drive, including individuals, firms, corporations, courts, and legal organizations.

Please note that these figures do not include

the approximately 7,000 books lost to the effects of Hurricane Harvey, causing some canceled donations.

The Lawyers for Literacy Committee volunteers spent 90 hours sorting the books for distribution to 34 community agencies including shelters, missions, women's centers, veterans programs and literacy groups.

For a complete list of donors, volunteers and agencies that received books, visit the Lawyers for Literacy Committee page found

at [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org).

*Lawyers for Literacy Committee member Brian Bagley (Akerman LLP) and his wife Christy Bagley sort books together.*



## Donate to HBA Habitat for Humanity's 21<sup>st</sup> Build

The HBA Habitat for Humanity Committee expects to build its 21<sup>st</sup> home during the 2017-18 bar year. Since 1997, the HBA and its members have build homes for low-income Houston families, helping them achieve the dream of home ownership.

The HBA must raise \$75,000 before February 1, 2018 in order to begin construction on the home in the spring. This year's Habitat drive is co-chaired by Sean Jain of NewQuest Properties and Ryan Wooten of Orrick,

Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

Donations can be made online at [www.houstonhabitat.org/donate](http://www.houstonhabitat.org/donate) by selecting "Funds" and "Houston Bar Association" as the recipient. You can also donate by mailing checks, payable to the Houston Bar Foundation, to the HBA office at 1111 Bagby St. FLB 200, Houston, TX 77002, with "Habitat" in the memo line. For more information, contact Bonnie Simmons at [bonnies@hba.org](mailto:bonnies@hba.org) or (713) 759-1133.

## HBA Honored by Habitat with Legacy Award

The HBA was honored with the Legacy Award for its contributions to Houston Habitat for Humanity at the 2017 Annual "Building a Dream" Luncheon on Wednesday, October 25 at the Westin Galleria. Leaders of the HBA and the Habitat for Humanity Committee attended the luncheon honoring Houston Habitat's 30 years of service. The award was accepted by HBA President Alistair Dawson.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**Special Olympics** - The HBA Special Olympics Committee is seeking volunteers for Special Olympics of Texas events in November and December. Consider volunteering for the following events:

**Saturday, November 11 - Volleyball Tournament**, Willowbrook Sports Complex. Volunteers needed for two shifts from 7:30 a.m. - Noon & 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 2 - Bowling Tournament**, Copperfield Bowl. Volunteers are needed for two shifts from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

For more details or to volunteer visit [sotx.org/volunteer-4-hba](http://sotx.org/volunteer-4-hba). No skills required. Great team building opportunity.

**Items Needed for Holiday Bags for Veterans** - The HBA provides holiday bags for residents of two facilities for homeless and recovering veterans. Consider donating some of the following items to make the holidays a little brighter for those who have served us: individual or travel size toiletries, individually wrapped candy, holiday greeting cards, or promotional items from your law firm or corporate office. If you have items to donate or want to help assemble the gift bags, contact Bonnie Simmons at [bonnies@hba.org](mailto:bonnies@hba.org) or (713) 759-1133 by November 15.



## Equal Access Champions

The firms, corporations and individuals listed below have agreed to assume a leadership role in providing equal access to justice for all Harris County citizens. Each has made a commitment to provide representation in a certain number of cases through the Houston Volunteer Lawyers.

### Large Firm Champions

Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP  
Baker Botts L.L.P.  
Bracewell LLP  
Locke Lord LLP  
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP  
Vinson & Elkins LLP

### Corporate Champions

BP America Inc.  
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.  
Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Halliburton  
LyondellBasell Industries  
Marathon Oil Company  
Shell Oil Company

### Mid-Size Firm Champions

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
BakerHostetler LLP  
Beck Redden LLP  
Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry  
Eversheds Sutherland LLP  
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP  
Gibbs & Bruns LLP  
Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C.  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.  
Jackson Walker L.L.P.  
Jones Day  
King & Spalding LLP  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP  
Porter Hedges LLP  
Reed Smith LLP  
Strasburger & Price, L.L.P.  
Winstead PC  
Winston & Strawn LLP

### Boutique Firm Champions

Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Friend  
Blank Rome LLP  
Dentons US LLP  
Edison, McDowell & Hetherington LLP  
Fullenweider Wilhite PC  
Hogan Lovells US LLP  
Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P.  
LeClairRyan  
Ogden, Broocks & Hall, L.L.P.  
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C.  
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP  
Weycer, Kaplan, Pulaski & Zuber, P.C.  
Wilson, Cribbs & Goren, P.C.  
Yetter Coleman LLP

### Small Firm Champions

Coane & Associates  
Frye, Steidley, Oaks & Benavidez, PLLC  
Fuqua & Associates, P.C.  
Givens & Johnston  
Hunton & Williams LLP  
Katine & Nechman L.L.P.  
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP  
KimLy Law Firm PLLC  
KoonsFuller, P.C.  
MehaffyWeber, P.C.  
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP  
Shortt & Nguyen, P.C.  
Trahan Dinn Kornegay Payne, LLP

### Individual Champions

Law Office of Peter J. Bennett  
Law Office of J. Thomas Black, P.C.  
Burford Perry, LLP  
The Dieye Firm  
The Ericksen Law Firm  
Law Office of Todd M. Frankfort  
Hasley Scarano L.L.P.  
David Hsu and Associates  
The Jurek Law Group, PLLC  
The LaFitte Law Group, PLLC  
Law Firm of Catherine Le PLLC  
C.Y. Lee Legal Group, PLLC  
Law Office of Gregory S. Lindley  
Martin R.G. Marasigan Law Offices  
Law Office of Evangeline Mitchell, PLLC  
Rita Pattni, Attorney at Law  
Pilgrim Law Office  
Law Office of Robert E. Price  
Reece Law Firm, PLLC  
Sanchez Law Firm  
Law Office of Jeff Skarda  
Angela Solice, Attorney at Law  
Diane C. Treich, Attorney at Law  
Law Office of Norma Levine Trusch  
Law Office of Cindi L. Wiggins, J.D.  
Trey Yates Law

# Gender Fairness Committee CLE Breakfast, November 8

## Does Implicit Bias Survive in Spite of the NFL's Rooney Rule?

Join the HBA Gender Fairness Committee for a CLE breakfast, where panelists will discuss the topic, "Does Implicit Bias Survive in Spite of the NFL's Rooney Rule: Where Is the Goal Line?"

The event is Wednesday, November 8 from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Heritage Plaza First Floor Conference Room, 1111 Bagby St., Houston, TX 77002.

Panelists include:

- Hon. Alfred H. Bennett, Judge, U.S.

District Court for the Southern District of Texas

- Amy Blumrosen, Senior Litigation Counsel, Baker Hughes
- Elizabeth A. Campbell, Partner and Chief Diversity Officer, Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP
- Dani Sanchez, Labor & Employment Counsel, Texas Children's Hospital
- Moderator: Jim Reeder, Antitrust Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP

This presentation is accredited for 1 hour MCLE, .25 hours ethics credit through the State Bar of Texas. It is open to HBA members only. There is no charge to attend, but RSVP is required. Breakfast generously sponsored by Liskow & Lewis LLP.

To register and learn more, visit [www.hba.org/GFbreakfast](http://www.hba.org/GFbreakfast) or contact Tara Shockley at (713) 759-1133 or [taras@hba.org](mailto:taras@hba.org).

# Free HBA CLE Saturday Ethics Program, November 11

The HBA's Saturday Ethics Program will be held November 11 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Heritage Plaza, 1111 Bagby St., First Floor Conference Room. Free for HBA members; \$100 at the door for non-HBA members. The program has been approved for 3 hours MCLE

credit and 3 hours of ethics credit.

Speakers include Gregg Weinberg & Frank Carroll (Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailley PC), Jennifer A. Hasley (Hasley Scarano L.L.P.), and Harry Potter (The Potter Law Firm). Visit [www.hba.org/cle](http://www.hba.org/cle) for the agenda.

No RSVP or registration is required. Contact Ashley Gagnon Steinger at [ashleyg@hba.org](mailto:ashleyg@hba.org) or (713) 759-1133 for more information.

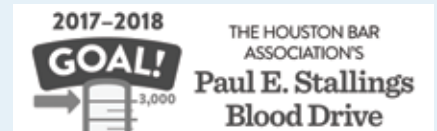
## Prime Partner Month Boosts Funding for Legal Services

The Texas Access to Justice Foundation (TAJF) has announced the month of November as Prime Partner Bank Month, aimed at encouraging attorneys to utilize the nearly 60 financial institutions in Texas that have become Texas IOLTA Prime Partners by paying higher interest rates on IOLTA accounts to generate more money for legal aid. By making this investment in access to justice, these banks and credit unions that pay higher interest on IOLTA accounts are making an investment in justice and the future of their communities.

"The IOLTA Program is an innovative

mechanism to provide funding for free legal help to victims of domestic violence, veterans, and families on the verge of homelessness," said Richard L. Tate, chair of the board of directors for the Texas Access to Justice Foundation, "But it has one shortfall – the money raised to help low-income Texans is tied to interest rates. While low interest rates may be ideal for Texans looking to buy a home, they mean devastating drops in the funding available for legal aid programs."

For a list of Prime Partner banks in Texas, visit [www.teajf.org](http://www.teajf.org).



Please consider supporting the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center by hosting an event as part of the HBA's Paul E. Stallings Blood Drive or by donating through one of the upcoming legal community drives. The HBA has set a goal of collecting 3,000 units of blood for the Blood Center during this bar year.

For more information, please visit [giveblood.org](http://giveblood.org), call the Blood Center's customer service line at (713) 791-6373, or call the HBA office at (713) 759-1133.

## Upcoming HBA/CLE Seminars

Seminars are 1:00-2:30 p.m. at 1111 Bagby St., Houston 77002. Seminars listed with an asterisk (\*) are located in the HBA office, FLB 200, at the same street address. The rest take place in the Heritage Plaza First Floor Conference Room.

Seminars are free to HBA members only; members may purchase written materials for \$5-\$15. Seminars are \$50 for non-members, including materials. Registration at the door only. For more information, see the Winter-Spring Seminar brochure at [www.hba.org/cle](http://www.hba.org/cle).

### Friday, November 3, 2017\*

"Fireside Chat with a Former U.S. Attorney, Ken Magidson"

Presented by Janet Hansen (Attorney at Law) & Ken Magidson (Former U.S. Attorney)

1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

### Friday, November 17, 2017

"Anatomy of the Oil & Gas Lease"

Presented by Ryan Kirby (Kirby, Mathews & Walrath, PLLC)

1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

### Friday, December 1, 2017

"Fifty Shades of Greed: A Case Study on Partnership by Conduct"

Presented by Mike Farris (BellNunnally) & Brent A. Turman (BellNunnally)

1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

### Friday, December 15, 2017

"Common Bankruptcy Pitfalls: Preferences, Fraudulent Transfer, and the Automatic Stay"

Presented by Josh Wolfshohl (Porter Hedges LLP)

1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

### Lunch & Learn, Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Heritage Plaza First Floor Conference Room

"IDEA and Texas Special Education Law Overview: Basic Information to Assist Special Needs Parents"

Presented by Holly Griffith Terrell (Law Office of Holly Terrell, PLLC)

1 hour MCLE credit, no ethics.

RSVP to [ashleyg@hba.org](mailto:ashleyg@hba.org) or (713) 759-1133. Bring your own lunch.



# 2017 Harvest Celebration Underwriters

## \$30,000

Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP  
Baker Botts L.L.P.  
Bracewell LLP  
Locke Lord LLP  
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP  
Vinson & Elkins LLP  
Williams Kherkher Hart Boundas, LLP

## \$15,000

King & Spalding LLP  
LyondellBasell Industries

## \$10,000

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Baker Hostetler  
Chevron Corporation  
Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP  
Hicks Thomas LLP  
Juvenile Law Section  
KoonsFuller, P.C.  
Litigation Section  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP  
Winston & Strawn LLP

## \$7,500

Beck Redden LLP

## \$5,500

Nikki & Benny Agosto

## \$5,000

Ahmad, Zavitsanos, Anaipakos, Alavi & Mensing P.C.  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Section  
Arnold & Itkin LLP  
Baker & McKenzie LLP  
Blank Rome LLP  
Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry  
Dentons US LLP

Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP  
Family Law Section  
Fisher, Boyd, Johnson & Huguenard, LLP  
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Gibbs & Bruns LLP  
Halliburton  
Haynes and Boone, LLP  
Jones Day  
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP  
Kirkland & Ellis, LLP  
Matthews & Associates  
McGinnis Lochridge & Kilgore LLP  
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP  
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP

Real Estate Law Section  
Reed Smith LLP  
Schirmeister Diaz-Arrastia Brem LLP  
Sheridan & John Eddie Williams, Jr.  
Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.  
Sidley Austin LLP  
Susman Godfrey L.L.P.  
Thompson & Knight Foundation  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
Winstead PC  
Yetter Coleman LLP

## \$4,000

Hogan Lovells US LLP

## \$3,500

Labor & Employment Section

## \$3,000

Kay Sim

## \$2,500

Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz

Jim Adler & Associates, P.C.  
Akerman LLP  
Andrews Myers, P.C.  
Bissinger, Oshman & Williams LLP

Gray Reed & McGraw LLP  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Hagens Montgomery & Rustay, P.C.

Service Corporation International  
Shipley Snell Montgomery LLP  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Strasburger & Price, LLP  
Tekell, Book, Allen & Morris, L.L.P.  
Ware, Jackson, Lee, O'Neill, Smith & Barrow, LLP

Hon. Laura Higley & Bob Higley  
The Law Office of Daniel D. Horowitz, III, PC  
Houston Bar Association Auxiliary Charitable Fund, Inc.  
Cisselon Nichols Hurd & Jim Hurd  
Jenkins & Kamin, LLP  
Laura & Jeff Kaplan  
Kelly, Durham & Pittard, LLP

## \$1,600

Mergers & Acquisitions Section

## \$1,500

Hon. Jane N. Bland & Doug Bland  
Dana & Neil Kelly

## \$1,000

Adame & Garza, LLP  
Appellate Practice Section  
Baker Wotring LLP  
Berg & Androphy  
BoyarMiller  
Cecily & Rick Burleson  
Dawn & Charles A. "Chip" Casey  
Construction Law Section  
Corporate Counsel Section  
Jacquelyn & Collin Cox  
Wendy & Alistair Dawson  
Bonnie & Otway B. Denny, Jr.  
Dobrowski, Larkin & Johnson, LLP  
Julie & Michael Donaldson  
Michael Doyle  
Veronica Foley  
Foster LLP  
Frank, Elmore, Lievens, Chesney & Turet, L.L.P.  
Lynn & Stewart Gagnon  
Hon. Michael Gomez  
Lee Hamel  
Tammie & David Harrell  
Lauren & Warren Harris  
Susan & Jim Hart  
Hasley Scarano, L.L.P.

Elizabeth & Bill Kroger  
Daniella Landers  
Hon. Erin Lunceford & Mike Lunceford  
Ginnie & Tim McConn  
Nathan Sommers Jacobs  
Oweyssi Law Firm, PLLC  
Susan & Barrett Reasoner  
Georgia & John F. Rhem  
Roach & Newton, LLP  
Hon. Frank B. Rynd  
Sandy & Travis Sales  
Marsha & Lonnie Schooler  
Denise & John Scofield  
Lisa & Phillip Sharp  
Smyser Kaplan & Veselka, L.L.P.  
South Texas College of Law Houston  
Tindall England, P.C.  
Travis Torrence  
Sandy & Greg Ulmer  
Wright & Close, LLP  
Zimmerman, Axelrad, Meyer, Stern & Wise, P.C.

## \$250

Norma L. Trusch

## \$200

Ellyn Josef

*\*at time of publication*



The Buck Family Fund  
Burford Perry, LLP  
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.  
Christian Smith & Jewell LLP  
Clark Love & Hutson, GP  
Coats | Rose  
Cokinos | Young  
Donato, Minx, Brown & Pool, P.C.  
Doyle Restrepo Harvin & Robbins, L.L.P.  
Duane Morris LLP  
Energy Transfer Partners, L.P.  
EOG Resources, Inc.  
Esquire Deposition Solutions, LLC  
Federal Practice Section  
Fogler, Brar, Ford, O'Neill & Gray LLP  
Frost Bank  
FTI Consulting  
Germer PLLC  
Debbie & Tom Godbold  
Goldman Sachs - Jeff Paine/Brandon Holcomb

Rusty Hardin & Associates, LLP  
Holmes, Diggs & Sadler  
Houston Lawyer Referral Service, Inc.  
Hunton & Williams LLP  
Jackson Walker L.L.P.  
Johnson DeLuca Kurisky & Gould, P.C.  
Jones Walker LLP  
Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC  
Lanier Law Firm  
Latham & Watkins LLP  
Liskow & Lewis  
Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom, L.L.P.  
McGlinchey Stafford PLLC  
McGuireWoods LLP  
Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.  
Noble Energy, Inc.  
Paul Hastings LLP  
Porter Hedges LLP  
Reynolds Frizzell LLP  
Schiffner Odom Hicks & Johnson PLLC

## Thank You to:

### Legal Clinic Volunteers

The HBA and Houston Volunteer Lawyers would like to thank the legal professionals who volunteered to take pro bono cases and offer in-person advice at the various legal clinics for disaster relief in and around the Houston area.

### EarthColor

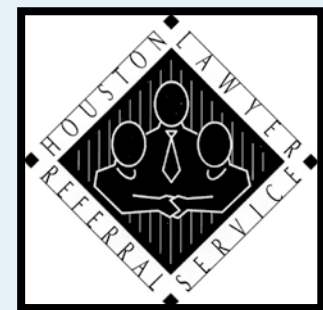
The HBA would like to thank EarthColor (earthcolor.com), printer of the *Houston Bar Bulletin*, for donating the card stock and printing for over 200,000 "We Care" cards. The pocket-size cards feature hotlines and resource numbers for teens, giving them a place to turn when they are dealing with alcohol and drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, depression and other mental health issues. Since the 1989-1990 bar year, the HBA has distributed the cards to high schools throughout the Houston area.

### Holiday Gift Drive Donors

The HBA AIDS Outreach Committee would like to thank those who signed up to participate in the 2017 Adopt-a-Family Holiday Gift Drive. Hurricane Harvey caused unspeakable damage for many Houston-area residents, and thanks to the generosity of these donors, over 70 affected families will receive the help they deserve this holiday season. For the full list of donors, visit the AIDS Outreach Committee page on [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org).

### LegalLine Volunteers

The HBA would like to thank all the volunteers -- over 400 individuals -- who took calls for the Hurricane Harvey Expanded LegalLine that ran from August 31 to October 27. Because of their efforts, over 3,000 Texans in need received sorely-needed legal advice in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. For an up-to-date list of individual volunteers, visit [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org).



### Starting a New Practice?

### Need More Referrals?

Join the Houston Lawyer Referral Service for only \$205 a year.

For more information visit [HLRS.org](http://HLRS.org) or call (713) 650-0470

Be the next HLRS member to settle a \$1.75 million case!

# HBA People



Gray



Rose



Yaziji

**Melanie Gray**, a bankruptcy litigation partner at Winston & Strawn LLP, will serve as honorary chair for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF)'s 29<sup>th</sup> Annual "A Mind Is..." Gala, November 18 at the Hilton Americas Hotel in Houston. The mission of the UNCF is to foster racial equality in higher education through the distribution of scholarships. Gray was also recently named one of Houston's top seven female attorneys by *Benchmark Litigation*. The *Houston Chronicle* named her a "Houston Hero" last year, as well.

## Abdin New Executive Director of Houston Volunteer Lawyers

Wafa Abdin has been named as the new executive director of the HBA's Houston Volunteer Lawyers, beginning November 1. Abdin served as vice president for Immigration and Refugee Services at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. She also led the Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance, the largest non-profit provider of immigration legal services for low-income and indigent non-citizens, as well as the Refugee Resettlement Program.

Abdin has more than 16 years' experience in representing detained adults and juveniles,

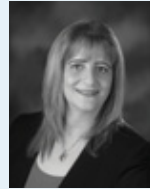
**Kelly Brunetti Rose** of Baker Botts L.L.P. has been named a Fellow of the American College of Governance Counsel (ACGC). The ACGC is an association of lawyers that honors achievements in the field of governance. Rose counsels clients on a full range of governance issues, offers professional advice to various companies, and is an appointed member of the Corporate Laws Committee of the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association.

**N. Jill Yaziji** (Yaziji Law Firm) has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows are selected for outstanding professional achievements and their demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout Texas.

**Rachel Powitzky Steely** of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP was among several Houston-area legal professionals received the 2017 Women Who Mean Business Award from the *Houston Business Journal* at its October 26 reception

asylum seekers, victims of human trafficking and other serious crimes before the Department of Homeland Security, the Immigration Court and the Board of Immigration appeals. In 2010, Abdin was awarded the Chrys Dougherty Legal Services Award by the State Bar of Texas, in recognition of her outstanding work.

Executive Director Alissa Rubin Gomez is transitioning to a teaching position at the University of Houston Law Center.



## Houston Law Firms, Corporations Join Project TRAIN

In recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October), 19 Houston law firms and companies have agreed to join the Houston Bar Association's Project TRAIN Network, pledging their proactive support for employing individuals with special needs. Houston Bar Association president, Alistair Dawson, created Project TRAIN (the Training, Readiness and Inclusion Network) to develop and distribute materials and training programs that will assist employers in hiring and retaining individuals with special needs or cognitive disorders.

Dawson said the materials will be available in early spring 2018. "We will provide employers with training materials to assist them in preparing for and hiring employees with special needs, as well as managing issues that

might arise," said Dawson. "Hopefully, these employers will be better prepared to welcome an increased number of differently-abled individuals in their work force."

The HBA's Project TRAIN also will provide pro bono legal services to ensure that children and teens are getting the services they are entitled to in school and assist them and their parents in establishing supported decision-making arrangements or guardianships once they turn 18.

**See the full list of participating organizations on the Project TRAIN Committee page on [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org).**

Employers who would like more information can contact Alistair Dawson at [adawson@beckredde.com](mailto:adawson@beckredde.com) or at (713) 951-6225.

recognizing 70 honorees. To see the full list of recipients, visit [bit.ly/2xvVm6A](http://bit.ly/2xvVm6A).

**Cristina Portela Solomon** of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP' was one of 10 honorees in the 2017 class of Women on the Move, the Texas Executive Women's annual awards for professional women who achieve excellence in their career fields and in contributions to their communities. They were honored at a luncheon on October 26. For profiles on all of the recipients, visit [texasexecutivewomen.org](http://texasexecutivewomen.org).

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**Houston Bar Association, 1111 Bagby St., FLB 200, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77002-2592**  
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**There is no staff managing editor for this publication.**

8. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owner. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a government agency, give its name and address.)

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13. Publication Title: **Houston Bar Bulletin** Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: **Nov.-Dec. 2017**

14. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		10,300	10,400
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	607	616
(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	8,643	8,690
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mail, Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	0	0
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 1b(1), (2), (3), and (4))		9,250	9,306
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541)		175	188
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	732	739
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS	0	0
(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 1d(1), (2), (3), and (4))		907	927
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 1c and 1e)		10,157	10,233
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		143	167
h. Total (Sum of 1f and g)		10,300	10,400
i. Percent Paid (Sum of 1c divided by 1h times 100)		91.07%	90.94%

15. If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip line 17 on page 3.

### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months

No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date

a. Paid Electronic Copies: 0

b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a): 9,250

c. Total Paid Distribution (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a): 10,157

d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c \* 100): 91.07%

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership:  
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. We will print this statement in the **Nov-Dec 2017** issue of this publication.  
 Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: **Tara Shockley, Editor** Date: **9-30-2017**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

## HVL CLE Event "Advocating for Children with Special Education Needs," November 10

Houston Volunteer Lawyers is hosting an educational event on Friday, November 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room at Heritage Plaza, 1111 Bagby St. The event covers the topic of "Advocating for Children with Special Education

Needs" and offers attendees 2.5 hours MCLE credit, .5 hours ethics credit.

The event includes a special education law overview, an admission-review-dismissal process overview, and a panel discussion on pro bono advocacy for special education.

Speakers and panelists include experts from Disability Rights Texas, Thompson & Horton, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, and National ARD/IEP Advocates.

Register for this event at [www.makejusticehappen.org](http://www.makejusticehappen.org)

# Join the HBA 100 Club!

The Houston Bar Association 100 Club is a special category of membership that indicates a commitment to the advancement of the legal profession and the betterment of the community. The following law firms, government agencies, law schools, and corporate legal departments with five or more attorneys have become members of the 100 Club by enrolling 100 percent of their attorneys as members of the HBA.

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Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz  
Adair Myers Graves Stevenson PLLC  
Ajamie LLP  
Baker Williams Matthiesen LLP  
Baker Wotring LLP  
The Bale Law Firm, PLLC  
Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP  
Berg & Androphy  
Bingham, Mann, & House  
Buck Keenan LLP  
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Chernosky Smith Ressler & Smith PLLC  
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Conner & Winters LLP  
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Fizer Beck Webster Bentley & Scroggins PC  
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Jordan, Lynch & Cancienne PLLC  
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KoonsFuller, PC  
Kroger I Burrus  
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LeClairRyan  
Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson LLP  
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MacIntyre, McCulloch, Stanfield & Young, LLP  
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Gibbs & Bruns LLP  
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## Firms of 100+ Attorneys

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Harris County Attorney's Office  
Harris County District Attorney's Office  
Harris County Domestic Relations Office  
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County Texas  
Port of Houston Authority of Harris County, Texas  
1<sup>st</sup> Court of Appeals  
14<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals

## Summaries

**HBA Celebrates Veterans Week** - The Veterans Legal Initiative, sponsored by the HBA, HBF and HVL, will celebrate Veterans Week by sponsoring two Veterans Legal Advice Clinics on November 11 and by participating in the City of Houston's "Houston Salutes Veterans Day" celebration on November 11. The HBA will hold clinics at the Conroe VA Outpatient Clinic and at the Texas City VA Outpatient Clinic, from 9:00 a.m. until noon. There is also a legal advice clinic held at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center each Friday, from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. For more information, visit [www.hba.org/vli](http://www.hba.org/vli).

**Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund for Attorneys** - The Houston Bar Foundation has set up a Disaster Relief Fund to assist attorneys in need who have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey. To apply for

assistance, please send a letter to the Houston Bar Foundation (1111 Bagby, FLB 200, Houston, TX 77002), with a description of your needs. For more information, contact Kay Sim at (713) 759-1133 or [kays@hba.org](mailto:kays@hba.org).

Visit [www.hba.org/harvey](http://www.hba.org/harvey) if you would like to donate to the fund online, or send your check payable to the Houston Bar Foundation to 1111 Bagby St., FLB 200, Houston, TX 77002, with "Hurricane Harvey Relief" in the memo line.

**Save the Date – Bench Bar Conference** - Save the date for the HBA's 2018 Criminal/Appellate Bench Bar conference on Thursday, April 12 at the 1910 Courthouse. Watch for more information in HBA publications and on the website. Register early, as the conference often sells out!

### Houston Bar Bulletin



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