

Houston Bar Bulletin

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www.hba.org

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January/February 2018

'Mattress Mack' to Speak at HBF Annual Luncheon, Feb. 8

The Houston Bar Foundation will hold its Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday, February 8, 2018, at the Marriott Marquis, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Barrett Reasoner of Gibbs & Bruns LLP will succeed Travis Sales of Baker Botts L.L.P. as chair of the Houston Bar Foundation.

The keynote speaker will be Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale, legendary Houston businessman and philanthropist. The Foundation also will present its annual awards for outstanding contributions to the HBA's Houston Volunteer Lawyers, outstanding contributions to the HBA's Dispute Resolution Center, and outstanding writing in *The Houston Lawyer* magazine.

Barrett Reasoner is a partner at Gibbs & Bruns LLP. In his 27 years of trial practice, Reasoner's cases have spanned an array of areas, including securities, oil and gas, legal and professional malpractice, construction, environmental, and intellectual property. He served as a



Reasoner

representative for District 4 on the State Bar of Texas' Board of Directors and is a former president of the Houston Bar Association. Reasoner is a fellow of both the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and The International Society of Barristers. He attended The University of Texas School of Law and worked as an Assistant District Attorney for Harris County, Texas following graduation from law school.

Tickets are \$135 per person. Tables of eight (\$1,080) and 10 (\$1,350) are also available. To purchase tickets, use the order form at www.hba.org. The deadline is Monday, February 5. For information, contact Ron Riojas at ronr@hba.org, or Kay Sim at (713) 759-1133.



McIngvale (center) at one of the many charity events he supports in the community. Image provided by Gallery Furniture.

33rd Law Week Fun Run to Support The Center, Feb. 17

Show your support for The Center by participating in the 33rd HBA John J. Eikenburg Law Week Fun Run, set for Saturday, February 17, at Sam Houston Park downtown. The Center is a non-profit agency that helps adults with developmental disabilities through quality residential, vocational and day services. This year, The Center's facilities suffered 12 feet of flooding in Hurricane Harvey, and community support is needed now more than ever in its recovery.

The Law Week Fun Run is the oldest 8K event of its kind in Houston and has raised

over \$1 million for The Center. This family event is open to the public, and includes a one-kilometer children's run as well as a non-competitive one-mile walk. The committee's goal is raising a record \$100,000 in sponsorship for this year's race. While well on its way to that goal, the committee still needs your support through underwriting and participation.

This year, the HBA's Fun Run Committee is co-chaired by Kimberly Chojnacki of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC; Cassandra McGarvey of Sanders Willyard LLP; and John R. Strohmeier of

Crady, Jewett & McCulley, LLP.

To register for the race, visit lawweekfunrun.com. For more information, contact Bonnie Simmons at (713) 759-1133 or bonnies@hba.org.



Make a Houston Family's Dream Come True Through Habitat for Humanity

Start the New Year by helping the Houston Bar Association and Houston Bar Foundation's charitable work with Habitat for Humanity Houston. The HBA/HBF are now raising funds to build the 21st house through Habitat, helping a hardworking low-income family attain the dream of home ownership. These homes were all built through the generosity of HBA members.

In October of 2017, the HBA was honored with Houston Habitat for Humanity's first Legacy Award for being the longest-running participant in the local housing program. HBA President Alistair Dawson received the award



Photo Credit: Third Eye Photography.

from Houston Habitat Executive Director Allison Hay at Houston Habitat's 30th anniversary luncheon.

The association must raise \$75,000 to

begin construction this spring. This year, the HBA Habitat for Humanity Committee is co-

chaired by Sean Jain of NewQuest Properties and Ryan Wooten of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

Tax deductible donations may be made at houstonhabitat.org/donate by selecting "Funds" and "Houston Bar Association" as the recipient. To donate by mail, please send checks, payable to the Houston Bar Foundation, to the Houston Bar Foundation, 1111 Bagby St., FLB 200, Houston, TX 77002, with "Habitat" in the memo. Donations are needed by February 1, 2018. For information contact Bonnie Simmons at bonnies@hba.org or (713) 759-1133.

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68th Harvest Celebration Raises \$735,200

From left: Phillip Sharp of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C.; Lisa Sharp, HBA Auxiliary president; Alistair Dawson, Houston Bar Association president; Wendy Dawson; Sandy Sales; and Travis Sales, Houston Bar Foundation chair.

The 2017 Harvest Celebration raised \$735,200 in underwriting to benefit the programs of the Houston Bar Foundation. More than 800 HBA members and guests attended the dinner on November 13 at River Oaks Country Club. The Harvest Celebration is the main fundraising event for the Foundation, which provides support for Houston Volunteer Lawyers, the pro bono legal services program of the Houston Bar Association.

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
BakerHostetler
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

\$5,000

Nikki and Benny Agosto, Jr.
Ahmad, Zavitsanos, Anaipakos, Alavi & Mensing P.C.
Alternative Dispute Resolution Section
Arnold & Itkin LLP
Baker & McKenzie LLP
Blank Rome LLP
Chamberlain Hrdlicka
Dentons US LLP
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP
Family Law Section
Fisher, Boyd, Johnson & Huguenaud LLP
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP
Gibbs & Bruns LLP
Halliburton
Haynes and Boone, LLP
Innovative Legal Solutions
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
Schirrmeyer Diaz-Arrastia Brem LLP
Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.
Sidley Austin LLP
Susman Godfrey L.L.P.
Thompson & Knight Foundation
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
Sheridan and John Eddie Williams, Jr.
Winstead PC
Yetter Coleman LLP

\$3,500

Labor & Employment Section

\$3,000

Kay Sim

\$2,500

Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz
Akerman LLP
Andrews Myers, P.C.
Bissinger Oshman & Williams, LLP
Burford Perry LLP
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.
Christian, Smith & Jewell LLP
Clark, Love & Hutson, G.P.
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
Federal Practice Section
Fogler Brar Ford O'Neil & Gray LLP
Frost Bank
FTI Consulting
Germer PLLC
Debbie and Tom Godbold
Goldman Sachs – Jeff Paine / Brandon Holcomb
Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C.
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Hagans Montgomery & Rustay, P.C.
Hogan Lovells US LLP
Holmes Diggs & Sadler
Houston Lawyer Referral Service, Inc.
Hunton & Williams LLP
Jackson Walker L.L.P.

Jim Adler & Associates, P.C.
Johnson DeLuca Kurisky & Gould, P.C.
Jones Walker LLP
Kane Russell Coleman & Logan
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
Plains All American Pipeline, L.P.
Porter Hedges LLP
Reynolds Frizzell LLP
Rusty Hardin & Associates, LLP
Schiffer Odom Hicks & Johnson PLLC
Service Corporation International
Shipleigh Snell Montgomery LLP
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Strasburger & Price, LLP
Tekell, Book, Allen & Morris, L.L.P.
The Lanier Law Firm
Vorvys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
Ware, Jackson, Lee, O'Neill, Smith & Barrow, LLP

\$2,000

The Buck Family Fund

\$1,600

Mergers & Acquisitions Section

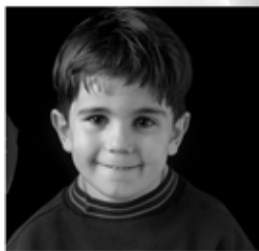
\$1,500

Dana and Neil D. Kelly
The Honorable Jane N. Bland & Doug Bland

\$1,000

Adame & Garza, LLP
Allen Boone Humphries
Robinson LLP
Appellate Practice Section
Baker Wotring LLP
Berg & Androphy
BoyarMiller
Cecily and Rick Burleson
Dawn and Charles A. "Chip" Casey
Construction Law Section
Corporate Counsel Section
Jacquelyn and Collin Cox

Wendy and Alistair Dawson
Bonnie and Otway B. Denny, Jr.
Dobrowski, Larkin & Johnson, LLP
Julie and Michael Donaldson
Michael Doyle
Veronica and Aaron Foley
Foster LLP
Frank, Elmore, Lievens, Chesney & Turet, L.L.P.
Lynn and Stewart Gagnon
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Tammie and David Harrell
Lauren and Warren Harris
Susan and Jim S. Hart
Hasley Scarano, L.L.P.
The Honorable Laura Higley and Bob Higley
Houston Bar Association Auxiliary
Charitable Fund Inc.
Cisselon Nichols Hurd and Jim Hurd
Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P.
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Roach & Newton, L.L.P.
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Marsha and Lonnie Schooler
Denise and John Scofield
Scott, Clawwater & Houston, L.L.P.
Lisa and Phillip Sharp
Smyser Kaplan & Veselka, L.L.P.
South Texas College of Law Houston
The Law Office of Daniel D. Horowitz, III, PC
Tindall England, P.C.
Travis Torrence
Sandy Brown Ulmer and Greg Ulmer
Wright & Close, LLP
Ytterberg Deery Knull LLP
Zimmerman, Axelrad, Meyer, Stern & Wise, P.C.



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 Energy
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
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
ReedSmith LLP
Sidley Austin LLP
Strasburger & Price, L.L.P.
Winstead PC
Winston & Strawn LLP

Boutique Firm Champions

Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto
& Aziz
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, Oaks, Benavidez and O'Neil, PLLC
Fuqua & Associates, P.C.
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
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 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
The 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

Help Houston's Hungry through the Souper Bowl of Caring

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, Houston's children in need face even greater problems with hunger. One in four children in southeast Texas is food insecure or at risk of being hungry. While school age children may get help with free breakfast and lunch, they still may face hunger in the evenings and on weekends, even though two-thirds of food insecure families have at least one working parent.

You can help fight hunger in Houston through the HBA's annual Souper Bowl of



Caring donation drive, January 1 through February 5, 2018. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement to fight hunger and

poverty in local communities, centered around the NFL's Super Bowl Sunday. One hundred percent of donations to the HBA's drive will go to the Houston Food Bank, where just \$1 buys three meals.

To contribute to fighting hunger in Houston, send donations, payable to Houston Bar Foundation, to the HBA office or donate online at tinyurl.com/HBACaring2018. For more information, contact Bonnie Simmons at bonnies@hba.org or (713) 759-1133.



Sponsor the 70th Annual HBA Golf Tournament

The HBA Golf Tournament Committee is seeking sponsors for the 70th Annual Tournament set for Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Memorial Park Golf Course. Sponsorships range from \$250-\$2,500. For more information contact Golf Tournament Committee

Co-Chairs Rick Bursleson, Shae Keefe, and Clayton Morton, or contact Bonnie Simmons at bonnies@hba.org or (713) 759-1133. **Visit the Golf Tournament Committee page at www.hba.org for the sponsorship form and contact information.**

Become a Role Model Volunteer with the HBA's Mentoring Program

Share your experience and insight with a new lawyer through the HBA's Mentoring Program. The program matches experienced attorneys with lawyers recently admitted to the Texas Bar to offer guidance as they start their careers. Mentors promote skills training, career development, and professionalism through positive mentoring relationships, as well as increase new lawyers' knowledge of legal customs and encourage involvement in the bar.

The HBA Professionalism Committee is looking for attorneys to serve as mentors for the program. Mentors must meet the following requirements:

- Licensed in Texas for at least five years;

- Have a reputation for competence and ethical and professional conduct;
- Be a member of the HBA;
- Commit to meeting with your assigned mentee for one hour per month; and
- Never have been suspended or disbarred from the practice of law in any jurisdiction; never have voluntarily surrendered your license to dispose of a disciplinary proceeding, not have been sanctioned in any jurisdiction in the preceding 10 years, and not currently have a disciplinary proceeding pending.

To volunteer as a mentor, contact Ron Riojas at ronr@hba.org or (713) 759-1133.

Save Time & Money with Free HBA CLE

Did you know? Based on top dues of \$215 per year, without considering any other services, HBA members get all their required MCLE, every year, for the equivalent of only \$14.50 per hour or less!

HBA members can watch CLE- and legal specialty-accredited videos for free by logging in to www.hba.org. The full catalogue of HBA CLE videos, including accreditation information, can be found at www.hba.org/CLEvids.

Members also receive a 20% discount to CLEonline.com. Call (713) 759-1133 for details.

Volunteer Opportunities

IDEA - The Interprofessional Drug Education Alliance (IDEA) is a program where teams of medical and legal professionals talk to fifth graders about the medical and legal effects of drug and alcohol use. Since 1992, the program has reached nearly 40,000 students in Harris County. Volunteers are needed for the program on Tuesday, February 27, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Schools are located in all areas of Harris County. To sign up, visit www.hba.org/school-programs or the IDEA Committee web page. For more information contact Ashley Steinger at (713) 759-1133 or ashleyg@hba.org.

Will-a-Thon - Help seniors, veterans and the disabled who cannot afford an attorney gain peace of mind by volunteering for the HBA Elder Law Committee's Will-A-Thon. Clients will be pre-screened to ensure they meet income requirements, then given an appointment to meet with a volunteer attorney to draft their will on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at the Tidwell Park & Community Center, 9720 Spaulding, 77016. Attorneys will then complete the documents and meet their pro bono

clients back at the community center on Wednesday, May 2, to execute the wills. The event needs volunteer attorneys, notaries, witnesses and translators. Please see the form and online registration on the Elder Law Committee web page at www.hba.org. For more information, contact Ashley Steinger at ashleyg@hba.org or (713) 759-1133.

LegalLine - If your firm, corporate legal department, or organization would like to sign up for a shift with the HBA's LegalLine program, offering free legal advice over the phone to Harris County residents, call (713) 759-1133, or contact Ashley Gagnon Steinger at ashleyg@hba.org or Jessica Creamer at jessical@hba.org. Volunteering for LegalLine is a great team-building exercise, as well as an opportunity to practice your legal knowledge and expertise. LegalLine takes place on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, with one shift from 4:45 - 7:00 p.m. and another shift from 6:45 - 9:00 p.m. Spanish-speaking attorneys are also needed for Consejos Legales, the Spanish legal hotline that occurs from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

Law & the Media Seminar Explores Legal Issues in Evolving News Industry, Feb. 3

Join the HBA, the Society of Professional Journalists and the Houston Press Club for the 32nd Law and the Media Seminar. This year's program will discuss "On Trial: Fake (and Real) News," and will feature attorneys, journalists and academic experts discussing the evolving news industry and legal landscape in an age of competitive 24/7 news cycles, the effects of social media, and so-called "fake news."

The date is Saturday, February 3, 2018 at South Texas College of Law. Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m., with the program beginning at 9:00 a.m. and concluding at 12:30 p.m. The program is approved for 3.0 hours of MCLE credit, including 1.0 hour ethics credit, and the cost is \$50 for attorneys. The program is free for members of the media, law students and journalism students.

The keynote speaker is Julie Mason, host of

The Press Pool on SiriusXM radio's POTUS channel in Washington, D.C. Just a few days after the State of the Union address, she will explore press freedom and press access issues in both the Trump and Obama White Houses.

Panelists will include: David Fehling, Houston Public Radio; Josh Blackman, South Texas College of Law Houston; W. Gardner Selby, Politifact Texas; Lee Hutchinson, *Ars Technica*; Nicole Casarez, University of St. Thomas; Garth Jowett, University of Houston Valenti School of Communication; Dianna Hunt, *Houston Chronicle*; Tom Forestier of Winstead PC; Margaret Downing, *Houston Press*; Zach Despart, journalist; and Kelley Shannon, Freedom of Information Foundation.

Visit www.hba.org/LandM for registration information, extended biographies of presenters, and helpful links.

UNT Professor Discusses Segregation at Senior Lawyers Forum

Cheryl Wattlely, Professor of Law and Director of Experiential Education at UNT Dallas College of Law, will speak on "Where Would We Have Been in the Fight Against Segregation?" at the HBA's January Senior Lawyers Forum.

The event is set for Thursday, January 11, 2018 at Brennan's, 3300 Smith Street, 77006, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$45 per person. A meet-and-greet for attendees begins at 11:30, followed by lunch at noon.

Visit the Senior Lawyers Committee web page at www.hba.org for online and printed registration forms. Submit your registration and payment no later than Monday, January 8, 2018.

For information, contact Bonnie Simmons at (713) 759-1133 or bonnies@hba.org.

Gender Fairness Committee Presents Two Winter Programs

The HBA Gender Fairness Committee has two great programs planned this winter. Mark your calendars for the **Judicial Panel on Thursday, January 24**, at the Harris County Civil Courthouse Conference Suite, 201 Caroline, 17th Floor, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., with lunch provided. Hear state and federal judges' thoughts on practice in their courts, ask questions and network with your colleagues. As of press time, confirmed

panelists include Hon. Steven Kirkland, 334th District Court, and Hon. Jennifer Walker Elrod, U.S. District Court. There is no charge for HBA members, but pre-registration is required.

On **February 28**, the Gender Fairness Committee will present its annual **Speed Mentoring** program from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Vinson & Elkins LLP, 1001 Fannin Street. Women attorneys in their first through fifth years of practice are invited to join accomplished attorneys

from a wide range of practices to ask questions about developing their practice, advancing their career, networking for business, becoming involved with the bar, and managing personal and career demands. There is no charge to attend, but preregistration is required.

For registration and further information on both events, visit the Gender Fairness Committee's web page at www.hba.org/committees.

Upcoming HBA/CLE Seminars

Seminars are 1:00-2:30 p.m. at 1111 Bagby St., Houston 77002, First Floor Conference Room. Seminars listed with an asterisk () take place at the Marathon Oil Tower 10th Floor Conference Room from 8:00-9:30 a.m.*

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.

Thursday, January 11, 2018*

"Prepare a Case without Going Broke"
Presented by Alton Todd (The Law Firm of Alton C. Todd)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

Friday, January 12, 2018

"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, January 19, 2018

"Hiding in Plain Sight: Do You Know What's Lurking in the Shadows of Your Legal Documents?"
Presented by Mia Lorick (Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey, P.C.)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, 1.0 hour ethics.

Friday, January 26, 2018

"Legal Relief for Immigrant Survivors of Modern-Day Slavery"
Presented by Professor Vinh Ho (South Texas College of Law Houston)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, 0.25 hours ethics.

Friday, February 2, 2018

"State Bar Update"
Presented by Trey Apffel (Executive Director, State Bar of Texas)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

Friday, February 16, 2018

"Determining Venue in the Wake of *TC Heartland*"
Presented by Fiona Bell (Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.) & Tanya Chaney (Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

Thursday, February 22, 2018*

"A Dialogue with Former District Judge and Prosecutor Belinda Hill"
Presented by Hon. Belinda Hill (Former Harris County Criminal Judge)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

Friday, February 23, 2018

"*Pidgeon v. Turner*: The Status of Same-Sex Marriage in the Lone Star State"
Presented by Prof. Josh Blackman (South Texas College of Law Houston), John Nechman (Katine & Nechman L.L.P.) & Trey Yates III (Yarrell & Yates, LLC)
1.5 hours MCLE credit, no ethics.

HBA People



Frye

The Honorable Phyllis Randolph Frye, associate judge for the Houston Municipal Courts, will be honored by the American Bar Association's Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity with the Stonewall Award for LGBT Rights at the ABA Midyear Meeting in Vancouver in February.

Jarvis Hollingsworth, a partner at



Hollingsworth



Jansen

Bracewell LLP, has been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to serve as board chair of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas Board of Trustees. This is the second time he has served as board chair, following an appointment from 2005-2008.

Don Jansen, assistant general counsel at The University of Texas System, was inducted



Odom



Stewart

into the Estate Planning Hall of Fame® by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils. He also received the designation of Accredited Estate Planner (Distinguished).

Al Odom, a founding partner of Schiffer Odom Hicks & Johnson PLLC, has been elected to serve a two-year term as chair of the Texas Board of Law Examiners.

Gail Stewart and **Samantha Crispin** of Baker Botts L.L.P. were recognized by the National Diversity Council at the Top 50 Women Lawyers Award ceremonies in Houston and Dallas. Stewart, a Houston partner, is chair of the firm's Diversity Committee and chair of the firm-wide Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation Section.

HVL Update

Volunteers Needed for Legal Advice Clinic

Saturday, January 6, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm – Saturday Legal Advice Clinic. Holy Covenant Church 22111 Morton Ranch, Katy 77449.

Houston Volunteer Lawyers is looking for 12-15 volunteer attorneys to assist with the first legal advice clinic of the year. Volunteer

attorneys will sit with applicants to assess their legal issues, provide counsel and advice, and take notes. Resources and mentors will be available. Breakfast and coffee provided. If you are interested, please email Brittany.Krohn@hvlp.org.

Petitions Available for HBA Officer, Director Positions

Petitions for nomination to positions on the HBA Board of Directors are now available, with a filing deadline of 5 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2018. Officer positions to be filled are first vice president, second vice president, treasurer and secretary. In addition, there are four, two-year director positions up for election. Directors will serve from 2018-2020.

Each petition must designate the officer or director position sought by the candidate and must be signed by at least 10 current members of the Houston Bar Association. A biographical form and a current photograph must accompany each petition. Biographical data is limited to 200 words. Each candidate will be asked to read and sign the HBA guidelines governing campaigns for officer and director positions.

To request a petition, contact HBA Executive Director Kay Sim at (713) 759-1133 or kays@hba.org.



Annual HBAA Chili and Pie Cookoff, Feb. 10

Do you have a great chili or pie recipe? Test them against law firms, legal departments, associations and others in the legal community at the 4th Annual HBAA Chili and Pie Cookoff on Saturday, February 10, at the Bayou City Events Center Pavilion, 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and judging will be conducted by current local

members of the judiciary! A live band will provide throwback tunes and craft beer will be donated by local brewers.

This is a fun event benefitting the HBAA Charitable Fund, which provides scholarships to students from the three local law schools. To enter or purchase tickets, visit www.hba-aux.org.

Thank You to:

Veterans Gift Bag Donors

Thank you to everyone who donated candy, greeting cards, toiletries and other stocking-stuffers for the veteran holiday gift drive. Because of your generosity, 600 homeless veterans in the Houston area received gift bags.

IDEA Volunteers

Thank you to the medical and legal professionals who volunteered to give the Interprofessional Drug Education Alliance (IDEA) Committee's anti-substance-abuse presentation to fifth-graders at 13 Houston-area elementary schools on October 24, 2017. The full list of schools and volunteers, as well as photos and quotes from the event, can be viewed on the committee's web page.

Innovative Legal Solutions

Thank you to Frank S. Hinnant and the team at Innovative Legal Solutions for donating 11,500 printed invitations for the 2017 Harvest Celebration.

Clothing & Diaper Drive Donors & Sorters

Thank you to those who donated clothes and diapers to the Campaign for the Homeless Committee's annual fall clothing & diaper drive. This year, the committee received 34,675 donations, which were sorted by 20 individual volunteers and then donated to 13 different charities in the Houston area. The full report for the event can be viewed on the committee's web page.

Order Your 2018 HBA Pictorial Roster!

The 2018 Houston Bar Association Pictorial Roster will be available in late March. Pre-order now by using the form on the HBA website, www.hba.org. Rosters are \$40 each, not including shipping and tax.

The Pictorial Roster is a unique benefit of HBA membership and a valuable reference book containing photographs, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of HBA members.

For more information, contact Ron Riojas at ronr@hba.org or (713) 759-1133.

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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Harris County Attorney's Office
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Harris County Domestic Relations Office
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Port of Houston Authority of Harris County, Texas
1st Court of Appeals
14th Court of Appeals

Summaries

Law Week Contests Highlight Separation of Powers – The HBA invites all Houston area students to participate in the 2018 Law Week Contests. The theme this year is “Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom.” There will be poster contests for K-8th grade students, and essay and photography contests for 9th-12th grade students. There also are poster contests for special needs students grades 9-12 and photography contests for special needs students ages 12-22. The Law Week Committee also sponsors three outreach Poster Workshops for grades K-8 that will be held in February. The deadline for entries is Friday, March 2. Please visit www.hba.org/law-week-activities for the forms, rules and guidelines or contact Bonnie Simmons at (713) 759-1133 or bonnies@hba.org.

HLRS Celebrates 60th Anniversary – Since 1958, the Houston Lawyer Referral Service has connected attorneys with the right clients, screening an average of 15,000 callers per year. Be the next HLRS member to settle a \$1.75 million case! Go to hlrs.org or call

(713) 650-0470 for more information.

Paul E. Stallings Blood Drive – To schedule a blood drive benefiting the HBA's Paul E. Stallings Blood Drive, contact Kevin Shipley at Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center at (713) 791-7767 or kshipley@giveblood.org. For information on confirmed blood drive dates, times and locations, visit www.hba.org/GiveBlood.

Jamail Endowment for Veterans – Support fair and equitable access to the justice system for veterans by contributing to the Joe Jamail Endowment for Veteran Legal Services, created by the Texas Access to Justice Foundation to honor the late Houston legend who was known for his philanthropic efforts. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, legal issues account for five of the top 10 unmet needs of homeless veterans, and access to legal services can be critical to veterans to get the benefits and support they need for themselves and their families. To donate, visit www.teajf.org.

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