legal education in a living laboratory

90 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

since 1925

public service

nonprofits

Criminal Justice Clinic
VanSickle Family Law Clinic

Judge Elmo B. Hunter
Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women

world changers shaped here

innocence clinic
attorney ad litem

access to justice

professional responsibility

mentors helping leaders

judicial externships

giving back

service

benefiting others

judicial

students

ethics business

clinical faculty

world business

Small Business and Trademark Clinic
Patent Clinic

innocence

actual innocence

real world

trademark

patent

pro bono

clinical program

judicial

government

world

judicial

tax

vocational

volunteer

mentors

helping leaders

judicial externships

justice

giving back

world changers shaped here

innocence clinic
attorney ad litem

access to justice

professional responsibility

mentors helping leaders

judicial externships

experiential learning

business

judicial

students

ethics business

clinical faculty

world business

Small Business and Trademark Clinic
Patent Clinic

innocence

actual innocence

real world

trademark

patent

pro bono

clinical program

judicial

government

world

judicial

tax

vocational

volunteer

mentors

helping leaders

judicial externships

justice

giving back

world changers shaped here

innocence clinic
attorney ad litem

access to justice

professional responsibility

mentors helping leaders

judicial externships

experiential learning

business
Features

6 | A Legacy of Public Service

Continuing the commitment that is an integral part of the school’s history, SMU Law alums serve the public by leading nonprofits, serving in the government and judiciary, and helping pro bono causes.

14 | Clinic Program—Since 1947

The growing Clinical Program helps fill gaps in the availability of critical legal services in the community and provides valuable training and experiential learning for SMU Law students.

24 | New Inns of Court Program

A new interdisciplinary approach to the first-year experience at SMU Law is underway with the Inns of Court Program sponsored by Haynes and Boone, LLP.

28 | Our Students Impact the Community through Public Service

SMU Law students continue the culture of serving the public through the law schools robust and expanding public service programs.

32 | Campaign and Giving

SMU Dedman Law is deeply grateful for the terrific support we have received, ranging from a new academic center to new endowed Chairs to new scholarships.

62 | The Mustang Bar Law Alumni Association & Mustang Exchange

Introducing our all-new Mustang Bar Law Alumni Association and a new flash mentorship program that connects law students with alumni and friends.
10 Clinics at SMU Law

10 Clinics
SMU now has 10 clinics to train students and serve the community.

#1 for jobs in Texas
#21 in U.S. for making connections and getting jobs

13,122 Pro Bono Hours by Class of 2015

SMU Law is #1 in Texas
For employment of graduates once law school-funded jobs are removed.

Business Insider Ranks SMU #21
Best law schools in U.S. for making connections and getting a job.

Class of 2015 Contributions
This year’s graduating class contributed a total of 13,122 hours of pro bono service to the community - an average of 55 hours per student, almost double the required amount.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please join me in celebrating SMU’s 100th Anniversary! I am thrilled that our law school is part of such a wonderful institution. The University recently marked the centennial of its opening in 1915, and the law school isn’t far behind. For ninety years—since 1925—SMU Dedman School of Law has been training leaders in law, government, and business, in the United States and around the globe. The depth and richness of our public service commitments are an integral part of our history of training leaders, and I am delighted to highlight some of the many ways in which we serve the community in this issue of The Quad.

Throughout my first year as Dean, I have been amazed by the incredible talents, accomplishments, and compassion demonstrated by our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. This issue of The Quad celebrates you and all the ways you give so generously of yourselves to your communities. You will find stories and photos of alums who lead nonprofits, who serve in the government and judiciary, and who set aside billable hours for pro bono causes. You also will find stories about the many opportunities our students have for carrying on this important tradition of service through the law school’s robust and expanding public service programs and legal clinics.

At the hooding ceremony in May, we inducted 15 graduates into the law school’s new “Pro Bono Honor Roll,” in celebration of those graduates who provided more than 200 hours of pro bono service during their time in school. What a remarkable group! During orientation in August—even before our impressive new students had set foot inside a classroom—the 1Ls participated in a day of service with the North Texas Food Bank through our new Inns of Court Program sponsored by Haynes and Boone. We hope you will read about the exciting new Inns program that is radically changing the first-year experience for our new students.

Our students also are fortunate that so many of you have already agreed to participate in our new Mustang Exchange mentorship program. One of the first programs of its kind, the Mustang Exchange is an innovative “flash” mentorship program that connects each law student with multiple alumni and friends for one-on-one mentoring meetings. Please read about this way to make a transformative difference in the lives of our students and consider serving as a mentor. Our students will benefit tremendously from your experience and wisdom.

Our faculty’s research also enhances the community in so many different ways. In the article “Scholarship in Action,” you can learn how our faculty’s scholarship is being applied in the real world. Read, for example, how Prof. Chris Hanna’s work led him to be the principal drafter of the Senate Finance Committee report, Comprehensive Tax Reform for 2015 and Beyond, and how Prof. Chris Jenks’ research on military and law enforcement’s use of drones and autonomous weapons has led to collaborations with foreign governments and international organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who take time away from your busy schedules to give back to our school and our community. We could not be successful without your support, and your service sets an amazing example for the future lawyers who are studying at the law school right now. I am deeply grateful for all of you.

Wishing you the best,

Jennifer M. Collins
Judge James Noel Dean and Professor of Law
SMU Dedman School of Law Alumni Celebrate 90 Years of Serving the Community
Sarah Saldaña has prosecuted drug kingpins, corrupt politicians and thieving business leaders. Cece Cox fights discrimination. Darwin Bruce unites business-minded leaders with community activists. Kathleen LaValle protects children from abusive family environments. Bill Holston, Jr., helps immigrants facing deportation obtain political asylum. John Ratcliffe has done city planning, prosecuted terrorists and passed federal laws.

None of the six SMU Dedman Law School alumni ever met Robert Storey. In fact, none of them were even alive when he became dean of the Southern Methodist University School of Law in 1947.

But all six, like so many others before and after them, remember walking through Storey Hall and seeing the legendary dean’s portrait looming large. They heard stories about his personal and professional commitment to public service as a soldier, lawyer and legal educator.

“Dean Storey’s life and his career are both an inspiration and a challenge to all of us,” says Saldaña, who is currently the director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. “None of us begrudge anyone for working at a large law firm and making money.

“But public service is not driven by money or promoting one’s self,” she says. “It’s about doing the public good. It is about making a difference.”

Storey’s passion for public service is permanently engrained in the law school experience at SMU Dedman Law. For example, he created a community legal clinic for the poor in 1947, which was his first year as dean. He was nearly 20 years ahead of what would become a national movement toward law school clinics. Today, the law school has 10 clinics and programs that enable students to be involved in pro bono matters ranging from consumer advocacy and criminal justice to child advocacy and domestic violence.
OUR SPIRIT OF PUBLIC SERVICE ENDURES...

Beginning in 1996, SMU Dedman Law officially required all law students to complete 30 hours of public service before they could graduate. SMU Dedman Law was the first law school in the state to institute mandatory public service.

The Class of 2015 performed 13,122 hours of volunteer work during their time in law school, which is an average of 55 hours per student.

“I loved the public service requirement,” says Cece Cox, a 2004 graduate of SMU Dedman Law and now executive director of the Resource Center, a non-profit that provides support services for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community in North Texas. “I did way more community service than was required.”

Cox, Saldana and others say Storey’s career accomplishments in public service are among the biggest motivating factor in encouraging students and alumni to think beyond making money.

“People can tell you that public service is a good thing, but showing them the importance of public service and the impact you can have on the world around you is much more impressive and persuasive,” says Darwin Bruce, a 1995 graduate of SMU Dedman Law and the general counsel and chief operating officer of The Potter’s House in Dallas.

“Dean Storey’s life and career are a testimony for all that is good and righteous about public service,” he says.

An amazing biography it is.

During World War I, Storey joined the U.S. Army and served overseas as a second lieutenant in the heavy artillery division. At the end of the war, he moved to Tyler. In 1921, Texas Governor Pat Neff appointed Storey to be the state’s assistant attorney general, even though he had not yet finished law school. He moved to Dallas in 1926 to hang out a shingle, but he soon found himself serving on the University of Texas Board of Regents and elected president of the Dallas Bar Association.

The country called again for him to serve when World War II erupted. The Air Force sent Storey to war-ravaged London as a combat intelligence officer. He was promoted to colonel for his work with the War Crimes Commission in the Balkans and later awarded the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit.

In 1945, Storey planned to return to Dallas to practice law, but U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson had other thoughts. Justice Jackson had been appointed chief prosecutor at Nuremberg and he wanted Storey by his side as special counsel. When the trials concluded, Storey was awarded the U.S. Medal of Freedom.

Storey still had every intention of returning to Dallas to practice law, but business and community leaders in Dallas approached him to become SMU’s next law dean. At first, he refused. He finally relented, but only under the condition that it would be a part-time job and that he would be able to develop his own law practice. At the time, the law school operated in the basement of Dallas Hall. In 1952, he was elected president of the American Bar Association.

Storey served as dean of the law school for a dozen years. During that time, he created the Southwestern Legal Foundation as a means of sponsoring the development of a major legal center. He served as its director until 1972. He passed away in 1981.

While none of the six SMU Dedman Law alumni studied at Storey’s heels, it is clear that his example of public service made an enduring impression on each of them.
There is no better example than Sarah Saldaña, who has been a public school teacher, government regulator, federal prosecutor and now the head of immigration oversight. “Everything I’ve ever done and every job I’ve held, I absolutely stumbled into,” she says. “There was something about standing in front of a class full of students that was challenging and satisfying,” she says. “It was very much like standing in front of a jury.”

In 1975, Saldaña received a postcard from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission saying that her college grade-point average was high enough to qualify her for a federal government job, which paid more. The new job required that she monitor state and local programs to make sure they were using federal funds properly.

“I spent a lot of time reading and applying federal regulations, so I decided I might as well go to law school,” she says.

After graduating from SMU Dedman Law in 1984 and clerking for U.S. District Judge Barefoot Sanders, Saldaña spent 11 years as a trial lawyer at Baker Botts. She quit in 1999 so that she could stay home with her young son.

Public service called again in 2004, when she went to work as a federal prosecutor in the Northern District of Texas. In 2011, President Obama nominated Saldaña to be the U.S. Attorney.

“I felt a personal investment as a prosecutor,” she says. “I was no longer dealing with a person’s money or property. Instead, it was their life or liberty at stake.”

In December 2014, Saldaña was confirmed as the director of ICE. She oversees a federal agency that has a $6 billion budget and 20,000 employees, including more than 930 lawyers, in 400 offices across 48 countries.

Saldaña and others worry that there is an anti-government attitude being promoted for political reasons that is keeping many young people, especially law students and young lawyers, from public service.

“Unfortunately, people who have committed themselves to public service in government have become an easy target, and I am afraid that it is having the negative impact of deterring very good people from serving,” she says.

A common thread among these six SMU Dedman Law alumni is that their parents were committed to the public good, too.

Darwin Bruce’s father, for example, was a Baptist minister and a U.S. Postal worker. Saldaña’s mother was a nurse. Like Saldaña, Bruce went to college at Texas A&M, majoring in English and business.

“When I was 12, my mom got a thick book from Reader’s Digest called You and the Law,” he says. “Even as a boy, I learned about lawyers and the good that lawyers can do.”

Upon graduating from SMU Dedman Law in 1995, Bruce went to work at a North Dallas litigation boutique that specialized in insurance defense. Two years later, he joined a DFW finance company as general counsel.

In 2001, Bruce started attending TD Jakes’ Potter’s House, a globally recognized multi-cultural, nondenominational church. Three years later, the church asked Bruce to become its general counsel. He also holds the title of chief operating officer.

“A large church operates in many ways like a business,” he says. “We have outreach programs for ex-offenders and the homeless. We have programs on financial literacy, home ownership and entrepreneurial training.

“Just like other businesses, we deal with contracts, employment issues, questions about intellectual property and so many other legal issues,” he says. “I truly enjoy helping public efforts by putting together business-minded entities and community-minded individuals.”

Bruce also serves as chairman of the Metroplex Economic Development Corp., which is a nonprofit organization that provides tools and training to empower individuals and families who want to be entrepreneurs.

“I worry that the label ‘public service’ is an obstacle for many people,” he says. “Public service can lead to many opportunities. It is okay for people to make money and still do good.”
A 1982 graduate of SMU Dedman Law, Kathleen LaValle was a commercial litigator and partner at Akin Gump and Jackson Walker for more than three decades. At both firms, she actively tackled pro bono projects.

One of her favorite efforts was the Dallas Court Appointed Special Advocates program, which is a nonprofit that provides advocacy for children who have been removed from their homes due to neglect or abuse. She served on CASA’s board for several years.

“CASA is a very unique model, matching volunteers with professional staff,” she says. “It is a great way for people to come off the sidelines and to have a major difference in the life of a child.

“The volunteer becomes the one constant in the child’s life while many people are cycling in and out while the child is in protective care,” she says.

CASA currently helps more than 2,000 children who are in protective care.

In 2014, CASA started looking for a new executive director. LaValle chaired the search committee. The more she talked with potential candidates, the more she felt attracted to the position.

“I guess you could say that I pulled a Dick Cheney,” says LaValle, referring to the fact that Cheney chaired President George W. Bush’s vice presidential search committee and ended up with the job himself.

“I was not looking for a career change, but this is an effort that is so close to my heart,” she says. “For me, it was a now or never opportunity. The timing was right.”

LaValle says she enjoys the fundraising efforts a lot more than she thought she would.

“I’m much more likely to be looking at the Texas Family Code now than the Sherman Antitrust Act,” she says. “But I can tell you, I don’t miss recording my time at the law firm.”

As Holston successfully handled more political asylum cases, he spoke at bar association meetings and wrote newspaper articles promoting the cause.

For the past 15 years, the nonprofit that has handled most of the political asylum matters in Dallas is Human Rights Initiative of North Texas. In 2011, HRI announced it was hiring a full-time executive director. The notice caught Holston’s attention.

“I told them, I’m sure you have candidates with more experience running nonprofit organizations, but I guarantee you that none of them have the passion that I do about these cases,” he says. “We’re a small agency, so there is no typical day. One day, I am doing strategic planning and paying bills. The next day, I am assigning cases and recruiting volunteers.”

Holston says he loves the work. He recently represented a teenaged boy from El Salvador who had his throat slit by gangs when he refused to join them. He almost died.

“His mother sent him to the U.S. to flee the threat of the gangs,” Holston says. “He walked into our office and he couldn’t speak a word of English. He used a walker because the gangs had beaten him brutally.”

Holston says he wins about 70 percent of the asylum cases.

“Losing a case is heartbreaking because deporting most of these people is nothing short of a death sentence,” he says. “But I have no regrets. The relationships I made at SMU have proven extremely valuable. My classmates from 30 years ago have proven to be my biggest supporters.”
While Holston and LaValle practiced law for three decades before joining public service full time, Cece Cox didn’t wait so long.

Cox was dedicated to public service well before law school. For example, she volunteered for years with Literacy Instruction for Texas by teaching adults to read. The Oklahoma native says she came out as a gay person in 1985 and almost immediately became an advocate on LGBT issues and with the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

“I’ve always been a writer and an advocate, which I realized were key elements in being a good lawyer,” she says.

Cox says she appreciated SMU Dedman Law’s requirement that all students perform public service before they received their law degree. Like most students, she says she far exceeded the 30-hour mandate.

When she graduated in 2004, Cox joined the Dallas firm Cowles & Thompson, where she handled business litigation, employment disputes and estate planning. While at the firm, she handled pro bono cases through the Dallas Bar Association’s volunteer lawyer assistance program.

“It was a divorce case and my first time in court,” she recalls. “I was so nervous that my knees were literally knocking. Fortunately, we were successful.

“But I began to realize that I wasn’t happy practicing law,” she says. “I wanted to get back into the community. I wanted to do more public service.”

As a young activist, Cox had gotten involved with the Resource Center, a nonprofit organization that offered services to the LGBT community and to those who tested HIV positive. The Center serves more than 50,000 people annually.

In 2007, Cox joined the Center as its associate executive director. For the past five years, she has been its Chief Executive Officer. She oversees a staff of 50 people and more than 1,000 volunteers.

“Having my law degree has proven to be extremely helpful in the work I’m doing,” she says. “I’m not someone who thinks highly of titles, so I wondered if I should put J.D. on my business card. I decided to do it, and I’ve discovered it opens a lot of doors.

“I am a proponent of every nonprofit having a lawyer on staff,” she says.

Ratcliffe says the terrorism attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, completely changed him.

“I didn’t serve in the U.S. military, and I regret that,” he says. “But I knew I wanted to give back. Community service definitely attracted me.”

Not long after moving to Heath, Texas, he agreed to serve on the city’s planning commission and zoning board.

“I found being a lawyer was very helpful because it helped me think critically,” he says.

In 2004, Ratcliffe left his law firm to join the U.S. Attorney’s office in the Eastern District of Texas as chief of anti-terrorism. That same year, he ran for mayor—an unpaid and non-partisan position—and won.

“I loved being mayor because I would go to a council meeting on Tuesday evening and make an important decision and then a few days later, I would drive around town and already see the impact of our decision,” he says.

As U.S. Attorney, he led the 2008 criminal prosecution of Pilgrim’s Pride. Ratcliffe accused the company, which was owned by a large donor to Republican politics, of knowingly participating in a scheme in which 300 illegal aliens committed Social Security fraud.

In 2008, he went back to private practice, but he continued to carry the public service bug.

“I used to sit around and wonder why Congress made this decision or refused to pass some law,” he says. “I decided that I either needed to stop caring about politics or stop forward.”

Ratcliffe stepped forward in 2014, when he ran for Congress and won. He says he’s on the job 24/7. He receives 300 requests daily for appointments from constituents, lobbyists and others.

“It is an amazing job,” he says. “One day, we are debating nuclear deals with Iran. The next day, we are focused on patent reform. These are the big issues of the day and there is no greater honor than to have a seat at the table when these issues are discussed and decided.

“I challenge everyone—no matter your politics or interests,” he continues, “to consider public service. There is no job more rewarding. Plus, you truly are making a difference.”
MORE ALUMNI

MIKE REGITZ ’05
HELPING VETERANS
• Instrumental in creating and sustaining the Veterans Legal Clinic
• Recognized by the Veterans Legal Clinic as an Outstanding Clinic Attorney Volunteer
• Recognized by the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program for being one of “DVAP’s Finest”

BRITTANY BYRD ’11
TOP 5 VOLUNTEER IN DALLAS
Started Girls Embracing Mothers (GEM), a nonprofit to empower young girls whose mothers are incarcerated.
Recognized for her commitment to the community and pro bono work:
• Named by the Dallas Foundation as one of Dallas’ top five community volunteers under the age of 40 (2013)
• Selected as the “Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas” by the Texas Young Lawyers Association (2013)
• Named 2013 “Outstanding Young Lawyer of Dallas” by the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers

LIZ CEDILLO-PEREIRA ’99
SENIOR ADVISOR, ICE
• Senior advisor for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency
• Received the Dallas Women’s Foundation 2015 Maura Women Helping Women Award
• Named a Fellow of the Dallas Hispanic Law Foundation
• Member of the Hispanic 100
• Serves on the board of The Dallas Foundation and on the advisory committee of Irma Rangel Young Women’s Leadership School for Girls

COREY ADMIRE ’08
CAFÉ MOMENTUM
• Chair of the board of directors of Café Momentum, a nonprofit restaurant that collaborates with the Dallas County Juvenile Justice Department to provide at-risk youth with culinary, job and life-skills training

THE HONORABLE SOBCHOK SUKHAROMNA LLM. ’81
CHIEF JUSTICE, THAILAND
• Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Thailand

T. J. JOHNSON ’90
ASST. U.S. ATTORNEY, COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER
• Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas (since 1999)
• Member of The Links, Inc.
• Former board member of the Dallas Bar Association, Leadership Plano’s Youth Leadership program, Collin County Children’s Advocacy Center, Boys & Girls Club of Collin County

TRAVIS TYGART ’99
CLEANING UP SPORTS
• CEO of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency
• Advocate for the integrity of sport and clean athletes
### SERVING THE COMMUNITY

#### The Honorable Fred Biery ’73
Chief U.S. District Judge of the Western District of Texas

#### The Honorable Jane Boyle ’81
U.S. District Judge of the Northern District of Texas

#### The Honorable Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr. ’76
Judge of the Eastern District of Missouri

#### The Honorable Barbara Lynn ’76
U.S. District Judge of the Northern District of Texas

#### Joel Winful ’95
CEO of Legal Aid of Northwest Texas
- LANWT has provided free legal services to low-income members of the North and West Texas community since 1951. LANWT, with its headquarters in Fort Worth, serves 144 Texas counties from its 15 offices.

#### Melissa Weaver ’04
Helping Immigrant Children
- Handles child immigrant cases for the Human Rights Initiative’s Women and Children’s program
- “A lot of clients come in so broken, and by the time they leave us, 18 months later, they’re completely different people,” Weaver told the Observer

#### Rep. Lamar Smith ’75
U.S. Congress
- Has represented Texas’ 21st District since 1987
- Chairs the Science, Space and Technology Committee
- Serves on the Judiciary Committee and Homeland Security Committee
- Named “Policymaker of the Year” by Politico in 2011 for his work on the America Invents Act

#### The Honorable Justice Jinsung Lee LL.M. ’88
Justice, Constitutional Court of Korea

#### Natalie Smeltzer ’09
Dayl Pro Bono Service Award
- Received the 2015 Dallas Association of Young Lawyers Pro Bono Service Award
- Received the 2014 Weil Gotshal & Manges Pro Bono Service Award
- Logged 581.5 hours of pro bono legal service, including 536 hours serving as Weil’s Lend-A-Lawyer to the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program
SMU Legal Clinics

Ten Clinics Serve the Public and Provide Students the Ultimate Experiential Learning Opportunity
New Associate Dean for Clinics, Mary Spector, Talks about Capstone Experience

Spector  This is an exciting time for the Legal Clinics at SMU Dedman School of Law. In August, the Innocence Clinic opened its doors, enrolling its first students. In January 2016, the VanSickle Family Law Clinic and the Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women will enroll their first students. The opening of these new clinics follows the opening in 2014 of the Patent and Trademark Clinics as part of the United States Patent and Trademark Office’s Law School Clinic Certification Program and will bring the total number of clinics to ten, up from six just two years ago!

Dating back to 1947, SMU Law was one of the first law schools in the country to sponsor a community legal clinic, and the clinical education program remains essential to the mission of delivering both an exceptional education to our law students and vital help to the community.

Q  Our alumni often say that their work in the Clinics was one of the most meaningful experiences during their time at the law school. Why do you think that is?

Spector  Students get to experience the practice of law for the first time when they act as student attorneys in an SMU Legal Clinic. The Clinics are where generations of clinic alumni met their first client, argued their first motion, took their first deposition, negotiated their first settlement, and tried their first case. Students in all of the Clinics work under the close supervision of clinic faculty and learn by applying the knowledge gained in the classroom to all aspects of the lawyering process.

As they do so, they also develop important analytical and practical lawyering skills that will be with them throughout their careers. With the opening of our new clinics, students will have more opportunities than ever to experience the practice of law before graduation.

Q  In addition to providing a great education for the students, do the SMU Legal Clinics make a real difference to the clients they serve?

Spector  Yes. The SMU Legal Clinics do much more than provide valuable training and experiential learning for our students. SMU’s Clinic program also helps to fill gaps in the availability of critical legal services in the community. Generally, the Clinic clients are low-income individuals who cannot otherwise afford to retain private counsel, or small businesses and nonprofits who cannot afford to pay legal fees. Representation by the student attorneys in the Clinics is often the only viable option for these clients.

By training students in the various practice areas, our Clinics help students develop an appreciation for the needs of the community and the professional responsibilities of lawyers to the profession and the community.

Of course, the SMU Clinics can’t fill all the gaps, but the growth of the Clinic program is allowing us to serve as advocates for more of the community that is in need of critical legal representation.

“The SMU Legal Clinics do much more than provide valuable training and experiential learning for our students. SMU’s Clinic program also helps to fill gaps in the availability of critical legal services in the community.”
Civil Clinic

For more than 60 years the Civil Clinic has provided representation for low-income clients in Dallas area federal and state courts. Students are closely supervised by a clinic faculty member and learn by practicing in all aspects of the lawyering process. They conduct client and witness interviews, fact investigation, and legal research, and they advise and counsel their clients. Student attorneys also conduct negotiations and mediations, engage in case planning and discovery, and represent their clients sitting first chair in hearings and trials.

MAUREEN ARMOUR, Co-Director of the Civil Clinic and Associate Professor of Law
MARY SPECTOR, Associate Dean for Clinics and Professor of Law, Director of the Consumer Advocacy Project and Co-Director of the Civil Clinic
ELIOT SHAVIN, Adjunct Clinical Professor of Law, Civil Clinic
ERIC CEDILLO, Adjunct Clinical Professor of Law, Consumer Advocacy Project and Summer Civil Clinic

Maureen Armor, Director of the Civil Clinic:

“For many of our clients, the Civil Clinic is really a ‘lawyer of last resort.’ We receive about 1,000 applications for assistance per year, and we typically have 50 open cases at a time. The cases vary widely—everything from preventing foreclosure scams and predatory lending to working with the elderly on financial issues and tenant advocacy.

“The student attorneys in the Civil Clinic quickly learn that it’s not about them—it’s about the real people who need their help. The experience puts a human face on the need for this kind of service; the students learn a new kind of compassion and tact.”

Consumer Advocacy Project

The Consumer Advocacy Project originally supplemented the existing Civil Clinic program by concentrating its efforts on working with predominately Spanish-speaking consumers. That work continues today. In addition to the direct representation of consumers, students provide community education and outreach in collaboration with public and private community partners ranging from neighborhood organizations, health care clinics, and church groups to public schools and community colleges. Students also collaborate with community partners on advocacy efforts at local, state and federal levels.

Mary Spector,
Director of the Consumer Advocacy Project:

“In the Consumer Advocacy Project, students are encouraged to be creative problem-solvers and to consider a range of methods to achieve their clients’ goals. They come to understand that despite the important role of litigation in resolving disputes, it’s often not the only or the best option. Through their work with community partners and with their clients, Consumer Advocacy students gain insights into the challenges facing many members of the community and appreciate the tremendous difference lawyers can make in the lives of their clients.”
Criminal Justice Clinic

CHRISTOPHER JENKS, Director of the Criminal Justice Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law

MIKE MCCOLLUM, Adjunct Clinical Professor of Law, Criminal Justice Clinic

BROOK BUSBEE, Adjunct Clinical Professor of Law, Criminal Justice Clinic

The Criminal Justice Clinic was created almost 40 years ago to provide quality legal representation to low-income clients charged with misdemeanor criminal offenses in Dallas County. The Clinic provides our students the supervised opportunity to handle real cases and represent real clients. Clinic student attorneys act as trial counsel, arguing everything from a motion to suppress evidence and direct and cross examinations to voir dire and jury trials. The Criminal Justice Clinic represents about 200 clients a year and is an accepted part of the Dallas County Criminal Bar.

Chris Jenks, Director of the Criminal Justice Clinic:

“In terms of educating our students, the Criminal Justice Clinic, like our other clinics, allows the students to learn by doing. They come into the clinic motivated and with a year or two of largely classroom education. They quite understandably tend to be hesitant and apprehensive at first, but the Criminal Clinic requires almost immediate immersion in the practice. As the student attorneys prepare for that first hearing, motion, or trial, it starts to click, ‘that’s what that case or rule from criminal procedure or evidence means or why it’s important.’ And that understanding is followed by the realization that they can do this. It’s tremendously rewarding to observe the transformation students undergo while in the clinic. With increased experience the students become very empowered. The clinic is an outlet for law student passion for the rule of law and for helping people.

“For many, it’s hard to understand the law outside the context of its application through practice. Ultimately, that’s what our clinical education provides.”

Federal Taxpayers Clinic

Since 1977, SMU Law has operated a Federal Taxpayers Clinic, offering representation to low-income taxpayers who have federal income tax disputes with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). In certain cases, the Tax Clinic also represents taxpayers before the United States Tax Court.

Larry Jones,

Director of the Federal Taxpayers Clinic:

“The Tax Clinic is not just about tax law. It is also about learning how to practice law. Student attorneys handle all aspects of controversies with the IRS and also learn how to interview potential clients. The Tax Clinic can be best described by what clinic alumni have said:

‘The Tax Clinic was the most helpful experience in law school to get me practice ready. It taught me how to develop client relationships, perform investigations, and research legal issues, while effectively managing my time.’

I highly recommend participation in the Tax Clinic, even for students who are unsure whether they are interested in a tax practice, because Tax Clinic student attorneys develop skills that are applicable to any practice.”
The Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women will officially launch in January 2016. Students enrolled in the Clinic will, under faculty supervision, provide representation to survivors of gender-based harms, including domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking, in a broad range of legal areas. The Hunter Center has partnered with established local community organizations to serve women who are most critically in need of legal assistance in matters such as obtaining orders of protection, family law, humanitarian immigration claims and post-conviction relief.

Natalie Nanasi, Director of the Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women:

“Holistic experiences with clients will give student attorneys insight into the many complex facets of the problem of gender violence, while providing them with the expertise necessary to be effective and empathetic advocates for this and other vulnerable populations.

“The students will be the lawyers on the cases; having full responsibility for all aspects of client representation will allow them to hone a wide range of lawyering skills, including analytical and practical skills, that they can utilize throughout their professional lives.

“In addition to individual client representation, student attorneys also will collaborate with community partners and work toward long-term solutions to the problem of violence against women through involvement in policy, advocacy or community education projects.”
W.W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic

The students in the W.W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic serve as court-appointed guardians and attorneys ad litem for children who have been abused or neglected and, as a result, removed from their parents' care and homes. We take an interdisciplinary approach to law practice. Advocating for a child in the child welfare system requires an understanding of the family, the cultural context, child development, politics/bureaucracy, and the psychological and social factors that come into play in each child's life, as well as "the law." We do not focus on "cases," but on clients – the most vulnerable and deserving clients imaginable. The experience has an impact on students that they cannot help but carry over into their professional future. If a lawyer can make a difference in one child's life, a lawyer can make a difference in many children's lives – and in the community as a whole.

Diane Sumoski, Director of the Child Advocacy Clinic:

"The Child Advocacy Clinic students are a passionate and hard-working group of aspiring lawyers – course credit and grades are not their primary motivations, their clients are. In my office, I have a photo of a six-year-old boy, who was my first child client some twenty-odd years ago. When my students leave the clinic, they inevitably tell me that they too will remember and be motivated by their first client – a child in need in whose life they made a tangible difference. I love hearing that."

VanSickle Family Law Clinic

The VanSickle Family Law Clinic will enroll its first students in January 2016 and provide much-needed assistance in the area of family law. Student attorneys will provide representation to otherwise unrepresented litigants on matters related to divorce, child custody, possession and access, paternity, modifications, enforcement actions, child and spousal support, and adoption. The Clinic will engage students in the performance of fundamental professional skills necessary for competent representation and zealous advocacy. These skills will include, but are not limited to, interviewing and counseling clients, negotiating, fact development and analysis, strategic case planning, conflict resolution and decision making, motion and trial practice, drafting legal pleadings and ancillary documents, organization and management of legal work, cultural competency, collaboration and self-evaluation.

Student attorneys also will provide limited assistance to pro se litigants at organized community legal clinics located in low-income, culturally diverse areas of Dallas on matters such as “how to complete uncontested divorce forms” promulgated by the Texas Supreme Court. The Clinic’s work in this community based project is aimed at providing support for already strained pro bono services and enhancing efforts to increase access to justice for the disadvantaged.

Chante Prox, Director of the VanSickle Family Law Clinic:

"The Clinic will provide much-needed assistance to unrepresented family law litigants in our community. It simultaneously will afford student attorneys a phenomenal opportunity to develop practical lawyering skills and advance their emotional intelligence through reflection, self-assessment and client interactions."
Patent Clinic

Because of the law school’s curriculum, pro bono service to the public, and community networking and outreach, SMU Law was chosen to become part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s (USPTO) law school clinic certification program. The new Patent Clinic opened in fall 2014.

Mark Hubbard, Director of the Patent Clinic:
“The Patent Clinic offers patent services for small start-up companies and individuals who do not otherwise have the resources to pay for a patent lawyer. Law students in the clinic receive essential skills training, gaining experience in counseling clients, drafting patent applications, and communicating with patent examiners. This win-win arrangement benefits, and also strengthens, the law school’s relationship with the growing start-up and entrepreneurial community in Dallas.”

“Our clinics are turning the Dallas-Fort Worth area into a living laboratory for our students and providing them with so many opportunities for a hands-on lesson of law in the real world.”
Dean Jennifer Collins

Small Business and Trademark Clinic

The mission of the Small Business and Trademark Clinic is to provide free legal services to new and existing small businesses and nonprofit organizations who cannot afford to pay legal fees, and to provide our students with training and experience in how to be a transactional lawyer. Many small businesses have a wide range of legal issues. Student attorneys in this clinic advise clients in the start-up of their businesses and nonprofit organizations and assist in preparing necessary legal documents. The student attorneys also research and file trademark applications, communicating with trademark attorneys from the USPTO.

Walter Theiss, Director of the Small Business Clinic:
“The Small Business and Trademark Clinic provides students with a valuable opportunity to deal with real clients, clients who don’t come with a specific label such as ‘contract problem, property problem or internet law problem.’ The clients have real-life problems; the student lawyers need to learn what the clients’ issues are and what needs to be done to help the clients accomplish their goals and resolve problems. This gives the student lawyers a chance to develop the skills needed to interact with clients, interview clients, deal with frustrated clients, and learn how to communicate.”

David Cho, Director of the Trademark Clinic:
“Shortly after the regional office of the Patent and Trademark Office opened in Dallas, SMU Dedman Law was chosen to become part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s law school clinic certification pilot program. The Trademark Clinic began in the fall 2014 semester, and our student attorneys immediately began helping clients with real legal problems.

“Eugene Chen, for example, was one of our first student lawyers to file a trademark application with the USPTO. He researched and filed the application, which resulted in an Office Action at the USPTO. The trademark application was published and will be registered by the end of this year, absent any objections.

“Another student attorney, Callum Ross, encountered an Office Action refusal by the USPTO on an application and worked with the client to develop an alternative trademark to be used.

“The clients of the Trademark Clinic are helped with real legal problems, and the student lawyers learn what it means to actually ‘practice law’ beyond the limits of the law classroom experience.”
Innocence Clinic

Julie Lesser, Exoneration Attorney, Dallas County Public Defender's Office, and Adjunct Clinical Professor, Innocence Clinic:

"By initiating the Innocence Clinic, SMU Dedman Law and the Dallas County Public Defender's Office have joined together in the battle against wrongful convictions. Students in this new clinic seek to find evidence of wrongdoing years after the wrongful convictions and work to exonerate their clients."

Victoria Palacios, Director of the Innocence Clinic:

"Innocent people have gone to prison because an eyewitness misidentified someone, because 'junk science' really exists, because a person can be coerced into making a false confession, or because informants lie to implicate defendants in exchange for benefits from the state. This important new clinic seeks to remedy those injustices."

See story on page 22 about the Innocence Clinic's first client.
The all-new Innocence Clinic at SMU Dedman School of Law was privileged to assist in the release of a man wrongfully convicted for a 1987 murder based on expert testimony now considered junk science.
Seventeen weeks into the inaugural year of SMU’s Innocence Clinic, members of the Innocence Clinic witnessed history as their first client walked out of a Dallas courtroom in early October.

Judge Dominique Collins recommended overturning the conviction of Steven Mark Chaney for a 1987 murder, which was based upon expert testimony now considered junk science, and released him from custody. During Chaney’s trial, expert testimony suggested a patterned injury on the victim’s body was actually a bite mark with a “one in a million” chance of belonging to anyone but Chaney. Science has since discredited such bite mark “matching” evidence altogether, and it is no longer considered a reliable basis for convictions.

“Judge Collins approved the findings of fact agreed to by the parties — that Mr. Chaney was convicted on ‘junk science’ and that he was denied due process by virtue of the false evidence,” said Julie Lesser of the Dallas County Public Defender’s Office.

Lesser, who supervises the work of SMU’s Innocence Clinic along with Professor Victoria Palacios, started working on Chaney’s case in late 2012. This year’s clinic consists of second-year law students Jillian Bliss and Christina Phillips, and third-year law students Kassandra Nelson, Kristine Cruz, Joshua Avila and Jared Fontenot. Members aided Lesser in preparing Chaney’s case brief and provided legal research and analysis in reviewing the case, as well as personally interviewing Chaney. Although SMU’s legal clinics usually require participants to come in with a good portion of their legal studies complete, second-year students Bliss and Phillips were admitted after personally approaching clinic directors about their passion and interest in upholding fairness and credibility in the Texas criminal justice system. All six students have found Chaney’s case inspirational for a number of reasons, and an experience they will never forget.

“Mr. Chaney puts a wonderful personality to the several case files we have to go through in order to process a habeas case,” said Cruz. “I am extremely grateful to Professor Palacios and Julie Lesser for allowing us to work on this particular case, especially so close to the finish line. Being there for his release was inspirational, an experience I will definitely take with me as we continue to work on his case and our other cases.”

Lesser said the work of the New York-based Innocence Project also provided serious insight into forensic odontology necessary to overrule the previous expert testimony. Two additional grounds remain in Chaney’s case, which clinic members will continue to work with Lesser in proving and bringing back to court for additional hearings.

“The goal is to fully clear Mr. Chaney’s name,” Lesser said.

Although Chaney’s release was an exciting and fulfilling moment for all involved, clinic members are already reviewing materials related to new and potential clients.

“Chaney’s story is not exclusive,” said Nelson, who also said Chaney’s case solidifies her decision to join the clinic. “I hope we again can help someone pursue and receive the justice they deserve.”

The clinic is currently working on other cases involving issues of witness recantation, Brady violations, constitutional issues and eyewitness misidentification.

While each student joined from different backgrounds and with different interests, each shares an eagerness and enthusiasm necessary in resolving innocence claims.

“I just remember reading the kind of things we were going to be doing, and I said, ‘I’m in!’” Avila said.
**INNS of COURT**

**SPONSORED BY**

[Haynes and Boone logo]

---

**New Program Transforms First-Year Experience**

We are excited to roll out a new interdisciplinary approach to the first-year experience at SMU Dedman School of Law. With over 200 first-year students, we recognized a need for smaller, more personalized groups to provide students with a source of relationships and support. This year’s entering class is the first to participate in the new Inns of Court Program sponsored by Haynes and Boone, LLP. Through the Inns, students will be able to connect with fellow classmates, faculty, student leaders, career advisors, and alumni for a community experience that extends throughout their time at the law school and beyond graduation.

At orientation, each 1L was assigned to one of seven Inns, named in honor of a distinguished individual who made a measurable impact on the success of SMU Law. Each Inn of Court is a small group of approximately thirty J.D. students and five international LL.M. students.

---

**Inn Advisors**

Each Inn has the benefit of a variety of advisors:

- Two Faculty Advisors
- One Career Services Counselor
- Three Alumni Community Fellows
- Three Student Bar Association Mentors (upper-level students)
- Three Academic Success Mentors (upper-level students)

**Programming**

The Inns meet each week and provide valuable programming to help law students be successful in the classroom and develop as professionals. The core areas of focus include:

- Career and Professional Development
- Academic Advising
- Alumni Connection
- Student Affairs
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Public Service

**Events—Social and Public Service**

Several Inns meetings include social activities and some serve the community as well. Before the new students set foot in a classroom, the Inns participated in a service project through the North Texas Food Bank during Orientation in August. The Inns program will culminate with a Mini-Inns Olympics in the spring semester, where Inns will compete against each other in a variety of “athletic” games to determine bragging rights.

---

**Thank you TO HAYNES AND BOONE**

---

**New First-Year Program Inspired by London’s Inns of Court**

The inspiration for the law school’s Inns of Court Program was the original Inns of Court in England. Inns of Court originated in London many centuries ago as the professional associations for barristers. In the late 1970s, U.S. Chief Justice Warren Burger led a movement to create Inns of Court in the United States, loosely modeled after the traditional English Inns. In 1985, he and others established the American Inns of Court Foundation with 12 Inns nationally. The American Inns of Court is an association of lawyers, judges and law students focused on legal skills, professionalism and ethics of the bench and bar.
The Inns of Court

**BROMBERG INN**
IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR ALAN R. BROMBERG

Professor at SMU Dedman Law 1956-2014 and a nationally-known legal scholar in the fields of securities fraud and partnership law.

**CALLEJO INN**
IN HONOR OF ADELFA B. CALLEJO ’61

The first Hispanic woman to graduate from SMU Law School and a community and civil rights leader.

**JONES INN**
IN HONOR OF BURTON V. JONES ’69

One of the first African-Americans to graduate from SMU Law School and a notable community and business leader.

**JURY INN**
IN HONOR OF JEAN K. JURY

Director of Admissions and Records at SMU School of Law from 1965 until 1988; known as “Momma Jean.”

**NOEL INN**
IN HONOR OF JUDGE JAMES L. NOEL, JR. ’38

Former U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas and namesake for the endowed deanship of SMU’s Dedman School of Law given by his family.

**RAGGIO INN**
IN HONOR OF LOUISE B. RAGGIO ’52

The only woman in her graduating class and namesake for The Raggio Endowed Lecture Series, established by her friends and family to celebrate her tremendous accomplishments in advancing the legal rights of women.

**STOREY INN**
IN HONOR OF DEAN ROBERT G. STOREY

Dean of SMU Law from 1947-1959 and prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials.

Incoming first-year students help at the North Texas Food Bank during orientation.
A very exciting part of the new Inns Program is the Community Fellows. Each Inn has three Alumni Community Fellows who have volunteered their time to mentor and support our first-year students. The Community Fellows will attend certain Inns events, where they will build relationships with students and model ways to build a satisfying career.

### Bromberg Community Fellows

- **Jim Baldwin**, EVP & GC, Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Inc.
- **Shonn Brown**, Partner, Gruber Hurst Johansen Hail Shank
- **Bill Wilshusen**, Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP

### Callejo Community Fellows

- **David Haley**, President, HBK Capital Management
- **Rosario “Chachy” Heppe**, Senior Director - Corporate Compliance, Fluor Corporation
- **Taylor Wilson**, Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
Jones Community Fellows

Van Beckwith, Partner, Baker Botts LLP
Jan Sharry, Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
John Torres, EVP, CLO, Secretary, Lennox International, Inc.

Noel Community Fellows

Mike Boone, Founding Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
Robert Hart, General Counsel, Mark Cuban Companies
Betty Ungerman, Deputy General Counsel, Lennox International, Inc.

Jury Community Fellows

Hon. Jane Boyle, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
Tim Powers, Managing Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
Gabe Vazquez, Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, TXU Energy

Storey Community Fellows

Darwin Bruce, Chief Operating Officer, The Potter's House of Dallas, Inc.
Johnathan Collins, Partner, Locke Lord
Tom Kurth, Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
Hon. Barbara Lynn, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas

Raggio Community Fellows

Ron Breaux, Partner, Haynes and Boone, LLP
Chief Judge Barbara Houser, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Texas
Clement Osimetha, Vice President & Chief Compliance Officer, Ciber, Inc.
A culture of serving the public is thriving at SMU Dedman School of Law. We have a student body that is passionate about service, a location that gives us access to rich and diverse opportunities for service, and expanding programs to take advantage of both. We are honored to help serve the legal needs of our community.

HISTORY OF TRAILBLAZING
The law school has a longstanding tradition of serving others. In 1947, nearly 20 years before law school legal clinics became a national movement, we were one of the country’s first law schools to sponsor a community legal clinic to serve the poor. Later, in 1996, we were the first law school in Texas to implement a mandatory Public Service Graduation Requirement.

This legacy of public service reflects two of our most fundamental values. We believe that active participation in public service is essential to training our students to be competent and responsible lawyers, and we believe it is our duty and privilege to benefit the larger community by helping to meet the critical need for pro bono legal assistance.

The law school’s Office of Public Service (OPS) is dedicated to coordinating the law school’s pro bono efforts. The OPS builds relationships with nonprofit legal programs in the area and develops new public service placement opportunities for our students, while maintaining a clear understanding of the particular and changing unmet needs in the community. The OPS also advises students interested in seeking a legal career in public service.

PASSIONATE STUDENTS
Since the Public Service Graduation Requirement was established, SMU Dedman Law students have donated more than 213,000 hours of pro bono legal assistance in the community. What makes us most proud, however, is that our students are engaged and inspired by the experience. Every year we see our students far exceed what is mandatory for graduation. While 30 hours of law-related public service is required to graduate, our students routinely go above and beyond that level. Most recently, the Class of 2015 contributed a total of 13,122 hours of pro bono service to the community—an average of 55 hours per student, almost double the mandatory amount. In fact, 15 graduates had more than 200 hours each, with 5 students contributing between 300 and 550 hours.
CLASS OF 2015 – PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

We have been so impressed by the student body's truly inspiring outpouring of dedication to service that we established a Pro Bono Honor Roll in 2015. Students who donate over 200 hours of law-related public service during law school are recognized at the hooding ceremony. We congratulate the following graduates:

1. Jason Scott Cohen – 552 hours (SMU Criminal Justice Clinic)
2. Courtney L. Floyd – 454 hours (Mosaic Family Services/ SMU Criminal Justice Clinic)
3. Andrew Neven Speer – 451 hours (U.S. Dept of Labor/ Dallas City Attorney/ Law Related Education)
4. Amy N. Rauch – 367 hours (Dallas City Attorney Office of Environmental Compliance)
5. Jessica Catherine Salas – 357 hours (Collin County District Attorney/ SMU Criminal Justice Clinic)
6. Allyson Diane Yates Gault – 290 hours (U.S. Dept of Labor/ Dallas County District Attorney/ Mosaic Family Services)
7. Alexander B. Hinckley – 288 hours (Mosaic Family Services)
8. Robert Cayman Clevenger – 260 hours (Orleans Parish District Attorney’s Office)
9. Brittany D. Redden – 226 hours (CASA-Dallas County/ SMU Criminal Justice Clinic)
10. Martha R. Karam – 220 hours (Catholic Charities of Dallas)
11. Julie N. Johnson – 220 hours (Dallas County District Attorney)
12. Kristen Jackson – 208 hours (SMU Criminal Justice Clinic/ Law Related Education/ Dallas Kids Project)
13. Théodora Kipers – 205 hours (VITA/ Texas Scottish Rite Hospital/ Dallas County Public Defender)
14. Jeri A. Lane D’Aurelio – 205 hours (Dallas County District Attorney/ SMU Criminal Justice Clinic)
To nurture this enthusiasm, we know we must keep the Public Service Program dynamic and relevant. We actively work behind the scenes to keep the Program fresh, always looking for new placements and partnerships in the community, and we also strongly encourage students to find opportunities that speak to their interests and passions. A student who was very interested in animal law, for example, helped make the Dallas County DA’s Office Animal Cruelty Division a new placement.

Last year alone, we added 11 new public service placements to the list of pre-approved opportunities, including the Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund, Refugee Services of Texas, Parkland Health and Hospital System, and the Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America, to name a few. Our list now includes about 60 different placements.

Partnerships with the community provide even more ways to be of service. Each year, for example, our dedicated students participate in the Texas Access to Justice Commission’s Pro Bono Spring Break. Giving up the entire week of their break, the students volunteer to help low-income Texans resolve their civil legal problems. The law school also organized a Tax Day Law Fair to help address income tax matters in the low-income community. In April, the law school’s Consumer Protection Clinic partnered with the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program (DVAP) and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)—a national program that provides income tax help—to conduct a law fair on tax day.

The culture of service at SMU Law runs deeper than just the Public Service Program and the Public Service Graduation Requirement. More than 150 students each year provide representation and assistance to the public in many different areas of law through the school’s legal clinics. Our expanding clinical program and our new Associate Dean for Clinics, Mary Spector, are profiled in this issue of The Quad on page 14.

To assist in areas where the clinics cannot, we have developed a number of diverse opportunities for internships (for summer and school-year experience) and externships (for course credit) for our students. Students can learn about these opportunities at our annual public interest career fair, Public Advocate Day. We had a record turnout of both students and agencies represented at our most recent Public Advocate Day: more than 50 different local government and nonprofit legal programs came to campus and participated in table talks with our students. At the event the agencies describe their work and recruit for internships and externships. About 200 of our students learned about opportunities with agencies ranging from Mosaic Family Services, Catholic Charities, and Senior Source to the EEOC, the FTC, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office and many more.

To raise money to help subsidize unpaid summer internships in the public sector, each spring our students, faculty, and administration support the annual Public Interest Auction. The Association for Public Interest Law (APIL), a student organization, organizes the fun event called the APIL Fools Auction. APIL raises funds and solicits the faculty to donate auction items, which have included everything from trips, dinners with faculty, and tickets to the CMAs to personal training, jewelry, and gift certificates. To top it off, faculty members serve as masters of ceremonies. Professors Paul Rogers and Anthony Colangelo hosted the 2015 APIL Fools Auction. The Dean matches up to $25,000 of the auction proceeds.
**AWARD-WINNING COMMITMENT TO SERVICE**

We are thrilled to say that our work has been recognized and rewarded. The law school was unanimously selected by the Texas Access to Justice Commission as the recipient of the **2014 ATJ Law School Commitment to Service Award**. In making its decision, the Commission spoke of the law school’s steadfast commitment to serve the underprivileged members of our community as “truly extraordinary.” This award inspires us and challenges us to achieve even more.

**SERVICE FROM THE START**

We are proud of our impact on the community, but we are not complacent and we continue to seek areas of growth. This fall, with the kick off of our new Inns of Court program, we hope to enhance the law school experience by integrating community service into the first-year curriculum. In fact, one of the very first activities of the Inns was a community service project at the North Texas Food Bank. [Please read about the new Inns of Court Program on page 24.]

By making service to the community an expectation of all our law students, starting from the first day of law school, we believe we will continue and strengthen a comprehensive culture of service at SMU Dedman Law.

Our goal is to honor and continue the legacy of service started so long ago at SMU Dedman School of Law. We are deeply grateful for the support of our alumni and friends who make it possible for us to provide legal services to low-income individuals. Doing so exposes our students to the issues facing the under-served members of society and teaches our students the skills necessary to provide pro bono legal assistance. Moreover, it instills the value of incorporating pro bono into their future practice.
Thank you!
The collective generosity of SMU’s supporters is having an extraordinary impact on the University and helping shape SMU’s future across the campus. The goal of SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign was to raise $1 billion to support student quality, faculty and academic excellence, and the campus experience—and the University recently announced it has reached its goal! The campaign coincides with SMU’s celebration of the 100th anniversary of the University’s founding in 1911 and its opening in 1915.

The law school is only 10 years younger than the University—as we celebrate 90 years of serving the community—and we have our sights set on finishing strong in the campaign ending this December.

All gifts to the law school make a real difference:

- **Endowed Chairs or Professorships** help us attract and retain top faculty.
- **Clinics and Centers** help us serve the community, enhance academic programming for our students, and support our faculty’s research and scholarship.
- **Endowed and Annual Scholarships** help us compete for talented potential students and provide relief from the burden of student debt.

We are deeply grateful for the terrific support we have received this year—including a $3.125 million gift to endow our first academic center, the new **Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation**.

And we are thrilled that two of our beloved faculty will be honored forever through the endowment of faculty chairs in their names: a $2 million gift established the **Ellen K. Solender Endowed Chair in Women and the Law**, and a $2 million gift established the **Alan R. Bromberg Centennial Chair in Corporate, Partnership and Securities Law**.

In addition, several very generous gifts for student scholarships will help us attract top students and alleviate the burden of overwhelming student debt— including a **$3 million planned gift** for scholarships, and a $1.75 million gift to create the **Luce Scholars Program**. Also, a recent gift of $300,000 from George and Pedie Bramblett will be added to their earlier gifts, bringing the total to $1 million in support of the **George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund**. We are also grateful for a $100,000 gift to establish the **The Favrot and Hartwell Endowed Scholarship**, a $100,000 gift to fund the **Jack M. and Carole V. Kinnebrew Endowed Scholarship**, and a $100,000 gift to create the **Grant Inverdale Small Endowed Scholarship**. All of these gifts will help our students manage the high cost of a legal education.

Finally, gifts from the **Founding Supporters of the VanSickle Family Law Clinic** will mean this important new clinic will be able to start operations in spring 2016.

We are so thankful for the support of all our alumni and friends. Please read more about these and other great gifts in the following pages.
$2 Million Gift from Professor Emerita Ellen Solender ’71

Ellen K. Solender, 1971 SMU law alumna and cherished emeritus faculty member, committed $2 million to the Dedman School of Law to fund the Ellen K. Solender Endowed Chair in Women and the Law, shortly before she passed away in August. Professor Solender was a remarkable woman, teacher, and advocate. Please read more about her life and accomplishments in a special tribute to her on page 48.

The Solender Chair will support a Dedman Law faculty member to encourage research, teaching, and advocacy aimed at advancing equality for all women. The gift provides $1.5 million for permanent endowment and also includes an additional $500,000 gift so that the school can fill the Chair soon, instead of delaying until the endowment matures.

“As only the second woman to receive tenure at the law school, Professor Solender was a trailblazer in legal education,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “She dedicated her career to promoting equality and mentored countless women along the way. This gift will allow the law school to continue Professor Solender’s important work on issues that will advance the rights of women, ensure gender equality, and train lawyers to pursue these goals.”

Solender pointed to a number of significant events over the last 100 years that raised hopes for gender equality, citing the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote in 1920, the right of women to serve on Texas juries in 1954, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009.

“My mother worked for the passage of the 19th Amendment and thought she would see equality in her lifetime. I thought I would see it in mine,” Solender said. “Now I worry whether my granddaughter and my great-great nieces will see equality in their lifetimes. I now realize these were only milestones on a longer journey to equality. These issues are so important to me, it is my hope that this endowed chair could be a catalyst and hopefully speed up the journey to equality for women.”

In 2011 Solender received the League of Women Voters’ Susan B. Anthony Award.

“Professor Solender’s decision to endow a chair in women and the law could not come at a better time,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. “This faculty position underscores Dedman Law’s commitment to empowering women to assume positions of influence in their professions. Hers is a gift that will have continuing impact.”

Justice Ginsburg Applauds Ellen Solender’s Gift

SMU Law hoped to thank Professor Solender for her monumental gift to the school with a public celebration, but sadly Professor Solender passed away before the event. The celebration plan included a surprise: A video tribute by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In the video, Justice Ginsburg spoke warmly of Professor Solender, saying, “We have seen large changes in our lifetimes yet appreciate the long way that remains before respect for the dignity of all persons becomes not aspirational, but real.” Justice Ginsburg said Ellen had “done a wonderful thing in endowing a full faculty chair in women in the law,” and she applauded Professor Solender’s “extraordinary legacy.”
Anne Bromberg Gives
$2 Million Gift Honoring
University Distinguished
Professor Alan Bromberg

From 1956, when he joined the SMU Dedman Law faculty, until his passing in 2014, Alan Bromberg served the law school with excellence and grace. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of his wife, Anne Bromberg, he will be forever honored through the new Alan R. Bromberg Centennial Chair in Corporate, Partnership and Securities Law.

Anne says she was inspired by Ellen Solender’s extraordinary gift to endow a faculty chair in Women and the Law.

The gift includes an endowment of $1.5 million, guaranteeing the Chair’s permanent support for a faculty position that focuses on corporate, partnership and securities law. The Chair is named a “Centennial” Chair because the gift also includes an additional $500,000 in operating support, so that the law school can fill the faculty position right away instead of delaying while the endowment funds mature.

A prolific author, Bromberg’s legal writings on corporate tax, partnership, securities, and commodities have been relied upon in more than 500 judicial opinions, including 10 in the U.S. Supreme Court. His work and expertise also have appeared in thousands of articles, including many in The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times.

“It is remarkable that a faculty member could give so much to the school,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “He gave us almost 60 years of faculty camaraderie and dedicated teaching, and he made significant contributions to scholarship in the law of business enterprises.

“We are deeply grateful to Anne for her decision to honor our cherished professor in a way that so directly benefits the students and law school he loved so dearly,” said Dean Collins. “We miss Alan’s expertise and leadership, but mainly we miss his friendship and kindness.”

A Chair named after Professor Bromberg is truly deserved,” said Marc I. Steinberg, Rupert and Lillian Radford Professor of Law at SMU Dedman Law. Steinberg is the Director of SMU’s Corporate Directors’ Institute and an expert in corporate and securities law. “Alan was a leader of our faculty with his keen insights, steady presence, calm demeanor, and helpful guidance. He led by example, with his consistent and arduous work ethic and authorship of premier legal scholarship.

“His courtesy, kindness, and modesty were attributes that prevailed on a daily basis,” said Steinberg. “Alan was a superb colleague and an excellent professor for our students.”

The Fall 2015 issue of the SMU Law Review is dedicated to Professor Bromberg. We believe he would be pleased with the distinguished academicians who participated and the subjects they addressed. The Symposium Issue is a small way we can thank Professor Bromberg for his outstanding career as a preeminent legal scholar, wonderful person, and esteemed academician at SMU.

Anne Bromberg says she was inspired by Ellen Solender’s extraordinary gift to endow a faculty chair in Women and the Law.
$3.125 MILLION GIFT
Creates New
Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation

A $3.125 million gift by an SMU Law alumnus who wishes to remain anonymous launched the new Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation. The Tsai Center provides a platform for collaboration among students, scholars, and professionals from the fields of law, science, engineering, and business. The gift combined $2.5 million in endowment, plus $625,000 in operational support, so that the Center could begin operations in 2015 rather than delaying opening while the endowment matured.

“The creation of this new academic center within Dedman Law is a prime example of how expertise, scholarly need, and philanthropic resources come together at SMU in remarkable ways,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. “We know that solving complex issues requires application of knowledge from several disciplines, and this center will be a model of scholarly interaction.”

The Tsai Center focuses on the intersection of law, science, and innovation by exploring how law and policy affect scientific research and discovery, as well as the development and commercialization of new technologies.

The Center will study the law’s central role in encouraging and regulating scientific inquiry and innovation. It also will study the converse, examining how scientific discoveries and new technologies affect ethics, society, private industry, and governmental institutions and agencies.

The law school celebrated the Center’s official launch in September by hosting the 12th Annual Symposium on Emerging Intellectual Property Issues. The Symposium’s keynote speakers included: Paul Michel, a former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which is the court in the United States that has exclusive jurisdiction over appeals in patent infringement cases and from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; David Kappos, a former Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; and Stanford Law Professor Mark Lemley, an internationally recognized expert in intellectual property law.

In September the Center also began hosting “Tsai Talks” on a variety of hot topics in the fields of law and science, or law and innovation. Given primarily by local practitioners, the Tsai Talks are designed to help our students see what really goes on in practice.

The Tsai Center will further expand the law school’s experiential learning offerings by developing new externships and clinical opportunities to help students who are interested in careers in technology and science-related legal fields.

Another exciting aspect of the Center is the new Tsai Center Scholars Program, which is designed to support faculty research and also to provide terrific opportunities for our students. Through the program, the Tsai Center hires law students to work closely with the affiliated faculty on Center programming and law faculty research.

“The Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation enhances our academic programming for students and supports our faculty’s groundbreaking research and scholarship in the areas of science and technology,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “The Center also provides the opportunity to develop innovative collaborations with SMU’s Lyle School of Engineering and Cox School of Business. This important new Center will benefit students, industry, policymakers, academics, and the public. We are so grateful for this extraordinary gift.”

“We are very thankful for this gift,” said Brad Cheves, SMU vice president for Development and External Affairs. “The donor knows how well-used the Tsai Center will be in an entrepreneurial city like Dallas.”

New! “Tsai Talks”

“Tsai Talks,” organized by the Tsai Center Scholars and typically occurring over lunch, are presentations and discussions—often flash events responding to hot topics and current events—that bring the real world into the classroom. Tsai Talks invite students to explore differences between normative ideas about what the law should be and descriptive views of what the law is.

Fall 2015 Tsai Talks

September 15: Legal Issues Arising During the Construction of a Methanol Plant
September 22: Innovation—Thoughts on a Lawyer’s Role
September 29: Recent and Significant Issues in Environmental Law: A Potpourri
October 6: Technology’s Role in the Changing Face of Healthcare
October 21: Recent Invalidation of U.S. Safe Harbor Laws: Data/Privacy Implications for Certified Companies
November 3: Patent Litigation Reform: Are We There Yet?
November 10: The Role of Privacy in Emerging Technologies

Please check the website to see upcoming Tsai Talks. We hope you join us!
A very generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has stepped up to help with a $3 million planned gift for student scholarships.

It is only with the support of our donors that we can encourage, recruit, and retain outstanding candidates.

“We see that the trend is for potential students to shop and compare scholarship packages, as competition for top students increasingly turns on scholarship offers,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “This extremely generous gift will make a real difference in our efforts to attract top students and to combat overwhelming student debt. We are deeply grateful to this donor.”

A $1.75 million gift from Sarah Fullinwider Perot and Ross Perot, Jr., will endow the Thomas W. Luce, III Centennial Dedman Law Scholars Program at SMU. The Luce Scholars Program will honor the legacy of a remarkable man, Tom Luce (B.B.A. ’62, J.D. ’66), for his dedication to the future of the legal profession and his commitment to public service.

The gift creates a $1.5 million endowment and provides an additional $250,000 in operating funds for the first five years. The “Centennial” designation of the program recognizes the foresight of donors who ensure the immediate impact of their gift by providing operational funds while the endowment matures.

“Sarah and Ross Perot have found the perfect way to honor their life-long friendship with Tom Luce,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. “Having Tom Luce’s name with us in perpetuity on a scholarship fund in the Dedman School of Law is a great way to honor his terrific contributions to SMU and the broader community.”

Describing his family as big supporters of SMU, Ross Perot, Jr., said they agreed the best way to honor Luce was through a gift to his alma mater. In addition to financial support, students in the Luce Scholars Program will have both formal and informal opportunities to learn directly from Luce, who was a founding partner of Hughes & Luce LLP, and others in the legal, business, and philanthropic communities.

“Tom Luce is the role model for what a lawyer should be,” said Perot, Jr. “We hope that with this scholarship Tom will be able to attract great students to SMU, teach them to be great attorneys, and also to focus on public service.”

“I am so honored and grateful that my dear friends, Ross and Sarah Perot, chose to honor me in this way at my alma mater that means so much to me,” Luce said. “I look forward to working with the Luce Scholars in the years ahead.”

Luce Scholars will be selected from incoming Dedman Law students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership ability, and financial need.

Dean Jennifer Collins said she expects the experience of working with Luce will be formative for Luce Scholars.

“Not only has he excelled in the profession, but Tom Luce spends his time serving others on issues ranging from mental health to education,” Collins said. “He shows students what it means to be a world changer and how to really have an impact on their community, and those are the kind of lawyers we want to be sending out into the marketplace.”

Luce has dedicated much of his time to serving the public. He currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for Texas and is founding CEO and chairman of the National Math and Science Initiative. Texas governors have appointed Luce to several major posts, including the position of Chief Justice pro tempore of the Texas Supreme Court. Luce also served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development during the George W. Bush administration.

“With Tom Luce as an example and a mentor, the Luce Scholars Program will inspire and equip students to strive for integrity and excellence in their future profession, in their lives, and in their service to the community,” said Dean Collins. “We are delighted and grateful the Perots have chosen to honor Tom Luce in a way that so directly benefits our students.”
George and Vicky Favrot Give $100,000 to Create the Favrot and Hartwell Endowed Scholarship Fund

Thanks to the financial assistance of family members, Leo Favrot was able to complete his legal education. When Leo and his wife, Vicky, decided to pay tribute to that kindness, they turned to SMU to create a scholarship for law students.

“We had been discussing for several years how we might both honor my maternal grandfather, Swan Hartwell, and his wife, Edna, and provide assistance to students seeking to further their education,” Favrot says. “When I thought back on the wonderful experience I had at SMU Law School (now Dedman School of Law), it seemed like a natural fit to approach SMU about accomplishing those two objectives.”

Leo and Vicky have established The Favrot and Hartwell Endowed Scholarship in the Dedman School of Law through an endowment gift of $100,000. The experience has been “immensely rewarding,” Leo says. “Now we know that our wishes can be implemented through additional contributions to the scholarship during our lifetimes and funding formally in place through our estate plan.”

He says that by “relieving students of the burden of potentially crippling student debt,” the scholarship will help recipients graduate with the well-rounded University experience he still cherishes. Favrot earned a Bachelor of Law in 1966 and a Master of Laws in 1967 from SMU.

The generosity of family members inspired the couple to generously give to SMU, a tradition Leo encourages fellow alumni to follow. “I hope that our story will likewise spur others to let SMU help them put together a plan to, as Dedman Law Dean Jennifer Collins explained to us, ‘Make a legal education accessible to the most outstanding students.’”

George and Pedie Bramblett are determined to help SMU Dedman Law attract great students, and they’re also determined to make sure those students don’t graduate with crushing debt. With the addition of a recent gift of $300,000, the Brambletts have reached an amazing $1 million total contribution to the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund during the Second Century Campaign.

“Scholarship support is more valuable than ever to the law school, and we are profoundly grateful to the Brambletts for this significant gift,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “In recent years, we have seen a real shift in the way potential students make decisions about where to go to law school. Perhaps because of the extensive news coverage about exploding student debt, potential students are becoming very debt averse. The result is an ‘arms race’ of sorts between schools as students shop their scholarship offers.”

Gifts like the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund help us compete in this new reality.

It is a priority for SMU Law to find ways to help ease the burden of student debt—and a large percentage of our students have some scholarship support—but it is extremely expensive. Only with the help of our alumni and supporters are we able to compete for potential students and help them avoid dire financial stress.

George and Pedie Bramblett Gifts Reach $1 MILLION TOTAL for Scholarships

The generosity of family members inspired the couple to generously give to SMU, a tradition Leo encourages fellow alumni to follow. “I hope that our story will likewise spur others to let SMU help them put together a plan to, as Dedman Law Dean Jennifer Collins explained to us, ‘Make a legal education accessible to the most outstanding students.’”

Leo and Pedie Bramblett are determined to help SMU Dedman Law attract great students, and they’re also determined to make sure those students don’t graduate with crushing debt. With the addition of a recent gift of $300,000, the Brambletts have reached an amazing $1 million total contribution to the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund during the Second Century Campaign.

“Scholarship support is more valuable than ever to the law school, and we are profoundly grateful to the Brambletts for this significant gift,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “In recent years, we have seen a real shift in the way potential students make decisions about where to go to law school. Perhaps because of the extensive news coverage about exploding student debt, potential students are becoming very debt averse. The result is an ‘arms race’ of sorts between schools as students shop their scholarship offers.”

Gifts like the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund help us compete in this new reality.

It is a priority for SMU Law to find ways to help ease the burden of student debt—and a large percentage of our students have some scholarship support—but it is extremely expensive. Only with the help of our alumni and supporters are we able to compete for potential students and help them avoid dire financial stress.

Leo and Pedie Bramblett are determined to help SMU Dedman Law attract great students, and they’re also determined to make sure those students don’t graduate with crushing debt. With the addition of a recent gift of $300,000, the Brambletts have reached an amazing $1 million total contribution to the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund during the Second Century Campaign.

“Scholarship support is more valuable than ever to the law school, and we are profoundly grateful to the Brambletts for this significant gift,” said Dean Jennifer Collins. “In recent years, we have seen a real shift in the way potential students make decisions about where to go to law school. Perhaps because of the extensive news coverage about exploding student debt, potential students are becoming very debt averse. The result is an ‘arms race’ of sorts between schools as students shop their scholarship offers.”

Gifts like the George and Pedie Bramblett Endowed Scholarship Fund help us compete in this new reality.

It is a priority for SMU Law to find ways to help ease the burden of student debt—and a large percentage of our students have some scholarship support—but it is extremely expensive. Only with the help of our alumni and supporters are we able to compete for potential students and help them avoid dire financial stress.
Thanks to the generosity of Carole and Jack Kinnebrew, our law students who have an undergraduate degree in accounting and an interest in business law have a new source for critical scholarship support. Through their gift of $100,000, the Kinnebrews endowed The Jack M. and Carole V. Kinnebrew Scholarship Fund.

The law school’s historic strength in business law coupled with this new scholarship will help recruit the best business-minded students to attend SMU Dedman Law.

Jack Kinnebrew earned his J.D. in 1967 and his LL.M. in taxation in 1973, both from SMU Dedman Law. He is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Carole and Jack are both Certified Public Accountants in the State of Texas.

Mr. Kinnebrew has remained very connected to his alma mater, teaching as an adjunct professor and serving as a member of the law school’s Executive Board. In 2002, he received the SMU Dedman School of Law Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Interest.

Mr. Kinnebrew is Of Counsel to Strasburger and Price LLP, where he counsels and advises clients in the areas of estate planning, estate and trust administration and related litigation, and general income tax. Among his many professional affiliations, Mr. Kinnebrew is a former Chairman of the Dallas Bar Association’s Probate, Trusts and Estates Section, and a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Center for American and International Law. He also is a member of The International Academy of Estate and Trust Law (since 1990); a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (since 1980); and a member of the Dallas Estate Planning Council (since 1968), serving as president 1984-1985.

In the community, Mr. Kinnebrew serves as a trustee to the Communities Foundation of Texas, and he previously served as a member of SMU’s Planned Giving Council (2009-2013).

Clay and Ellen Small have given $100,000 to support scholarships for SMU law students with demonstrated athletic excellence. The scholarship is named after Mr. Small’s father. Clay Small, a 1975 SMU Law graduate, is an adjunct professor at SMU’s Cox School of Business.

The Grant Inverdale Small Endowed Scholarship will support SMU Dedman Law students who are graduates of the Cox School of Business and who also competed in athletics or majored in dance at SMU. The scholarship also may benefit SMU graduates from schools other than Cox who competed in athletics or who majored in dance at SMU.

After graduating from SMU Dedman Law in 1975, Mr. Small was an associate at White & Case in New York City until 1981. He then spent 30 years in various roles at PepsiCo, Inc. where he served as the General Counsel of nearly all the company’s Divisions including Frito-Lay, Pepsi-Cola, Pizza Hut, and Kentucky Fried Chicken. Small rose to the position of Senior Vice President and Managing Attorney at PepsiCo, where he managed the world-wide Law Department.

Mr. Small understands that being a member of a collegiate sports team can shape a life. While earning his B.A. in English from Ohio Wesleyan University, he was a two-time All-American soccer player and a draftee of the Dallas Tornado.

In addition to serving on the Dedman School of Law Executive Committee, Mr. Small is a board member of the Baylor Health Care System Foundation and Big Brothers, Big Sisters.
VanSickle Family Law Clinic—Founding Supporters

$25,000 over 5 years

As highlighted in last year’s Quad, we are delighted that a generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has committed $4 million to create and endow the VanSickle Family Law Clinic at SMU Dedman School of Law. Through endowment, the donor has ensured that low income members of our community will have access to free family law services in perpetuity.

“I hope this gift will help provide quality legal counsel to low-income families struggling with divorce and custody issues, while also creating real life experience and training to nurture the next generation of family law attorneys,” explained the donor.

In order to open this important clinic soon—rather than delaying operations while the endowment matures—we are seeking to create a small group of individuals and firms who are passionate about the work of the clinic and who are willing to help fund operations for the next five years. The gifts will enable us to hire a director this fall and open the Clinic in spring 2016.

The group will be known as the Founding Supporters of the VanSickle Family Law Clinic.

We are off to a great start but still need your help!

Our goal is to secure 20-30 Founding Supporter commitments of $25,000 each (which can be paid over 5 years).

15 Founding Supporters at the $25,000 level and counting!
We are very grateful to the following for their commitment to helping our community in this important way:

Ashley and JR Cook
Connatser Family Law
Duffee + Eitzen LLP
Deborah Hankinson—Former Justice, Texas Supreme Court
Elizabeth Hunter
Kenneth C. Long
Mike and Mary Jo McCurley
David and Shelley McLane
Libby and Bob Meyers
Harriet Miers—Former White House Counsel
Jim N. Mueller
Texas Bar Foundation
Linda B. Thomas—Chief Justice, Dallas Court of Appeals (Ret.)
Brian Webb
G. Thayer Williamson

*A generous $7,500 grant to the VanSickle Family Law Clinic has also been provided by the Dallas Bar Foundation.

Thank you!
SMU Law’s Consumer Advocacy Clinic is the grateful recipient of an $80,534.70 cy pres award thanks to the work of three Dallas lawyers: John Howie, Jr. (B.B.A. ’94, J.D. ’00), of Howie Law, PC; Walt Roper of the Roper Firm, P.C.; and Jan Cohen of the law office of Janice E. Cohen.

The funds are the result of a class action settlement in a case brought on behalf of 6,262 consumers against a truck driving school they attended and its debt collector, alleging violations of the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act and other claims under state and federal law. Last summer, the lawyers secured a settlement for the class which included in excess of $56 million in debt relief and $430,000 in money payable to the class members. The settlement included a provision directing that any settlement funds remaining after all disbursements were made would be sent to the Consumer Advocacy Clinic.

A cy pres award – roughly meaning “as near as possible” – provides an invaluable way to honor and advance the interests of class members when complete distribution of an award or settlement to the members of a class is not possible. Through cy pres awards, all settlement proceeds can be distributed in a manner that is consistent with the interests of the class members in a way that provides a collective, continuous service to the public interest. The award will provide meaningful support for the work of the Consumer Advocacy Clinic.

Engraved Plaques to Recognize Donors

The names of all donors whose total giving during The Second Century Campaign is $100,000 or more, including those of SMU Dedman Law alumni and friends, will be engraved for display on permanent plaques to be unveiled in spring 2016.
SCHOLARSHIP IN ACTION

APPLIED IN THE REAL WORLD by...

- Judges
- Policymakers
- Administrative Agencies
- Consumer Groups
- Lawyers
- Foreign Governments
- International Organizations
Prof. Beth Thornburg’s article, *The Curious Appellate Judge: Ethical Limits on Independent Research*, 28 Review of Litigation 133 (2008), discusses ethical problems with judges going outside the record to investigate facts. The article won the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers’ Eisenberg Prize, and has been a popular subject at judicial conferences, including the Fall 2015 Judicial Education Conference held by the Texas Center for the Judiciary. Most recently, it was cited in a Seventh Circuit opinion, *Rowe v. Gibson*, 2015 WL 4934970 (7th Cir. Aug.19, 2015), highlighting the policy conflicts discussed in Thornburg’s article. Dissenting Judge Hamilton chastised Judge Posner for having done extensive Internet research about the medical needs of the pro se plaintiff, while Judge Posner argues that “it is heartless to make a fetish of adversary procedure if by doing so feeble evidence is credited because the opponent has no practical access to off-setting evidence.”

Prof. Jeff Kahn’s latest book, *Mrs. Shipley’s Ghost: The Right to Travel and Terrorist Watchlists*, made him the go-to choice for lawyers who brought the first (and so far only) lawsuit challenging the U.S. government’s No Fly List to reach the trial stage. Accepted as the plaintiff’s expert witness in *Ibrahim v. Department of Homeland Security*, No. 06-cv-545-WHA (N.D. Cal.), Professor Kahn testified and was cross-examined on the uses and abuses of this controversial program. After a five-day bench trial, the court found for the plaintiff, ordering unprecedented remedial scrubbing of numerous government watchlists. The case has been cited in every major subsequent No Fly case to date.

Prof. Christopher Hanna’s large corpus of tax law scholarship led to an appointment in May 2011 as Senior Policy Advisor for Tax Reform to the United States Senate Committee on Finance. His treatise, *Corporate Income Tax Accounting*, and article, *Corporate Tax Reform: Listening to Corporate America*, 35 Journal of Corporation Law 283 (2010), were cited extensively by the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation in its document on the interaction of Federal income tax rules and financial accounting rules. Professor Hanna was the principal drafter of the Senate Finance Committee report entitled, *Comprehensive Tax Reform for 2015 and Beyond*, which was released in December 2014. The 340-page report has been widely cited since its release 11 months ago, and its discussion of corporate integration has generated renewed interest in the topic among policymakers and scholars.
Mary Spector's scholarship on credit reporting was the subject of her 2012 testimony in a hearing by the House Subcommittee on Financial Services and Consumer Credit. It was also the subject of testimony at a 2012 hearing held by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). Where the FCRA meets the FDCPA: The Impact of Un-Fair Collection Practices on the Credit Report, 20 Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law & Policy 479 (2013). In 2013, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) cited her 2011 study of consumer debt collection litigation, Debts, Details and Defaults: Exploring the Impact of Debt Collection Litigation on Consumers and the Courts, 6 Virginia Law & Business Review 257, in its report on the debt-buying industry. Her ongoing research makes her a regular participant in FTC and CFPB events. In 2015, she also served as an expert at a Civil Legal Aid Workshop convened by the Department of Justice and the National Science Foundation.

Meghan J. Ryan's article, Remediating Wrongful Execution, 45 University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform 261 (2012), argued that states should create a legal mechanism to determine whether executed prisoners were actually innocent and compensate the families of those wrongfully executed. Her article inspired the American Bar Association (ABA) to commission Prof. Ryan to write a proposed resolution and report addressing the problem. In 2014, the ABA passed a resolution adopting her recommendation. The resolution urges each federal, state, and territorial jurisdiction where capital punishment is permitted to adopt a judicial procedure to determine actual innocence and award monetary compensation.

Nathan Cortez's article, Adverse Publicity by Administrative Agencies in the Internet Era, 2011 BYU Law Review 1371, argued that Congress, courts, and agencies should reconsider ways to regulate the use of publicity by agencies, particularly in light of new information tools such as websites and social media. His article inspired the Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS), an independent federal agency dedicated to improving agency procedures, to reconsider its 1973 recommendations on the topic. ACUS commissioned Prof. Cortez to draft a report and recommendations, which are currently being considered by ACUS after feedback from agencies like the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).

Jenia Iontcheva Turner's article, Effective Remedies for Ineffective Assistance, 48 Wake Forest Law Review 101949 (2013), was featured by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in its Getting Scholarship Into Court Project. Her article argues that trial courts should read the recent Supreme Court decision in Lafler v. Cooper, 132 S. Ct. 1376 (2012), narrowly and should grant sentencing reductions as needed to restore defendants to the position they would have occupied had their counsel represented them adequately during plea bargaining.

Christopher Jenks' research on military and law enforcement use of drones and autonomous weapons, including his article, State Labs of Federalism and Law Enforcement ‘Drone’ Use, 72 Washington & Lee Law Review ___ (2015) has led to several collaborations with foreign governments and international organizations. For example, the U.S. Department of Defense invited him to work with the Colombian military as they incorporate autonomous weapons and non-lethal police tactics. In addition, the International Committee of the Red Cross featured Prof. Jenks' work on autonomous weapons in a recent article.
WELCOME!

New Faculty

Chante Prox
Director of the VanSickle Family Law Clinic

Chante Prox’s work in the VanSickle Family Law Clinic encompasses teaching and supervising students who will represent low-income residents in matters such as divorce, annulment, paternity actions, custody and visitation, and child and spousal support.

Prior to joining the faculty at SMU Dedman School of Law, Professor Prox was managing attorney and mediator at Barnes Prox Law, PLLC, which focused exclusively on family law matters. She began her career as a Child Protective Services caseworker, then transitioned to working as a legislative aide to Texas State Senator Royce West.

Professor Prox’s experiences as a caseworker helped shaped the health and human services legislation she spearheaded for Senator West which enhanced the lives of many families across Texas. Most notably, she recommended the “Grandparents’ Bill,” which provides financial assistance to grandparents raising their grandchildren with the goal of preserving family ties. Tenets of this bill have expanded to federal kinship care legislation.

Professor Prox received a B.S. from Texas Woman’s University, M.S. in Social Work from The University of Texas at Arlington with a concentration in child welfare law, and her J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law.

Natalie Nanasi
Director of the Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women

Natalie Nanasi’s work involves teaching and supervising students who represent survivors of gender-based violence – including domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking – in a broad range of legal matters.

Prior to arriving at SMU, Professor Nanasi was a Practitioner-in-Residence and the Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic at American University, Washington College of Law (WCL), where she supervised students’ representation of survivors of intimate partner violence in family law and immigration cases. Before joining the faculty at WCL, Professor Nanasi was the Senior Immigration Attorney and Pro Bono Coordinator at the Tahirih Justice Center, representing immigrant women and girls fleeing human rights abuses such as female genital mutilation, domestic violence, human trafficking, forced marriage, honor crimes and sexual violence. She also served as counsel in the landmark asylum case of Matter of A-T- and as an Equal Justice Works Fellow from 2007-2009, with a focus on the U visa. Prior to her work at Tahirih, Professor Nanasi was a law clerk to the Honorable Lynn Leibovitz of the District of Columbia Superior Court.

Professor Nanasi received her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center, where she earned an Equal Justice Foundation fellowship for her work at the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Center in New Delhi, India and assisted in representation of HIV-positive immigrants at Whitman Walker Clinic Legal Services. Prior to her legal career, Professor Nanasi was a rape crisis counselor and assisted single teenage mothers at a transitional residence facility in Boston.
FACULTY NEWS

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Nathan Cortez
Associate Dean for Research and The Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies
Awarded:
2015 Gerald J. Ford Research Fellowship

Linda S. Eads
Associate Provost and Associate Professor of Law
Invited:
by former First Lady Laura Bush to join the Women’s Initiative Policy Advisory Council at the George W. Bush Institute

Julie P. Forrester
Professor of Law
Appointed:
Associate Provost for SMU

W. Keith Robinson
Assistant Professor of Law
Appointed:
Co-Director of the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation

Mary Spector
Co-Director of Civil Clinic, Director of Consumer Advocacy Project and Professor of Law
Appointed:
Associate Dean for Clinics

David O. Taylor
Assistant Professor of Law
Appointed:
Co-Director of the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation

Elizabeth G. Thornburg
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Richard R. Lee Endowed Professor of Law
Voted:
"Peruna Prof" (a.k.a. an outstanding teacher) by her students

Jessica Dixon Weaver
Associate Professor of Law
Awarded:
2015 Faculty Appreciation Award from SMU Women in Law and honored by the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) with a scholarship created in her name for a graduating 3L who exhibits excellence in leadership and makes important contributions to the law school
PROMOTIONS

Anthony J. Colangelo
Gerald J. Ford Research Fellow and Professor of Law

Nathan Cortez
Associate Dean for Research and The Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies

Jessica Dixon Weaver
Associate Professor of Law

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Marc I. Steinberg
Rupert and Lillian Radford Professor of Law

Stephen B. Yeager
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

Co-Authors
Inside Counsel: Practices, Strategies, and Insights
Professor Emerita Ellen Solender left an indelible mark on SMU Dedman School of Law and the legal community through her service as a professor for 20 years and her passionate crusade for the advancement of women. Although she earned emerita status in 1994, that service and that passion never wavered. Professor Solender passed away on August 1 at age 91. Earlier this year, Professor Solender gave $2 million to create a new Endowed Chair in Women and the Law at SMU Dedman Law. (Please read more about her extraordinary generosity on page 34.)

Solender was born in New York, where her mother was a member of the League of Women Voters. After earning a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College, she went to work for AT&T’s Bell Labs. In 1949, she and her husband, the late Robert L. Solender, moved to Dallas where she worked for The Wall Street Journal.

Active with the League of Women Voters, Solender believed government officials were not taking her questions seriously, so she entered law school in 1968 to improve her credentials. At twice the age of her classmates and with three children still in school, Solender was one of only 12 women in a class of about 200.

“One of the things that was clear from my point of view was the hostility of males to females,” Solender said in a 2003 interview with former SMU Provost James Brooks. “A lot of the students seemed to feel that we shouldn’t be in law school, that we were taking the place of a competent male.”

Solender encountered resistance from some male faculty as well. In a 2013 interview Solender told SMU Law Professor Joshua Tate that oftentimes women were not called on in class—even when they volunteered to answer questions.

But other professors were more impartial. “I know I drove my tax teachers crazy because I would ask questions like, ‘Why do we have deductions for interest on houses and no deductions for child care?’” she told Provost Brooks.

Solender not only persevered, she excelled, becoming the only woman on law review. She served as an editor of the *Southwestern Law Journal* and was active in the Barristers student service organization.

Shortly after graduating from SMU Law in 1971, Solender became director of legal writing, legal research, and legal methods at the law school. She joined the full-time faculty in 1973, and four years later she became the second female professor to achieve tenure status. During her tenure, Professor Solender taught in many critical areas for women, including Matrimonial Property and Family Law, where the legislative landscape was dramatically changing the status of women’s rights across Texas and the nation.

After 20 years on the law faculty, Professor Solender retired in 1994 and was awarded emerita status by the SMU Board of Trustees.

But Solender continued her legacy of service and her advocacy for women’s rights. She was an adviser to Dallas’ Domestic Violence Task Force from its inception in 1987, and was a supporter of the Dallas Museum of Art, Educational First Steps Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, and the North Texas Food Bank.

Solender was especially passionate about the right to vote and the work of the League of Women Voters. A highlight of her many accomplishments, in 2011 Solender received the League of Women Voters’ Susan B. Anthony Award in recognition of her decades of leadership.
MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**

- **Mary Spector**
  - Associate Dean for Clinics and Professor of Law, Director of the Consumer Advocacy Project and Co-Director of the Civil Clinic
  - December 29, 2014: “Texas is Throwing People in Jail for Failing to Pay Back Predatory Loans”

- **Greg Crespi**
  - Professor of Law
  - June 8, 2015: “Young Lawyers Could Face ‘Tax Bomb,’ Says Professor”

**Bloomberg Radio**

- **Jeffrey Kahn**
  - Professor of Law
  - June 22, 2015: “Supreme Court Case, Horne v. Department of Agriculture”
  - October 23, 2015: “America Hasn’t Always Lived the Values Celebrated in ‘Bridge of Spies’”

- **Meghan Ryan**
  - Associate Professor of Law
  - March 5, 2015: “Fatal Shooting of a Teenager by a Police Officer in Texas”
  - May 2015: “Supreme Court Considers Lethal Injections”

- **Tom Mayo**
  - Altshuler University Distinguished Teaching Professor and Associate Professor of Law

- **Nathan Cortez**
  - Associate Dean for Research and the Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies
  - October 14, 2014: “Ebola and the Law”
  - December 23, 2014: “Blood Pressure Apps May Be Dangerously Wrong”
  - March 16, 2015: “Questioning the Value of Health Apps”

- **Chris Jenks**
  - Director of the Criminal Justice Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law
  - March 6, 2015: “American Sniper Trial: Why Prosecutors Often Don’t Seek the Death Penalty”
  - March 25, 2015: “Army is Charging Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl With Desertion”

- **Yolanda Eisenstein**
  - Adjunct Professor of Law
  - October 13, 2014: “Dallas Dog Avoids Excalibur’s Fate as Mayor Shuns Ebola Paranoia”

**THE WASHINGTON POST**

- **Mary Spector**
  - Associate Dean for Clinics and Professor of Law, Director of the Consumer Advocacy Project and Co-Director of the Civil Clinic
  - December 29, 2014: “Texas is Throwing People in Jail for Failing to Pay Back Predatory Loans”

- **Jeffrey Kahn**
  - Professor of Law
  - June 22, 2015: “Supreme Court Case, Horne v. Department of Agriculture”
  - October 23, 2015: “America Hasn’t Always Lived the Values Celebrated in ‘Bridge of Spies’”

- **Meghan Ryan**
  - Associate Professor of Law
  - March 5, 2015: “Fatal Shooting of a Teenager by a Police Officer in Texas”
  - May 2015: “Supreme Court Considers Lethal Injections”

- **Tom Mayo**
  - Altshuler University Distinguished Teaching Professor and Associate Professor of Law

- **Nathan Cortez**
  - Associate Dean for Research and the Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies
  - October 14, 2014: “Ebola and the Law”
  - December 23, 2014: “Blood Pressure Apps May Be Dangerously Wrong”
  - March 16, 2015: “Questioning the Value of Health Apps”

- **Chris Jenks**
  - Director of the Criminal Justice Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law
  - March 6, 2015: “American Sniper Trial: Why Prosecutors Often Don’t Seek the Death Penalty”
  - March 25, 2015: “Army is Charging Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl With Desertion”

- **Yolanda Eisenstein**
  - Adjunct Professor of Law
  - October 13, 2014: “Dallas Dog Avoids Excalibur’s Fate as Mayor Shuns Ebola Paranoia”

**ALJAZEERA AMERICA**

- **Meghan Ryan**
  - Associate Professor of Law
  - March 5, 2015: “Fatal Shooting of a Teenager by a Police Officer in Texas”
  - May 2015: “Supreme Court Considers Lethal Injections”

**KERA NEWS**

- **Nathan Cortez**
  - Associate Dean for Research and the Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies
  - October 14, 2014: “Ebola and the Law”
  - December 23, 2014: “Blood Pressure Apps May Be Dangerously Wrong”
  - March 16, 2015: “Questioning the Value of Health Apps”

**REUTERS**

- **Nathan Cortez**
  - Associate Dean for Research and the Adelfa Botello Callejo Endowed Professor of Law in Leadership and Latino Studies
  - October 14, 2014: “Ebola and the Law”
  - December 23, 2014: “Blood Pressure Apps May Be Dangerously Wrong”
  - March 16, 2015: “Questioning the Value of Health Apps”

**BusinessWorld**

- **Yolanda Eisenstein**
  - Adjunct Professor of Law
  - October 13, 2014: “Dallas Dog Avoids Excalibur’s Fate as Mayor Shuns Ebola Paranoia”
SMU Dedman School of Law

Law Grads Come Back

We are thrilled to announce the promotions of some of our law school staff—who just happen to be alums!—and to welcome another alumnus back to SMU Dedman Law. Congratulations and welcome!

NEW HIRES

Abby Newman Ruth ’06
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

As the Director of Alumni Relations, Abby Ruth has launched the law school’s new alumni organization, the Mustang Bar Association, which gives our alums many terrific opportunities for engagement with the school and with each other. Within the Mustang Bar, Abby also has created the Mustang Exchange flash mentorship program, the first of its kind for law schools, that connects students with multiple mentors for one-on-one career conversations. Prior to her role with alumni relations, Abby served as the Director of the Appellate Judges Education Institute for the law school, a program that provides continuing education for judges and lawyers.

Before joining SMU Law, Abby practiced for eight years in the Dallas office of Norton Rose Fullbright, focusing on commercial and pharmaceutical litigation. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin, where she served as head cheerleader. Abby graduated from SMU Dedman School of Law in 2006 and was president of the SMU Law Review Association. Outside the law school, Abby and her husband, Peter, are very busy chasing around their two kids, Lucy (5) and Rex (3).

Rey Rodriguez ’93
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES AND DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

As our newest director in the Office of Career Services, Rey Rodriguez is responsible for developing clerkships and permanent jobs with small/midsize law firms and corporate employers, overseeing the professional development of students, and counseling full-time J.D. students. Drawing on two decades of experience at global law firms and having grown up in the world’s largest bi-national metropolitan area, Rey helps all law students excel in our increasingly diverse and globalized legal industry. “Teaming to Win” (his favorite motto) describes the outsize success achievable through developing and leveraging inclusive teams of talented individuals who, inescapably, bring a diverse collection of strengths, experiences, and backgrounds.

Rey earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in 1989, summa cum laude from University of Texas at El Paso and was named a Harry S. Truman Scholar. He was the valedictorian of the SMU Dedman School of Law Class of 1993. While attending SMU, he was a Judge Sarah T. Hughes Diversity Scholar and served on the SMU Law Review Association. After graduating, Rey clerked for current Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht. From 1994 to 2003, Rey practiced with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. From 2003 to 2014, he served as counsel, senior counsel, and then as a litigation partner at Fulbright & Jaworski. He is board certified in civil appellate law, serves as vice chair of the Dallas Bar Foundation, and is an editor for the ABA. Rey’s wife is an SMU alumna, and their three-year-old daughter enjoys Boulevard tailgating in full cheerleader apparel.
Martin Camp ’79
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR GRADUATE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

For the past 10 years, Martin brought his positive attitude and enthusiasm to students, faculty and staff in his role as Dean of Students. His signature “Good News, Bad News, Who’s to Say?” and “Life Is Good” mantras became part of the culture of the law school and resonate with so many alumni from his time in this role. In his new role as Dean of Graduate and International Programs, Martin will utilize his extensive overseas experience and his background working closely with our international students to bring some wonderful ideas for improving the experience that our international and tax LL.M. students have at SMU.

Before becoming Dean of Students in 2005, Martin was a partner for 20 years at Jones Day, which included stints as Partner in Charge of the Real Estate Section of the Austin Office; Partner in Charge of the Kuwait Office; and Partner in Charge of New Associate Development in the Dallas Office. Before that, he was an associate at Hughes & Luce (now K & L Gates). He is a 1979 cum laude graduate of SMU Law, Order of the Coif, and a Hatton Sumner’s Scholar. He has taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas School of Law and at SMU Dedman School of Law for many years in the areas of Property, Real Estate and Land Use. He also has been very active in the Dallas Bar Association, where he has served as the Vice Chair and Chair of the Ethics Committee and as the Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Chair and Chair of the Real Property Section, as well as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Law Section.

Becca Henley ’02
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR ADMINISTRATION

Becca Henley is the law school’s new Assistant Dean for Administration. In this role, Becca will provide support to the dean of the law school regarding a wide range of administrative tasks including staffing needs, data analysis and reporting, and strategic and curricular initiatives. Becca brings a new and valuable perspective to this position, having served as Director of Admissions at the law school for the past four years.

Becca is a proud alumna of SMU Dedman School of Law Class of 2002. Before returning to her alma mater, Becca practiced corporate and securities law at Thompson & Knight LLP and in-house. Becca’s husband, Marc Lickteig, is a senior finance manager at Frito-Lay. They have one daughter – Eva, a fabulous fourth grader – and a lovable rescue shih tzu, Manny.

Steve Yeager ’93
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

Steve Yeager is the law school’s new Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Steve has done truly remarkable work in Career Services and with the Corporate Counsel Externship Program and will be an extraordinary source of support for our students in his new role as dean of students. In addition to his other responsibilities, he will continue his work on the Corporate Counsel Externship Program and will expand the overall strength and reach of our externship programs to take even greater advantage of our geographic good fortune of being in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex.

Before SMU, Steve was in private practice for 16 years, first at Jones Day and then as general counsel of a private financial services company. He received his undergraduate and law degrees at SMU. He is the co-author of Inside Counsel – Practices, Strategies and Insights (West 2015), with Professor Marc I. Steinberg. His wife Amy, also an SMU Dedman Law alum, is Senior Vice President & General Counsel – North Texas for Baylor Scott & White Health. They have two high school-aged children.
First Annual “Law Day” for Area Students

On March 19, 2015, 40 high school students arrived at SMU Dedman School of Law as the first participants in a program created by SMU’s Black Law Students Association (BLSA) to directly address the diversity pipeline issue within the legal field. “Law Day” aspires to eventually increase the enrollment of minority students at SMU Dedman School of Law by providing college bound, minority high school students with

• guidance on actions to take as undergraduates to make themselves desirable law student candidates,
• information on the breadth of opportunities within the legal field, and
• exposure to student life at SMU Dedman School of Law.

The day began with Dean Jennifer Collins delivering a warm welcome to the students, expressing her excitement about their participation in the program, and connecting with them by sharing her experience as the first female dean of the law school. Following were presentations from the Office of Career Services, SMU Undergraduate Admissions, and SMU Dedman School of Law Admissions. Then members of BLSA, SBA, SMU Law Review, and the clinical program provided the students with a tour of the law school and insights into their respective programs and organizations. Also, Cassie DuBay, Head of Research Services, led the students on an in-depth tour of the Underwood Law Library.

After lunch, current law students taught the high schoolers how to brief and analyze a case, which prepared them for their mock law class with Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Martin Camp ’79.

BLSA attributes the success of the program to the group of eagerly keen students selected from Pegasus School of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Uplift Peak Preparatory as well as the immense support received from the law school and looks forward to its continued success.
This year, 11 top SMU Dedman School of Law graduates headed to judicial chambers as near as downtown Dallas and Plano, Texas, and as far away as American Samoa.

**Back row, left to right:**
- **Bryan Clegg**
  Judge Catharina Haynes, Fifth Circuit Court of the United States
- **John S. Adams**
  Judge Alta Moses, U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, Del Rio Division
- **Sam Bragg**
  Judge Jane Boyle, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division
- **Chris Knight**
  Justice Jeff Brown, Supreme Court of Texas
- **Ian Ross Phillips**
  Magistrate Judge Paul Stickney, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division
- **Jennifer Smiley**
  Magistrate Judge B. Dwight Goains, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

**Front row, left to right:**
- **Jasmine Culpepper**
  Judge Sam Lindsey, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division
- **Haleigh Jones**
  Justice Douglas Lang, Fifth District Court of Appeals of Texas
- **Andria Rae Minyard**
  Judge Gloria Navarro, U.S. District Court, District Court of Nevada, Las Vegas
- **Annabel Pedraza Rocha**
  Immigration Court, DOJ Honors, Executive Office of Immigration Review, Eloy, Arizona
- **Allyson Diane Gault**
  Associate Justice Lyle Richmond, High Court of American Samoa

Be on the lookout for some great, new merchandise at the SMU bookstore branded for SMU Dedman School of Law. Items should arrive in November.
SEEN & HEARD

1. Professor Dr. Thomas Weigend, University of Cologne; “How to Deal with Procedural Faults? A Comparative Approach”; March 4, 2015
2. Social Media Symposium; October 3, 2014
5. ETP v. Enterprise: Inside the Most Important Corporate Jury Trial of 2014; October 29, 2014
“A Conversation with Jack Balagia, Vice President and General Counsel of Exxon Mobil”; November 18, 2014

LRE mock trials with Chavez Learning Center: *Ministry of Magic v. Harry Potter*; February 13, 2015

Admitted Students Day Alumni Panel, Clay Small (not pictured), Betty Ungerman, Mike Boone; March 27, 2015

Food Law Forum; November 18, 2014
11 APIL Auction; April 11, 2015  12 49th Air Law Symposium, Julie G. Duffy Textron Inc. – The View from the General Counsel’s Office: What We Respect in Our Outside and Opposing Counsel; March 26-27, 2015  13 Louise B. Raggio Endowed Lecture: “A Conversation with Susan Hawk, The First Female Dallas County District Attorney”; March 31, 2015  14 Howie & Sweeney Moot Court Competition; March 31, 2015  15 Prof. Dr. Bettina Weisser, University of Münster, “Companies on Trial: ‘No soul to be damned, no body to kick’? What can Europe learn from the U.S.?”; February 26, 2015
Civil Clinic, Income Tax Assistance/Volunteer Work at Habitat for Humanity; April 15, 2015
TEDxSMU, Professor Lackland Bloom, “Why We Should Protect Hurtful Speech”; April 30, 2015
Law School Hooding Ceremony, Speaker, Sarah Saldaña, Director, ICE; May 16, 2015
Communities Foundation of Texas: Professional Seminar Series; May 14, 2015
International LL.M. Student Reception; May 13, 2015
SMU Dedman Law Honors Distinguished Alumni at Annual Awards Dinner

Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony

Five impressive individuals were recognized on Thursday, March 19, for their outstanding achievements, leadership, and service. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor the law school bestows upon its alumni and friends.

This year’s honorees were (left to right) William O. Holston, Jr. ’81, Siriporn Chaiyasuta ’85, Joseph W. McKnight, Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira ’99, and G. Michael Gruber ’81. Professor Emeritus Joseph W. McKnight was named as an honorary alumnus of the law school. The alumni distinguished themselves in areas of leadership, international work, private practice, and public service.
Thank you!
to the following firms and individuals who sponsored the awards ceremony

Platinum Level
Jack Knox
William D. Noel

Gold Level
Baylor Scott & White Health
Godwin Lewis PC
G. Michael Gruber ’81 & Diane B. Gruber
Gruber Hurst Johansen Hail Shank
Haynes and Boone, LLP
Hunt Consolidated, Inc.
Jackson Walker L.L.P.
Rusty Hardin & Associates LLP
Tolleson Wealth Management

Silver Level
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Wm. Stephen Boyd
Cedillo-Pereira & Associates, PLLC
Gruber Hurst Johansen Hail Shank
Harold Simmons Foundation
Hunton & Williams LLP
In Memory of the Class of 1981’s
Dear Friends Robert Dennis & Calvin Fenton
Hon. Jeff Kaplan and Hon. Mary Murphy
Law Offices of Eric Cedillo, PC
Locke Lord LLP
Robert E. & Suzanne Bolton Mellor
Suzie and Tog Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. Rust, Jr.
Sidley Austin LLP
TDJ Enterprises
Thompson & Knight LLP
John and Melissa Torres

Sapphire Level
CRM & Associates, LLC – Dr. Margo McClinton
Howison & Arnott, LLP
Latino Center for Leadership Development
Libby and Bob Meyers
Honorable Tonya Parker
Emerging Leader Award

Liz Cedillo-Pereira ’99
Managing Attorney, Cedillo-Pereira & Associates, PLLC

“Out of my mother’s need, I drew my sketch of the kind of lawyer I wanted to be.”

Distinguished Global Alumni Award

Siriporn Chaiyasuta ’85
General Counsel, Chevron Europe, Eurasia and Middle East Exploration & Production Limited

“SMU Law School laid a firm foundation for my career and is a catalyst for excellence.”

Distinguished Alumni Award for Private Practice

G. Michael Gruber ’81
Partner, Gruber Hurst Johansen Hail Shank LLP

“My classmates at SMU Dedman School of Law were incredible. They make me proud.”

Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service

William O. Holston, Jr. ’81
Executive Director, Human Rights Initiative of North Texas, Inc.

From Seamus Heaney’s, The Cure at Troy: “History says, don’t hope, on this side of the grave. But then, once in a lifetime, The longed for tidal wave, Of justice can rise up, And hope and history rhyme.”

“Isn’t it true? Don’t we all hope the history of our clients rhyme with the justice they deserve?”

Honorary Alumnus Award

Joseph W. McKnight
Professor Emeritus of Law and Larry and Jane Harlan Faculty Fellow Emeritus

On the SMU Law faculty for more than 60 years, McKnight is known for his work directing the Texas Family Code project and drafting the Texas Matrimonial Property Act, which recognized the property rights of married women.
SMU's Dedman School of Law on March 19, 2015, recognized five of their alumni at its 28th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony for their professional achievements and contributions to the community and the law school.

The five honorees, four of whom practice in the Dallas area, accepted their awards before a full ballroom of friends, family and colleagues in the legal community at the Belo Mansion. Each was recognized for a different facet of work in the legal industry.

This year’s named distinguished alumni were commercial litigator Mike Gruber; immigration attorney Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira; Chevron Europe, Eurasia and Middle East Exploration & Production Limited General Counsel Siriporn Chaiyasuta; Human Rights Initiative of North Texas Executive Director Bill Holston; and SMU Dedman Professor Emeritus Joseph McKnight.

G. Michael Gruber ’81

Gruber, a named partner at Dallas litigation boutique, Gruber Hurst Johansen Hail Shank, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Private Practice. Though a business defense litigator by nature, Gruber is also known for his achievements on the other side, including a $125 million judgment against Blockbuster in favor of its first major investors, a $30 million fraud verdict against Shell Oil and an $18 million verdict against the pharmaceutical company Hoffman-LaRoche, in one of the largest sexual harassment verdicts in the country.

This year, Gruber took Wellness v. Sheriff to the U.S. Supreme Court, a seminal case that involves bankruptcy court and federal magistrate jurisdiction. But his advocacy role began well before his work as a licensed attorney. During his law school years, Gruber led efforts to create a minority recruitment committee, implement minority scholarships and create a tutorial project at SMU Dedman Law. He has been involved with several charitable organizations, including the Dallas Zoo, North Texas Habitat for Humanity, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and many others.

William O. Holston, Jr. ’81

Holston was this year’s recipient for the Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service. For the past 15 years, Holston has worked at the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas, an organization that serves local refugees and immigrants who have suffered human rights abuses and collaborates with lawyers in the area to represent these victims pro bono in asylum cases. Before joining HRI, Holston practiced trial and appellate law and alternative dispute resolution, specializing in bankruptcy and creditors’ rights business transactions, church and Canon, equipment leasing, probate and surety matters.

When he accepted his award, Holston quoted a stanza of Seamus Heaney’s poem, The Cure at Troy: “History says, don’t hope, On this side of the grave. But then, once in a lifetime, The longing for tidal wave, Of justice can rise up, And hope and history rhyme.”

“It ain’t true? Don’t we all hope the history of our clients rhyme with the justice they deserve?” Holston said.

Liz Cedillo-Pereira ’99

Liz Cedillo-Pereira, a local immigration attorney, received the Emerging Leader Award. In 2007, she co-founded a project called “Know Your Rights” that serves detained immigrants. Her law firm, Cedillo-Pereira & Associates, represents individuals, families, businesses and government entities. Earlier in her career, Cedillo-Pereira moved to the Texas-Mexico border and represented victims fleeing human trafficking and violence. This led her to return to Dallas and create a pro bono program with Catholic Charities-Dallas for pro se immigrants in North Texas.

While accepting her award, Cedillo-Pereira said that growing up, her mother worked three jobs — traveling by bus — to support the family, pointing out that she certainly needed legal help.

“Out of my mother’s need, I drew my sketch of the kind of lawyer I wanted to be,” Cedillo-Pereira said, which is to dedicate her practice to helping others start on their paths toward the American Dream.

Siriporn Chaiyasuta ’85

The Distinguished Global Alumni award went to Chevron’s Siriporn Chaiyasuta, who bases her practice in London. For Chevron, Chaiyasuta leads a team of more than 50 lawyers and manages the company’s legal portfolio for all exploration and production businesses in Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East.

Originally from Bangkok, Chaiyasuta comes from a long line of Thai judges and is a sixth generation lawyer in her family. Before joining Chevron, Chaiyasuta made contributions in her homeland by helping build a legal infrastructure and expanding open and fair markets in Thailand. She has also been a driving force behind key legislation aimed at reforming the Thai legal system for businesses and the community, working with both the prime minister and the Thai parliament on these reforms.

Joseph W. McKnight

The Honorary Alumnus Award went to Joseph W. McKnight, a Professor Emeritus and the Larry and Jane Harlan Faculty Fellow Emeritus at SMU Dedman Law. McKnight is known for his work directing the Texas Family Code project and drafting the Texas Matrimonial Property Act, which recognized property rights of married women. He also is an expert in American legal history and creditors’ rights.

Before joining the SMU Law faculty in 1955, McKnight practiced at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York. While at SMU Dedman Law, McKnight established an extraordinary collection of rare legal books, which he gave to the law school in 2011. The oldest book in the collection was published in 1481.
ALUMNI NEWS

INTRODUCING SMU LAW’S NEW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Mustang Bar
Law Alumni Association

NETWORK
• Happy Hours
• Reunions
• Tailgates
• Basketball Watching Parties
• Distinguished Alumni Awards

LEARN
• CLEs
• Lecture Series
• Panels
• Symposia

GET INVOLVED
• Mentor Students
• Mustang Exchange Flash Mentorship Program
• Judge Moot Court, Mock Trial
• Assist in Recruitment
• Sponsor a Student Group

CONNECT
Mustang Bar: Join the Conversation
facebook.com/groups/mustangbarsmulaw
@mustangbarsmu
SMU Dedman School of Law
mustangbarsmulaw
Introducing... One of the first mentorship programs of its kind, SMU Dedman School of Law’s Mustang Exchange is an innovative “flash” mentorship program that connects each law student with multiple alumni and friends for one-on-one mentoring meetings.

What is Flash Mentoring? Instead of a traditional mentorship program that pairs one student with only one mentor for the year in hopes that a beneficial relationship will develop naturally, the Mustang Exchange offers an SMU Dedman Law student the chance to build his or her legal network from day one by connecting with multiple alumni and friends. Students meet with various mentors throughout the school year for career conversations, law school guidance, cover letter review, mock interviewing, and job shadowing experiences.

Join the Mustang Exchange

Sign up through the website or via email:

www.law.smu.edu/mustangexchange

lawmentor@smu.edu
THE MUSTANG BAR LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2015 Networking Events

CONNECT.

EDUCATE.

ENGAGE.
The Mustang Bar
Law Alumni Association
THE MUSTANG BAR LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2015 Networking Events

2015 Texas Tour

DALLAS
FORT WORTH
HOUSTON
MIDLAND
SAN ANTONIO
TAILGATE PARTIES
CLEs
HAPPY HOURS
MENTOR MEETINGS
THE MUSTANG BAR LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Law School Alumni Reunions
Law School Reunions
Friday, September 25, 2015

Reunion classes of ’55, ’60, ’65, ’70, ’75, ’80, ’85, ’90,
’95, ’00, ’05 enjoyed a combined class cocktail
reception at the Hickory Street Annex!

To view photos from this event, visit the SMU
Dedman Law Facebook page!

https://www.facebook.com/
SMUDedmanLaw
Jeff C. Lamberth ’88 is NFL Referee

Jeff Lamberth, an attorney with Berie Lamberth, L.L.P, has been moonlighting for the NFL. As a referee for the past 12 years, he has been a field judge and a side judge officiating for about 15 games a season.

A. Shonn Brown ’98 Receives Sam S. Lindsay Award

Professionalism and Ethics

Shonn Brown, a partner with Gruber Hurst Elrod Johansen Hail Shank LLP, is the 2014 recipient of the Sam A. Lindsay Award for Professionalism and Ethics presented by the J.L. Turner Legal Association. She was recognized at the group’s 62nd Anniversary Scholarship & Awards Gala. Founded in 1952, the J.L. Turner Legal Association serves as the African-American bar association in Dallas, with a mission to improve the quality of life in the community through education, service and scholarship. In March of 2015, Brown was named one of the “Most Influential Black Lawyers” in America by Savoy Magazine.

Mike Boone ’67 Re-elected Chair of the SMU Board of Trustees

Mike Boone, civic leader and co-founder of Haynes and Boone, has been re-elected chair of the SMU Board of Trustees, the University’s 42-member governing board, effective June 2015. Boone has been an SMU trustee since 1996. This year he also is involved in two new programs at SMU Dedman School of Law. He is a Community Fellow of the first-year student program Inns of Court sponsored by Haynes and Boone, and a Mustang Exchange mentor.

Darrell Jordan ’64 and Buck Files ’63 Receive 2015 Outstanding 50-Year Lawyer Award from Texas Bar Foundation

Darrell Jordan, a partner of Diamond McCarthy LLP of Dallas, and Buck Files, a shareholder and founding member of Bain, Files, Jarrett, Bain, and Harrison, P.C. of Tyler, received the 2015 Outstanding 50-Year Lawyer Award from Texas Bar Foundation. The award recognizes attorneys whose practice spanned 50 years or more, and who adhere to the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession and service to the public.
Dr. Faisal Alfahad
LL.M. ’02, S.J.D. ’06
Renewed as
Commissioner of the Kuwait Capital Market Authority

In September 2014, The Capital Markets Authority renewed Dr. Faisal Alfahad’s term as the Commissioner of the Kuwait Capital Market Authority. The Capital Market Authority is the securities regulator in Kuwait, which is similar to the SEC in the U.S.

Jerry C. Alexander ’72
Elected Dallas Bar Association President-elect

Jerry C. Alexander, a shareholder with Passman & Jones, was elected Dallas Bar Association President-elect in November 2014. Alexander will serve as the association’s 107th President in 2016.

Messina Madson ’04
Named First Assistant District Attorney for Dallas County

Messina Madson was named the First Assistant District Attorney for Dallas County in April 2015 by Dallas District Attorney Susan Hawk. Madson, who has served as the chief prosecutor over the misdemeanor division under Hawk, also served under former District Attorney Craig Watkins, including as a family violence prosecutor. She was named Dallas County Prosecutor of the Year in 2014.

Lacy Durham
J.D.’06, LL.M.’08
Named Chair of the ABA Young Lawyers Division

Lacy Durham, a Tax Manager for Compensation and Benefits with Deloitte Tax, LLP, was named Chair of the ABA Young Lawyers Division and began her work at the ABA Annual Meeting in July 2015.

Rusty Hardin ’75
Inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers

Rusty Hardin, of Rusty Hardin & Associates in Houston, was inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers (ATL) and admitted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers in March 2015.

Joe B. Whisler ’72
Elected to ABA Board of Governors

Joe B. Whisler, Ninth District (2015-2018) and a shareholder at Cooling & Herbers in Kansas City, Missouri, was elected to the ABA Board of Governors. He has been a member of the ABA House of Delegates since 2006 and currently serves on the Nominating Committee as the state delegate from Missouri.

Dr. Hansjoerg Heppe
LL.M. ’97
Appointed German Honorary Consul

Dr. Hansjoerg Heppe, an international partner with Locke Lord LLP, was appointed as German Honorary Consul in Dallas on June 30, 2015.
1948

Joe Geary, founder of Geary, Porter & Donovan and still practicing law at the age of 90, recently resolved a dispute involving a legal immigrant ranch hand and a high-interest loan company in Denton County.

1959

Marshall J. Doke, Jr., in Government Contracts for Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP in Dallas, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list and Chambers USA 2015.

Bob Dyess was recognized as Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce.

1960

Robert L. Meyers III, Of Counsel to Ford Nassen & Baldwin, received a Pioneer Award from the Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

1963

George Bramblett, Senior Counsel at Haynes and Boone, LLP, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

1965

The Honorable Patrick A. Robertson retired as Highland Park’s Municipal Judge after 45 years of service. Judge Robertson was among the top five longest-serving municipal judges in Texas.

C.L. Mike Schmidt, managing partner of The Schmidt Firm, was named “Legend in Trial Law” by the Dallas Bar Association.

1966

Joseph F. Canterbury, Jr., director and shareholder in Canterbury, Gooch, Surratt, Shapiro, Stein & Gaswirth, received a Pioneer Award from the Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

1968

Paul Van Slyke joined HooverSlovacek in Houston as senior counsel.

1969

Frank Branson (J.D. ’69, LL.M. ’74) was named among the Top 10 Lawyers in Texas in the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list, and the National Law Journal honored him among the 50 “Elite Trial Lawyers” in the U.S. He also was named president-elect of the Association of Plaintiff Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America. He was listed among the “50 Leading Plaintiffs Firms in America” in the Elite Trial Lawyers section of the National Law Journal.

Gerald J. Ford was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and delivered the keynote address at SMU’s December 2014 Commencement.

Hugh E. Hackney joined JAMS, the largest private provider of Mediation & Arbitration services worldwide.

1971

Albon Head, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Al Ellis, Of Counsel at Sommerman & Quesada, was chosen by D Magazine as one of the “Best Lawyers in Dallas 2015” in the ADR/Mediation Category.

Alton C. Todd was appointed as a member of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization Board of Directors.

1972

Daniel Susie, partner at Winstead PC, was listed as “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

Larry W. Wall, partner at Wall Huntington, was selected by his peers for the Consumer Champion Award given by the Kansas Association for Justice.

1973

Rhett Campbell, Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

Donald E. Godwin was included on the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list of the state’s top attorneys. He also was chosen for the 2014-2015 Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America, and as “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

Edward C. Hertenstein, partner at Roetzel, was named a 2015 Ohio Super Lawyer in the field of Estate & Probate Law.

Emily Parker, managing partner at Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

1974

Mike Daniel, partner at Daniel & Beshara, P.C., argued the Dallas Housing Discrimination case in the U.S. Supreme Court.

William S. Garner, partner at Greenberg Traurig, was listed as “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

Thomas Groves, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

JoAnn Harris joined TPG as Deputy Director of Corporate Compliance after a number of years as Assistant Director of Enforcement for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Fort Worth.

Douglas A. Harrison, Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP in Dallas, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Orrin L. Harrison, partner at Gruber Hurst Elrod Johansen Hail Shank LLP, was recognized in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

Gary Ingram, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

R. Barrett Richards (LL.M. ’74), partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP, was included in the Dallas Business Journal’s 2014 Who’s Who in Health Care list.

1975

James B. “Jim” Davis, shareholder at Gunster, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Broward.

Cynthia Day Grimes, partner at Strasburger & Price, was named in Best Lawyers among the “Lawyers of the Year” in Texas.
Deirdre B. Ruckman, Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP in Dallas, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list and received recognition in the 2015 Chambers USA list.

Tim McCormick, Thompson & Knight LLP was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

1976

John W. Bickel, II joined Fish & Richardson as Of Counsel, and joined the Board at CVSL, Inc.

Richard G. Dafoe received the Mustang Legacy Award for his long-time support of SMU Athletics.

Douglas K. Eyberg, chair of the Energy Industry Team at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, received national recognition in the 2015 Chambers USA rankings, and was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Edward C. Hertenstein, partner at Roetzel in Columbus, OH, was named among The Best Lawyers in America for 2015 in Trusts and Estates and Tax Law.

John W. Holden Jr., partner at Jackson Walker, was listed as “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

Jay G. Martin, Baker Hughes, was recognized by the National Law Journal in its inaugural list of Governance, Risk and Compliance Trailblazers & Pioneers.

Justice Ken Molberg, 95th Civil District Court, participated with other members of the judiciary in breakout sessions for the Law Student Professionalism Program sponsored by the Morris Harrell Professionalism Committee.

R. Hal Moorman, Moorman Tate Haley Upchurch & Yates in Brenham, was appointed chair of the Board of Directors for the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Don C. Stephenson, retired partner of Baker Botts L.L.P., joined the Board of Directors for Matador Resources Company.

N. L. “Larry” Stevens, III, partner for Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP received recognition in the 2015 Chambers USA rankings, and was listed in “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

1977

Peter A. Lodwick, partner at Thompson & Knight, was selected to serve as SMU’s Alumni Board chair-elect for 2014.

Patrick F. McManemin is now a partner with Thompson & Knight.

Frank Shor, Law Offices of Frank Shor, was named to Texas Monthly’s “Super Lawyers of 2014.”

1978

Ted Campagnolo was appointed by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

Ronald M. Gaswirth, Employment and Labor at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP in Dallas, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list and received recognition in the 2015 Chambers USA list.

Michael Gruber, partner at Gruber Hurst Elrod Johansen Hail Shank LLP, was recognized in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

Katherine C. Hall (J.D. ’78, LL.M. ’01) authored a short article titled “For Want of a Nail... a Kingdom Was Lost” that appeared in the September 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Chief Judge Barbara J. Houser received the Judge William L. Norton, Jr. Judicial Excellence Award from Thomson/West and the American Bankruptcy Institute.

James McKellar, Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

Trevor Rees-Jones, founder and CEO of Chief Oil & Gas, was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and was chosen for the leadership team responsible for the January celebration honoring Governor-elect Greg Abbott and Lieutenant Governor-elect Dan Patrick.

Mark S. Werbner, from the Dallas law firm Sayles Werbner, won a U.S. Supreme Court ruling for client Commil USA in one of the highest-profile patent infringement cases to reach the highest court in years.

1979

Richard B. Hemingway was selected for “Who’s Who in Energy” by the Houston Business Journal.

Mary Emma Karam, partner in the Dallas office of Jackson Walker, was named a Pro Bono Champion by the American Health Lawyers Association for the second consecutive year.


Sheppard F. Miers, Jr. (LL.M. ’79), GableGotwals’ Tulsa office, was named 2015 Lawyer of the Year for Tax Law by Best Lawyers in America.

Mike Pierce, Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

Cheryl Pollman, a retired business lawyer, volunteers as part of a social service project of the Dallas chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women. She also helps monitor how juveniles are handled in the federal immigration courts.

Karen Sargent, Assistant Dean and Executive Director of SMU Dedman School of Law Career Services, was elected Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation.

1980

Rhonda Hunter, former Dallas Bar Association President, along with representatives of several DBA Committees and sister bar associations, has planned a series of programs about the “school-to-prison” pipeline to help put students back on a more productive path.

John Jansonius, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Thomas W. O’Neal, Howard & Howard, was named to the Illinois Super Lawyers and to the Illinois Rising Stars 2015.

Gordon Shapiro, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.
1981

Robert Hoffman, Business Litigation at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP in Dallas, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Mark Shank, partner at Gruber Hurst Elrod Johansen Hail Shank LLP and Adjunct Professor at SMU Dedman School of Law, was recognized in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

1982

Mark Josephs, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Kathleen LaValle, Jackson Walker LLP, was selected Executive Director and President of Dallas CASA and was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

William G. “Bill” Whitehill was elected to the Texas Fifth District Court of Appeals for a term beginning January 1, 2015.

1983

John M. Cone joined Ferguson, Braswell & Fraser in the Intellectual Property group.

Deborah Hankinson earned her third selection to the Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America in recognition of her appellate, mediation, and arbitration work.

Steven W. Ladik, partner at Fragomen specializing in immigration law, authored “Commonalities Between the Dallas Mavericks, Cirque du Soleil and Susan Boyle” that appeared in the September 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association's Headnotes.

Justice Mary Murphy, Presiding Judge of the First Administrative Judicial Region and (Ret.) Judge on the Fifth District Court of Appeals, participated with other members of the judiciary in breakout sessions for the Law Student Professionalism Program sponsored by the Morris Harrell Professionalism Committee.

Mark Steiner, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

1984

Katherine A. Kinser, partner at Kinser & Bates, received the 2014 Sam Emison Award from the Texas Academy of Family Law Specialists.

Marc A. Myrin joined Carrington, Coleman, Sloman & Blumenthal as a partner in the Corporate and Real Estate practice.

Chukiert Ratanachaichan (LL.M. ’84) was appointed secretary-general of the Council of State in Thailand.

Sarah Saldaña, former U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, became the Director of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency and delivered the Commencement Address at the law school’s 2015 Hooding Ceremony.

Harry W. Sullivan, Senior Counsel - International at Conoco-Phillips, participated in the Pre-Summit Masterclass at The Africa Oil & Gas Legal Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa.

1985

Charla Aldous added Brent Walker ’04 as partner to the Aldous Law Firm changing the firm name to Aldous Walk. She also was recognized by Benchmark Litigation as a 2015 Litigation Star.

Judge Margaret Barnes, 367th District Court in Denton County, was endorsed in a Letter to the Editor in the Star Local Media.

J. Edwin Martin published an article in the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes titled “Fifth Circuit’s Lodestar to Maximize Title Insurance Coverage.”

John K. Pierre, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability and Evening Division of Southern University Law Center, was named Interim Chancellor of the Law Center.

Michael J. Truncale received a Diploma in International Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitration in London, England, and was made a Fellow in the CIArb; lectured on the American court system and litigation procedures at the China-U.S. Judicial Cooperation Summit in Beijing sponsored by the Collaborative Innovation Center of Judicial Civilization; lectured on environmental law at the U.S.-China Food Safety and Environmental Protection Judicial Symposium sponsored by the Jiangsu Provincial Higher People’s Court and the Changzhou Intermediate People’s Court; and joined other SMU Dedman Law School graduates in the first mock patent jury trial in the history of China that was held at China University of Political Science and Law.

John Weimer, partner at the Columbus, OH firm Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP, was included in the 2015 Best Lawyers in America.

1986

Val J. Albright, Tax & Litigation at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, received recognition in the 2015 Chambers USA list.

James Griffin, Jackson Walker LLP, was named to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Claudia Prado (LL.M. ’86) was appointed head of Baker & McKenzie LLP’s office in Brazil and became the first female lawyer to head the regional council. She received the award for diversity initiative of the year by Latin Lawyer, in recognition of her commitment to furthering the advancement of women in the Latin American legal profession.

1987

Mikel J. Bowers, partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin, LLP, was named to 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list.

Kim S. Cagle joined Reed Smith LLP as a partner in the Financial Industry Group.

Amy B. Ganci of Ganci, LLP spoke at the National Business Institute Equine Law Seminar on Ethics in the Horse Industry.

1988

William H. Church, Jr. is now a shareholder in Polsinelli.

Mary McNulty, Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

L. Stephan “Steve” Vincze joined Polaris, a global advisory and technology company, as the head of its new Boston office.

Brad Whitlock, Scheef & Stone, L.L.P., gave a presentation at the Business Law Section of the Texas Bar’s CLE at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting.

1989

Theodore Baroody joined Carstens & Cahoon LLP as a partner.

David Carstens was nominated by his peers to receive the prestigious 2014 D Magazine Best Lawyers recognition in Intellectual Property. He also co-hosted a CLE luncheon with the Association of Corporate Counsel by conducting a mock client counseling session.
Brad Jackson co-authored “Minority Shareholder Oppression Cause of Action Struck Down” in the October 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

John Ratcliffe was elected to represent the 4th Congressional District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Teris Solis was named City Attorney for the City of Arlington, Texas.

**1990**

Sharon Alexander was installed as the first female and eighth Rector of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Tracey L. Haley, managing claims counsel for Zurich Surety and Financial Claims in Dallas, was honored by the ABA Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section with its Kirsten Christophe Memorial Award for Excellence in Trial and Insurance Law.

Mark Sloan, Thompson & Knight LLP, was named to the 2015 Chambers USA “Leaders in Their Field” list.

Barbara Van Duyne received the 2014 Louise Raggio Women’s Legal Advocacy Award from Legal Aid of North West Texas.

**1991**

Colin Cahoon, partner at Carstens & Cahoon, LLP, was listed as a Policy Advisor for the Heartland Institute. He was also the featured speaker at the 52nd Annual Conference on Intellectual Property Law at The Center for American and International Law. He received nomination by peers to receive the prestigious 2014 D Magazine Best Lawyers recognition for Intellectual Property.

Linda Dedman, commercial policyholder advocate and officer for the DBA Business Litigation Section, co-authored a short article titled “A Look Back: The Civil Rights Act in Dallas 50 Years Later” that appeared in the September 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Robert J. “Bob” Garrey joined Scheef & Stone LLP as a partner.

Irma C. Ramirez, U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Texas, participated in a panel of esteemed women lawyers at the seventh annual “Inspiring Women” luncheon. She was also keynote speaker for the Texas Tech University School of Law hooding ceremony in May 2015.

Gregory M. Weinstein and Robert K. Radcliff ’00 formed the partnership of Weinstein Radcliff.

**1992**

Sabina Bramlett joined the firm of Fox Rothschild as a partner in the Taxation and Wealth Planning Practice.

Paul McGreal was chosen as the new dean at Creighton University School of Law.

David Monk was promoted to Chief Legal Officer for RealPage, a leading provider of on-demand software.

Jonathan Perlman was inducted into the Carthage Independent School Education Foundation Alumni Association.

Thomas G. Yoxall was re-elected to the executive committee of Locke Lord.

**1993**

Charla Bradshaw, Denton Managing Shareholder for Koons-Fuller, had her article “Divorce and Pets” published in the August 2014 issue of Horseman’s News and was featured in Lantana Living in an article about how she relies on her roots in her family law practice.

David Cabrales, partner at Locke Lord, was appointed by then Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Economic Development Corporation.

Karl Chiao joined ArtBanc International as Managing Director.

Gregory P. Goheen, partner at McAnany, VanCleave and Phillips in Kansas City, Kansas, was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Kansas Bar Association.

Tiffany Haertling, partner at Holmes, Diggs & Eames, was appointed by then Gov. Rick Perry to the 442nd Judicial District Court in Denton County.

Sally A. Longroy was named shareholder at Greenberg McCormick, LLP.

Kit Sawers has joined the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas as the new Chief Development Officer. Her staff from Fay+Sawers Production also joined United Way as the new Business Development Strategies Team.

Joseph D. “Joe” Brown, Grayson County District Attorney, was honored for his years of service to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department and was presented with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation from then Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

David E. Harrell, Jr., is now co-chairman of the Litigation department at Locke Lord’s Houston office.

Matthew A. Nowak of Nowak & Stauch, LLP, was chosen to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers List.

Thomas R. Stauch of Nowak & Stauch, LLP, was chosen to the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers List.

Julie Lawson Timmer, staff counsel for Herz Lemmerz International, had her first novel, Five Days Left, published in September 2014, in the U.S. and eight other countries.
1996

M. Lee Bean volunteers to assist low-income filers of divorce, custody, and related forms at Collin County’s new help center.

Angela Tucker, Judge of the 199th District Court - Collin County, was keynote speaker for the breakfast at Austin College on MLK Day.

1997

Derrick Carson is now deputy chairman of the Energy Litigation Practice Group at Locke Lord.

Laura Benitez Geisler, principal at Geisler Law Firm, has been named Co-chair of the 2014-2015 Equal Access to Justice Campaign benefiting the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program (DVAP).

Jacqueline “Jackie” Nguyen joined MV Transportation, Inc., as Vice President & Chief Compliance Officer.

Chad Ruback, Ruback Law Firm, was quoted in the Dallas Business Journal’s “Two Views” section regarding the Supreme Court’s Hobby Lobby decision.

1998

Ross Cunningham, partner at Cunningham Swain LLP left Rose Walker to form Cunningham Swain.

Charles Darwin Davidson, Jr. married Li Sun on May 30 in Little Rock, Arkansas. He is vice president of foreign operations at PerfectVision Manufacturing, Inc.

Gemma Descoteaux, a Dallas shareholder in Polsinelli’s corporate and transactional practice, has been appointed by the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth to be its Women in ACG DFW chairwoman.

Jeff Mathias, principal at Jeff Mathias Law Office in Des Moines, Iowa, who has focused on bankruptcy since 1998, recently began uncontested and collaborative divorce cases.

Judge Tonya Parker, 116th Judicial District Court, addressed law students at the Law Student Professionalism Program sponsored by the Morris Harrell Professionalism Committee.

Dena DeNooyer Stroh was named general counsel of the North Texas Tollway Authority.

1999

Drew Murray, Creative Director for Insomnia Games, was instrumental in the design of the hit game “Sunset Overdrive.”

Kirsten Polyansky joined Haynes and Boone’s Houston office as a partner in the Energy Practice Group.

2000

Brandon Gibson was appointed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Western Section, in Jackson, Tenn.

Susan Jeffus, of MoneyGram International, Inc., was invited to join The Honorable Barbara M. G. Lynn Inn of Court. She also spoke at the annual Texas Bar In-House Counsel Conference and was a finalist for the 2014 International Law Office Global Counsel Awards 2014.

Joshua Northam joined Shackelford, Melton, McKinley & Norton as a partner and will focus on Civil Litigation and Family Law.

Craig Nussbaum was promoted to Senior Vice President at Waramaug Hospitality Asset Management.

Robert Radcliff has partnered with Gregory Weinstein ’91 to form the firm of Weinstein Radcliff LLP.

Aaron Tobin, Anderson & Tobin, was moderator for the Law Student Professionalism Program sponsored by the Morris Harrell Professionalism Committee.

2001

A. John Harper joined the Houston office of littler Mendelson and focuses in the area of labor relations.

Michelle Hartmann, partner in Sidley Austin’s Complex Commercial Litigation group, co-authored an article titled “Halliburton’s Impact on Class Action Securities Litigation” for the October 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Brian Lauten joined the trial firm of Deans & Lyons, LLP as a partner.

2002

William J. Akins joined FisherBroyles as a partner.

Jules Brenner, partner at Strasburger & Price, was listed as “Who’s Who in Energy” by American City Business Journal.

Katrina A. Kershner joined the firm of FisherBroyles LLP as a partner.

Deborah L. Lively, partner at Thompson & Knight, was selected for inclusion in the World Trademark Review 1000.

Kelly Lyttle, General Counsel for Brandt Companies, was highlighted in Texas Lawyer as being a “One Woman Legal Department” for Brandt.

Katherine Seegers Roth rejoined Liskow & Lewis’ New Orleans office.

2003

Christopher L. Bourell has joined Brown PC in Dallas as Senior Counsel in the tax group.

Casey Burgess was elected Mayor of the city of Wilmer, Texas.

Eliot T Burriss was named partner at the Dallas office.

Shanna Nugent Cobbs was unanimously elected General Counsel of the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce. In addition, she was chosen by members to serve as Vice Chair of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Jennifer Rudenick Ecklund, partner at Thompson & Knight, was recognized by Benchmark Litigation as a “Future Star – Texas.”

Charles C. “Charlie” Florsheim joined Winstead PC as a partner in the Fort Worth office where he will focus on mergers and acquisitions, securities regulation, and corporate governance.

Amy E. LaValle is now a shareholder/director at Conley Rose in Plano.

Michael Rumac was named shareholder of David & Goodman.

Christy Tabor joined North America Title Group as associate regulatory counsel.

C. Russell Woody, Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville, was named as a Super Lawyers Rising Star for 2014.
2004

Rebekah Steely Brooker, Scheif & Stone and current President of the Texas Young Lawyers Association, contributed articles, “Setting the Tone” and “Fear Factor” in the TYLA President’s Opinion section of the Texas Bar Journal. She also published a “TYLA Update” for the October 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association's Headnotes.

Cece Cox, CEO of Resource Center, was among Dallas women recognized for their achievements at the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau’s “High Tea with High Heels” event.

Yolanda Eisenstein, principal at Eisenstein Law Office, published her book, Legal Guide for Dog Owners, for the ABA.

Chris Howard was elevated to shareholder in Littler’s Kansas City office.

Rebecca Morley joined Kane Russell Coleman & Logan as an associate.

Steven V. Walkowiak was promoted to Of Counsel for Greenberg Traurig.

Victoria M. Yarkho is now a shareholder at Hiersche, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach.

2005

Philip Berry, EnerVest, Ltd., in Houston, was named 2014 Best Corporate Counsel: Associate General Counsel Small Legal Department by the Houston Business Journal.

James Gourley moderated a table at the Dallas Bar Association Intellectual Property Section CLE breakfast.

James England joined Hunt & Williams’ global real estate practice and focuses on complex commercial real estate transactions.

Eric P. Haas, an accomplished Dallas litigator, launched the new Dallas firm of Gardner Haas PLLC.

Marc A. Hearron is now a partner at Morrison & Foerster.

Christina Tate joined Greenberg Traurig, LLP, as a corporate shareholder in their Dallas office.

2006

Matthew Beard was named partner at Meadows, Collier, Reed, Cousins, Crouch & Ungerman.

Matthew S. Daniel was promoted to partner at Ferrer, Poirot & Wansbrough.

Christina W. Marshall was named partner at Haynes and Boone's Mergers and Acquisitions Group.

Jim Mueller, managing partner of the family law firm Verner Brumley McCurley PC, has been appointed President of The National Advocates: Top 40 Under 40, a professional association composed of the top lawyers from each state who meet stringent membership qualifications and whose practices focus on matrimonial and family law, bankruptcy law, immigration law, Social Security disability law, employment law, and wills, trusts and estates law.

Russell Oshman was named partner at Vinson & Elkins.

Carl Pankratz, Assistant Vice President of Originations at Hunt Mortgage Group, was re-elected to the City Council of Rowlett, Texas.

Jeffrey C. Leach, Texas State Representative for District 67, was appointed to the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence and House Committee on Government Transparency & Operation.

Brett F. Miller of the Longview firm of Ward & Smith is author of the firm's East Texas Family Law blog.

Courtney Sauer is now with Allstate Insurance Co.

2009

Todd B. Goldberg joined Cobb Martinez Woodward as an associate.

John M. Lynch joined SettlePou in the Commercial Litigation, Financial Services Litigation, Creditor's Rights & Bankruptcy and Real Estate practices.

Jacob L. McBride joined the Commercial Litigation section of Hiersche, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach P.C.

Lisa M. (Morrow) Yerger joined Fletcher, Farley, Shipman & Salinas, LLP, as a senior associate.

Yingfeng Zhang was appointed acting CEO of Shanda Games, China’s largest online gaming developer.

2007

John Adolph created Pasquer, a mobile app designed for easy payment of valet services.

Nathan T. Anderson joined McGlinchey Stafford and will focus on Commercial & Consumer Financial Litigation.

Alden Crow was named partner at Jackson Walker.

Monica Guerrero was named Senior Counsel at Bowman & Brooke.

Anna Irion was named partner at Jackson Walker.

Jay Wieser was named partner at Jackson Walker.

2008

Lawrence Edward Ackels III, Ackels & Ackels LLP, was named Volunteer of the Year for the Dallas Urban Debate Alliance.

Austin Champion is now a partner in the new Dallas firm of Griffith Bates Champion & Harper LLP.

2010

Jacqueline Allen has joined Cox Smith to work with the payments and digital commerce team.

Rebecca Bailey, Assistant District Attorney in the Dallas County DA's Office, is now in felony prosecutions.

Lindsay Itkin joined the Houston firm of Fibich, Leebron, Copeland, Briggs & Josephson where she will continue her plaintiff personal injury work.

Mark Moore joined Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP as a bankruptcy and business reorganization associate.


Ashley Lynn Smith (LL.M. in Taxation ’10) announced her engagement to William Brian Dayton of Monroe, LA. The couple was married on September 20, 2014.
Meagan Whitley co-presented a free seminar called “SOLID TALK: LGBT Estate and Family Planning Mistakes to Avoid,” at the Oak Lawn Library.

2011

Grant Cohen joined Greenberg Traurig as an associate in the Houston office.

Melissa M. Lum authored a short article titled “‘Piracy Proofing’ Methods of Online Content Distribution,” that appeared in the September 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Greg McAllister, Littler Mendelson and Co-chair of the Dallas Bar Association’s Home Project Committee, participated in the dedication of the DBA’s 23rd house for Habitat for Humanity.

Philip McNicholas, associate at Kessler Collins, PC, co-authored a short article, “The NCAA, Northwestern University and the First Student-Athlete Union,” that appeared in the September 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Meredith VanderWilt is an associate with Polsinelli in Dallas.

Trent Rexing, Kane Russell Coleman and Logan PC, was accepted to the 2014 Dallas Association of Young Lawyers Leadership Class.

2012

Charlotte D. (Blum) Nall joined SettlePou in the Commercial Litigation, Financial Services Litigation and Insurance Defense practices.


Ashley Robertson joined Holland & Knight LLP as an associate on the corporate finance team.

Lauren Wallis, Petty & Stewart PLLC, co-authored a short article, “Pro Bono Immigration Opportunities,” for the October 2014 issue of the Dallas Bar Association’s Headnotes.

Blake Billings, Associate at Wilson, Robertson & Cornelius, is now serving on the Board of Directors for the East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind.

Lea Williams is the Business Ethics Manager for AdvoCare International, L.P.

2013


Lauren Hayes joined SettlePou in the Commercial Litigation, Financial Services Litigation and Eminent Domain & Condemnation practices.

Christopher Klement joined Cantey Hanger, LLP, as an associate and will focus on bankruptcy and general civil litigation.

Charles Luongo, Co-founder and CEO of Coordi-Care, teamed up with Health Wildcatters promoting an app that helps streamline billing processes for physicians.

2014

Michael Andrews joined Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP as an associate and will focus on private equity and mergers and acquisitions.

James Bedotto joined Thompson & Knight as an associate and will focus in finance.

Charles Bennett, Founder and CEO of International Basketball Players Association, contributed to the Sports Agent blog on the recent trend in European Union countries for individual leagues to enact sports agent regulations.

Jacqui Bogucki joined Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP as an associate and will focus on private equity and mergers and acquisitions.

Tyler Hokanson joined Polsinelli as an associate.

Chris Lambert joined the Beal Law Firm, PLLC as an associate attorney.

Emily K. Lehmborg joined Hiersche, Hayward, Drakelby and Urbach, P.C. as an associate in the Commercial Litigation group.

Upcoming Alumni Events

Distinguished Alumni Awards
February 4, 2016

SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW

EVENTS COMING SOON!

Fort Worth Alumni Happy Hour
February 10, 2016

Dallas Alumni Happy Hour
Spring 2016

State Bar Reception (Fort Worth)
June 16, 2016
IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Garland Lamar Carnes '48  
August 6, 2014

Mr. Warren Albert Roquet '48  
February 12, 2014

Mr. William Leonard Keller '50  
November 14, 2013

Mr. William Clyde Odeneal, Jr. '50  
April 1, 2014

Mr. Charles Thomas Krol, II '51  
January 6, 2015

Mr. Harry Tracy Holland '52  
July 17, 2014

Mr. John Cooper Blankenship '54  
June 18, 2015

Mr. Jess Thomas Hay '55  
April 13, 2015

Mr. Walter Perry Zivley '55  
April 2, 2015

Mr. Elbert Alexander Cole '56  
July 29, 2014

Mr. Samuel W. Hunt, Jr. '57  
December 20, 2014

Mr. George Reed Alexander, Jr. '58  
February 25, 2015

Mr. James “Blackie” Holmes '59  
October 8, 2014

Mr. Thomas Chester Ingram, Jr. '59  
December 10, 2013

Mr. Richard Lee “Dick” McSpadden '59  
October 8, 2013

Mr. George Rankin Milner '59  
September 17, 2014

Mr. Donald Deane Koons '62  
January 15, 2015

Mr. Thomas Dale Reagor, Sr. '62  
August 18, 2014

Mr. Robert Jarvis Shoemaker '64  
November 29, 2014

Mr. Robert T. “Bob” Edge '65  
January 10, 2015

Mr. Rodney Donnell Moore '66  
February 12, 2015

The Honorable Jon Sparling '67  
August 23, 2014

Mr. Tom David Jester, Jr. '67  
August 9, 2014

Mr. Martin Louis Kahn '70  
November 6, 2013

The Honorable Cleophas Roosevelt Steele, Jr. '70  
February 18, 2015

Mr. Chester Lee Wheless Jr. '70  
October 29, 2015

Mr. Guy William Anderson, Jr. '71  
January 10, 2015

Ms. Ellen Solender '71  
August 1, 2015

The Honorable Frank Andrews '74  
November 26, 2013

Mr. David Bond Baxter '75  
October 22, 2015

Mr. Keith E. Jagmin '81  
October 22, 2014

Ms. Marilyn Alessa King Sledge '82  
December 22, 2014

Mr. Stephen David Musgrave '82  
December 24, 2014

Ms. Lisa Anne Stegall '85  
January 17, 2015

Ms. Monica Lynne Luebker '91  
September 22, 2013

Ms. Amy Michelle Blumenthal '92  
August 27, 2014

Ms. Wai Brenda Tso '12  
June 27, 2015
13,122 PUBLIC SERVICE HOURS
CLASS OF 2015