Endowed Scholarships

Our ability to attract talented students largely depends on the availability of scholarship funding. A gift of any size towards the various endowed scholarship funds helps underwrite tuition costs for generations of worthy students. When personal debt is decreased, the potential for public and not-for-profit service is enhanced.

EVERY GIFT IS IMPORTANT.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE MABRY, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT: STEPHANIE_MABRY@BAYLOR.EDU OR 254.710.8540
Jeremy Counseller
Named Next Dean

Adoption Day

Commencement

Baylor Law Alumni Association
Sustaining Lifetime Members, Lifetime Members, & Sustaining Fellows

endowed annual scholarship donor recognition

DEAN’S LETTER
ENDOWED & ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DONOR RECOGNITION
A MESSAGE FROM THE BAYLOR LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ROLL CALL
COMMENCEMENT
@BAYLOR LAW
STUDENT NOTES
ADOPTION DAY
BAYLOR LAW IN THE COMMUNITY
ALUMNI NOTES
ALUMNI OBITUARIES
JEREMY COUNSELLER NAMED NEXT DEAN
FACULTY NOTES
STAFF NOTES
A Message from Dean Wilson

Established in 1857, Baylor Law was the first law school in Texas and one of the first west of the Mississippi River. Today, the school has more than 7,800 living alumni. It is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.
Dear Friends of Baylor Law,

Welcome to the latest edition of Docket Call! As I sit down to write this edition’s “Dean’s Letter,” I find myself reflecting on the dramatic changes of the past year, and I can’t help but express my gratitude for the many blessings I’ve received since becoming the Interim Dean in June. It is a joy for me to take a moment to celebrate the community at the heart of Baylor Law.

As you have no doubt heard, Professor Jeremy Counseller will become the next Dean of the School of Law on July 1, 2024. This edition of Docket Call contains more about Jeremy, and you will be hearing more about him in the coming months. I am grateful that the University has appointed someone who, like so many of you, loves Baylor Law and will build on the legacy established by Dean Emeritus Brad Toben. Jeremy has a bold vision for the Law School, one that respects the mission of Baylor and aligns with the University’s values. I look forward to Jeremy’s leadership.

I am additionally grateful for the faithful support of our alumni and friends of Baylor. In this edition of Docket Call, we recognize a specific group of individuals and organizations—our scholarship donors, whose extraordinary generosity allows us to fulfill our mission in a profound way. The impact of your generosity is immeasurable, not only because it provides financial support but also because it empowers our students to strive for excellence. Your scholarships do more than fund education; they create a pathway for future Baylor Lawyers to embrace their calling, expand their horizons, and ultimately, give back to their communities, the legal field, and our nation. Your giving allows talented individuals to pursue their dreams and make a difference.

This edition of Docket Call is a testament to the strength of our community and the profound impact that philanthropy can have on the lives of future Baylor Lawyers. It is an opportunity for all of us at Baylor Law to express our appreciation and shine a spotlight on the remarkable difference scholarships can make in the lives of our students.

Baylor Law has always been defined by its commitment to excellence, integrity, and service. For well over a century, we have upheld these values, producing graduates who have made their mark in the legal profession in Texas and beyond. Our success as a law school is a collective achievement, made possible by the unwavering dedication of our faculty and staff, the grit and determination of our students, and the enduring support of our alumni and friends.

In these pages, some of our scholarship recipients express the impact Baylor Law and their scholarships have had on them. They are individuals who exemplify the values of Baylor Law and who, through your support, have been able to pursue their legal education with enthusiasm, focus, and the belief that they can leave an indelible mark on the legal landscape.

In our world today, the role of lawyers is more important than ever. We find ourselves confronted with complicated challenges, and a more profound need than ever for lawyers who know that the calling to become a lawyer is a calling to service. At Baylor Law, we are steadfastly committed to fostering a welcoming, inclusive, diverse community. We believe that legal education is enriched by a multitude of perspectives and backgrounds, and the endowed scholarships highlighted in this issue of Docket Call have played a vital role in enabling us to attract and support students who bring a wide array of experiences and viewpoints to our classrooms.

Once again, thank you for your faithful support and commitment to Baylor Law. I hope you take pride in the incredible impact you have on the lives of our students and, by extension, the legal profession.

With warm regards and profound gratitude,

Patricia Wilson
Interim Dean and the William Boswell Chair of Law
Baylor University School of Law
Endowed scholarships offer a lasting way for our alumni, family, friends, and faculty to pay tribute to loved ones or commemorate successful careers, all while championing the future of Baylor Lawyers. Over the past year, an impressive 91% of our enrolled students benefited from financial assistance provided by Baylor Law. Our gratitude extends deeply to those whose generosity has made possible for our students a lasting and impactful gift—the gift of a Baylor Law education.

Without the unwavering support and generosity of these individuals and institutions, our work would not be possible. We stand together in appreciation of the indelible mark they leave on the next generation of Baylor Lawyers.

Thank You!

If you would like to endow a scholarship of your own, contact Stephanie Mabry, Director of Development, at Stephanie_Mabry@baylor.edu.
Your generosity has greatly impacted my life.

Your scholarship enabled me to come to Texas and go back to school for a career in the law to help people—which I decided to do as a mission of faith and service. Your generosity has greatly impacted my life and changed its course for the better, and I am working right now to pay it forward and pass this generosity to others through my money and labor. Thank you for your generosity—God bless you and your family.”

Josh Stirling
JD Candidate 2024
Martha and George Brooks Scholarship
Given by the estate of Martha W. Brooks.

Rick and Carolyn Brophy Scholarship
Given by Rick and Carolyn Brophy.

C. C. and Avis Broughton Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Broughton.

Thomas K. and Cindy Rohrman Brown Endowed Scholarship
Given by Thomas K. and Cindy Rohrman Brown.

Edward B. Burleson Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of E. B. Burleson by his family and friends.

John Marshall Burns, Jr., Scholarship
Given in memory of John Marshall Burns, Jr., through the estate of Mary C. Morrison.

Jean and Glenn Callison Scholarship Fund in Law
Given by Jean and Glenn Callison.

Fred and Princess Cameron Scholarship
Given by Fred and Princess Cameron.

Stephen A. Carroll Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Stephen A. Carroll by the family of Stephen A. and Nellie Carroll.

Randall P. Cavender Memorial Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Cary Dorman in memory of Randall P. Cavender of the Baylor Law School Class of 1976.

Reich O’Hara Chandler Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Reich O’Hara Chandler by John Eddie Williams, Walter Umphrey, and other colleagues and friends of George and Martha Chandler.

Marie E. and John Houser Chiles Scholarship
Given by Marie E. and John Houser Chiles.

Chrisman Family Scholarship
Given by Judge Oswin and Marilyn Jo Barron Chrisman.

Clack Family Scholarship
Given by Steven Clack, Cynthia Clack, and Gene Clack in memory of their father, Judge James H. Clack.

Clark Hill Endowed Scholarship in Law
Given by Clark Hill PLC.

Judge Lee Allen Clark Memorial Scholarship
Given by Lester W. James, Sr., in memory of Mrs. Lester James’ father, Judge Lee Allen Clark.

Class of 1973 Scholarship
Given by Law School Graduates from the class of 1973.

James F. and Mary Louise Clawson Scholarship
Given by Judge James F. Clawson, Jr. and his wife, Mary Louise Clawson.

Jerry K. Clements Scholarship
Given by Jerry K. Clements.

Kenneth P. Cohen Scholarship
Given by Kenneth P. Cohen and Darcie A. Bundy.

Joe E. and Kathryn Ferguson Coleman Scholarship
Given in honor of Joe E. and Kathryn Ferguson Coleman by the William A. and Madeline Welder Smith Foundation.

Foran / Matador / Coleman Scholarship
Given by Joe Foran and Matador Resources Inc. in honor of Joe E. and Kathryn Coleman.

Julia D. Copeland Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Julia Copeland by her family and friends.

Arthur H. Courtade Memorial Scholarship

George M. Cowden Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. George M. Cowden.

Tracy and Nancy Crawford Scholarship
Given by Tracy and Nancy Crawford.

“I hope to make a positive impact on everyone I serve.

Your support has allowed me and other students to pursue our dreams of becoming attorneys. Because of you, I have been able to focus on my legal education, dive into topics that interest me, and learn to be the best advocate I can be. I hope to practice in business planning and estate planning after I graduate, but ultimately, I hope to make a positive impact on everyone I serve.”

Adam Holtz
JD Candidate 2024
They deserve it.

When I received my letter of acceptance and scholarship offer from Baylor Law in 1985, I remember feeling that Baylor wanted me and was willing to invest in me. It was a feeling I will never forget. By donating to Baylor, I hope to give future students that same feeling—a feeling of acceptance and the knowledge that we are willing to invest in their future.

While at Baylor Law, we each received an education, developed lifelong friendships, and became part of a profession with limitless opportunities. We also became Baylor Lawyers. The bottom line is that while at Baylor Law, we received far more than we gave. Donating to a scholarship is the best way to give back. A donation to a scholarship gives a law student the same opportunities that we received. They deserve it.”

Rob Ammons
JD ’88
Supporting scholarships goes beyond financial assistance.

The exceptional education that I obtained from Baylor Law empowered me to swiftly establish my own successful law firm, Kimbrough Legal, PLLC, where I lead a team of 20 other legal professionals and staff. My solid legal foundation from Baylor played a pivotal role in shaping my career, enabling me to navigate the complexities of the law and litigation with confidence. This success, rooted in my Baylor education, inspires me to give back philanthropically.

The satisfaction of supporting scholarships goes beyond financial assistance; it is a testament to the enduring legacy of Baylor Lawyers and ensures that future generations can experience the same transformative education that has shaped our careers.”

### Scholarship Donor Recognition

- **James R. Drury Memorial Scholarship**
  Given by Southwest Forest Industries in memory of James R. Drury.

- **Robin and Ken Dubas Scholarship**
  Given by Robin and Ken Dubas.

- **Bedford D. and Joyce Harlan Edwards Scholarship**
  Given by the Bedford D. Edwards Family.

- **Galen B. and Cathy M. Edwards Scholarship**
  Given by the Bedford D. Edwards Family.

- **John J. Edwards Memorial Scholarship**
  Given in memory of John Joseph Edwards by his family and friends.

- **Erwin A. and Patricia A. Elias Scholarship**
  Given by Professor Emeritus Erwin Elias and his wife, Patricia.

- **Deborah Huyser Ellis Scholarship**
  Given by Nancy Lee, family, and friends in memory of Deborah Huyser Ellis.

- **Judge Sam S. Emison Memorial Scholarship**
  Given in memory of Judge Sam S. Emison by Charles and Carol Goolsbee, family, and friends.

- **Judge Harold Engstrom Scholarship**
  Given in memory of Judge Harold Engstrom by Timothy and Sandra Ferguson.

- **Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Evans Scholarship**
  Given by the estate of Mrs. E. J. Evans.

- **Wayne Fisher Scholarship**
  Given by the law firm of Fisher, Gallagher, and Lewis.

- **Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater Scholarship**
  Given by former law clerks, colleagues, and friends of Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater.

- **James Buck Florence Scholarship**
  Given by Mr. and Mrs. J. Buck Florence.

- **Marshall Formby Memorial Scholarship**
  Given in memory of Marshall Formby by his widow, Mrs. Sharleen Wells Formby Rhoads.

- **Linda and Larry Funderburk Scholarship**
  Given by Larry B. and Linda Buckley Funderburk.

- **John C. Gabbert, Jr., Memorial Scholarship**
  Given in memory of John C. Gabbert, Jr., by John C. and Hazel Gabbert and their sons, Greg and Jerry.

- **Doris Gillen Scholarship**
  Given by Blake Gillen.

- **Honorable J. Rodney Gilstrap Scholarship**
  Given in honor and recognition of the Honorable J. Rodney Gilstrap as the 2018 Baylor Lawyer of the Year.

- **John C. and Eydie M. Ginn Scholarship**
  Given by John C. Ginn.

- **Shawn and Lauren Golden Scholarship**
  Given by Shawn C. and Lauren P. Golden.

- **Leonard L. Gorin Scholarship**
  Given by the estate of Leonard L. Gorin.

- **Harold and Bettye Green Scholarship**
  Given by Harold and Bettye Green.

- **Chief Justice Joe R. and Martha Greenhill Scholarship**
  Given by Joseph W. and Nancy Foran.

- **Dorothy and Lynn B. Griffith Scholarship**
  Given by Mr. and Mrs. Lynn B. Griffith, Jr.

- **Mr. and Mrs. Oscar E. Grove Memorial Scholarship**
  Given by David E. Grove in memory of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar E. Grove.

- **David M. Guinn “The Godfather” Scholarship**
  Given by friends and colleagues of the late Professor Emeritus David M. Guinn in honor of his selection as the 2013 Baylor Lawyer of the Year.

- **Judge Clarence A. Guittard Scholarship**
  Given in honor of the late Judge Clarence A. Guittard by his friends in recognition of the significant contributions he made to the administration of justice.
Judge Sam B. Hall Jr., Scholarship
Given in honor and in memory of the Hon. Sam B. Hall by Gilbert T. Adams.

Morris and Rusty Baylor Harrell Scholarship
Given in honor of Morris Harrell and Rusty Baylor Harrell by Judge and Mrs. Robert R. Murray, the Harrell family, the law firm of Locke Lord LLP, and their friends.

Judge Lee and Holly Harris Scholarship
Given by Holly and Lee Harris.

C. Vernon Hartline, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
Established by Hartline Barger LLP in memory of Vernon Hartline.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Hatchett Memorial Scholarship
Given by the late Mrs. Hilton E. Howell in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Hatchett.

Jessie and Harold Heafer Scholarship
Given in memory of Jessie and Harold Heafer by John H. and Marie Chiles.

Drew Heard Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Drew Heard by the law firm of Jenkens & Gilchrist, PC, friends, and family of Drew Heard.

Judge Wyatt Heard Scholarship
Given in honor of the Hon. Wyatt H. Heard by Heidi Frost Heard, the Heard family, and friends.

John C. Held Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of John C. Held by Baker Botts LLP.

Jack E. Hightower Scholarship
Given by Kent Hance in honor of the late Hon. Jack Hightower.

Karyn and David Hill Scholarship
Given by Karyn Collier Hill and David H. Hill.

Gordon Leslie and Jane Carroll Hollon Scholarship
Given by Gordon Leslie Hollon and Jane Carroll Hollon.

Larry G. Holt Scholarship
Given by Larry and Judy Holt.

Mary Lynn Hooker Scholarship
Given in memory of Mary Lynn Hooker and in honor of the Abner Lipscomb family by Dickey Kendrick.

Paulanne Ream Hoover Scholarship
Given by the estate of Paulanne Ream Hoover, a 1937 graduate of Baylor Law School.

David and Lorraine Hoppenstein Scholarship
Given by David and Lorraine Hoppenstein.

Edwin P. and Arden Horner Scholarship
Given by the late Professor Emeritus Edwin P. Horner and the Baylor Law Alumni Association.

Rex Houston Scholarship I
Given by Rex Houston.

Rex Houston Scholarship II
Given by Rex Houston.

Donna Massingill Howell and Hilton Hutchett Howell, Sr., Scholarship
Given by Hilton H. and Robin Howell.

Hilton E. Howell Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Hilton E. Howell by his widow, the late Mrs. Hilton E. Howell.

Judge James R. Hubbard Scholarship
Given by Judge James R. Hubbard.

Gaylord T. Hughey, Sr., and Virginia L. Hughey Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord T. Hughey, Sr.

Don Jackson Scholarship
Given by Don and Michelle Jackson.

F.R. and Lois Jackson Memorial Scholarship
Given by the F.R. Jackson Memorial Endowment Fund.

Monte James and Bill Jones Scholarship
Given by a friend in honor of Monte James and Bill Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Monte F. James Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Monte F. James.

Robert Allen James Memorial Scholarship
Given by Lester W. James, Sr., in memory of his son, Robert Allen James.

“Words can’t express how forever indebted I will be to your generosity.
Because of your donation, I have had the privilege of being able to focus solely on my studies without thinking about finances. This is the third year I’ve received a scholarship, and each year, I look forward to expressing my appreciation. You will always be a large part of my future. One day, I know when I have the means, I will give back to Baylor Law, just as you have. Again, thank you so very much!”

Dipal Patel
JD Candidate 2024
We realize our gifts are appreciated and help change the lives of others.

I received a small grant to pay for my tuition. I was beyond grateful and appreciative for having those funds. I made a promise to myself and God that in the future, if I were ever in a position to pay that gift forward, I would do so.

One Christmas, I was thinking about a gift for my mom. I knew that we would not have many Christmases left together. She reached a point in her life when it was impossible to truly buy her anything that would have any meaning or be appreciated. At that time, I decided to establish a scholarship in the name of my mother, Sue Lindsay, to honor her at the Law School. The fund has grown over the years. My wife Cindy and I receive letters and notes from the students receiving the scholarship each year—which truly touches our hearts. We realize our gifts are appreciated and help change the lives of others.”

Michael Lindsay
JD ’76
"Your scholarship was a huge deciding factor in my ability to pursue my dream of law school.

I am a first-generation law student, as well as only the second in my family to graduate college. Your generosity has not gone unnoticed, and I am forever grateful. Being at Baylor Law has already opened many doors I would not have had elsewhere. Thank you."

Anna Jennings
JD Candidate 2025

"I take so much pleasure in passing along similar gifts that I so graciously received from others."

I recall my time as a student, working hard and making every effort to stretch dollars with the goal of reducing the overall pecuniary burden to my family and supporters. The many small scholarships I received seemed to come about at just the right moment. I will always remember that 'just in time' feeling. Those gifts have inspired me to do the same for today's students. I take so much pleasure in passing along similar gifts that I so graciously received from others years ago and helping to support the next generation of Baylor Lawyers. They are so worthy."

Judge Gatha LaFaye
JD '93
I could not have guessed where my degree would lead professionally.

Reflecting on my years at Baylor Law School, I could not have guessed where my degree would lead professionally. The educational foundation, especially Practice Court and Evidence, along with the support and training I received from the professors at Baylor Law, have been instrumental to my success as a trial lawyer.”

Lenny Vitullo
JD ’91
I want to extend my sincerest thanks for the scholarship you have generously provided. I can promise you that your investment has not gone to waste. Thus far, I have found success at Baylor Law, recently joining the Baylor Law Review as well as joining a competitive moot court team. I hope to honor your legacy by maintaining my academic achievements. Thank you so much and God Bless.”

Derek Younkers  
JD Candidate 2025
“Without your scholarship fund, Baylor Law would not have been a realistic option for me.

I want to thank you for your support over the past few years. Without your scholarship fund, Baylor Law would not have been a realistic option for me. I hope you understand that many of us here are only able to obtain this great education and become great lawyers because of you. Thank you.”

Drew Arnold
JD Candidate 2024

Carlton J. Smith Memorial Scholarship
Given by the estate of Carlton J. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard S. Smith & Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McDowell Scholarship
Given through the termination of the McDowell Charitable Remainder Unitrust by William Alvis McDowell, Jr. and Charlotte Smith McDowell.

Ruth M. Smith Memorial Scholarship
Given by the estate of Ruth M. Smith.

Vernon L. Smith Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Vernon L. Smith by his wife, Mrs. Doris M. Smith, and Mr. R. Matt Dawson.

Judge Walter S. Smith Scholarship
Given by the law firm of Fulbright-Winniford, P.C. of Waco, Texas, in honor of Judge Walter S. Smith.

Bonnie Kay Sommerfeld Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Bonnie Kay Sommerfeld, who was the Placement Director until her death in 1984, by her father, the late Rudy A. Sommerfeld.

Ray Eileen and Robert Stahala Scholarship
Given by Robert Stahala.

John W. and Frances B. Stanford Scholarship
Given by James D. and Debra Stanford in memory of his father, John W. Stanford.

O.W. Stanley and Agnes Rabon Stanley Scholarship
Given by the Stanley Family Living Trust.

Judge William M. Steger Scholarship
Given in honor of the Hon. William M. Steger by his friends.

James M. Stout Scholarship
Given by the distribution of the James M. Stout Revocable Management Trust.

Emmet & Susan Sutton Scholarship
Established by Brian Sutton.

TCU Endowed Scholarship
Given by John Sherwood.

Phil E. Teeling Memorial Scholarship
Given in memory of Phil E. Teeling by Mrs. Phil E. Teeling.

Chief Justice Bob L. Thomas Scholarship
Given in honor of Chief Justice Bob L. Thomas of the Tenth Court of Appeals by Justice and Mrs. Bill Vance.

Charles E. Thompson, Sr., Memorial Scholarship
Given by the estate of Charles E. Thompson, Sr.

George L. Thompson Scholarship
Given by George L. Thompson, Ill.

Thorne Family Scholarship
Given by Carl and Rosella Thorne and Jim and Earlene Thorne.

Irene V. Thornton Scholarship
Given in memory of Irene V. Thornton by family, friends, and alumni.

Mike and Bunny Tibbals Scholarship
Given by J. Michael and Deborah Brice Tibbals.

Brad and Beth Toben Scholarship
Given by Brad and Beth Toben.

Toben-Fair Scholarship
Given in honor of Dean Brad Toben by Mr. Walt Fair.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Wade Madeley & Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Touchstone Scholarship
Given in honor of Madeley Touchstone by Mr. and Mrs. D. Wade Madeley and Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Touchstone.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Umphrey Scholarship
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Umphrey.

Senator Murray Watson, Jr., Scholarship
Given by the Brazos Higher Education Service Corp. in honor of Senator Murray Watson.
You have helped set my career on a stable foundation.

Thank you so much for funding my scholarship at Baylor Law. Because of your support, I have been able to pursue my passions in the public interest field without worrying about finances. I spent my 1L summer at Disability Rights Texas, working with their housing, healthcare, voting, and education teams. They asked me to stay and I’ve been working for them ever since. I’ve loved being able to help people who need it. Lately, I’ve been successful in obtaining reasonable accommodations to help people with disabilities stay in stable housing.

Again, thank you so much.”

Madison Barney
JD Candidate 2024
Dear Baylor Lawyers:

Will you join us? The Baylor Law Alumni Association comprises a community of over 7,800 Baylor Lawyers. I am delighted to invite you, on behalf of the entire membership, to join the Baylor Law Alumni Association.

As a member, you will have a unique opportunity to connect with Baylor Lawyers nationwide and support alumni programs, events, and initiatives throughout the year that strengthen both Baylor Law and the Baylor Lawyer Network. Indeed, in the following pages, you will see the legion of Baylor Lawyers who have already answered the call to support the Baylor Law Alumni Association, reflecting the myriad of ways your membership positively impacts current and former students.

As President of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, I want to thank each of our current members—your support sustains us, and your time, talent, and resources strengthen us. To each prospective member, I ask that you support our efforts by joining the Association for the first time or renewing your membership today. We want to stay connected to you! Baylor Law believes in fostering lifelong relationships, and we hope your membership in the BLAA is the first of many steps in your engagement with Baylor Law and its remarkable faculty and students.

I appreciate your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you at the next Baylor Law Alumni Association event in your area.

Christine A. Nowak, JD ‘05
President, Baylor Law Alumni Association
Sustaining Lifetime Members, Lifetime Members, and Sustaining Fellows

We extend a special thank you to our Baylor Law Alumni Association Sustaining Lifetime Members, Lifetime Members, and Sustaining Fellows for the two years between January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. Your continued support of the Alumni Association is invaluable!

Sustaining Lifetime Members

Sustaining Lifetime Members contribute $200 or more per year after becoming a Lifetime Member. Baylor Lawyers are recognized as a Sustaining Lifetime Member for each year that $200 or more is given.

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Achieved once $1,500 has been given. Lifetime Member contributions can be paid in full to immediately achieve Lifetime Member status or payments can be made through the levels of Fellow and Sustaining Fellow until $1,500 has been contributed.

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Achieves the $500 Fellow level and continues to contribute at least $200 per year.

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Kenneth E. Blassingame
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Curtis P. Cote
William N. Drabble
William A. Dyess
Hon. Patrick L. Flanigan
Charles T. Frazier, Jr.
Alyca R. Garrison
R. Wayne Gordon
Thomas P. Groce
Charlotte M. Harper
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Michele Y. Smith
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Lawrence Morales, JD ’05 | San Antonio
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Cynthia Clack, JD ’78 | Odessa
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2023/2024 Baylor Law Alumni Association
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Louie Cook, JD ’16 | Corpus Christi
Glenn Cunningham, JD ’90 | San Antonio
Spencer Edwards, JD ’97 | Houston
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Faith Johnson Lowry, JD ’15 | San Antonio
Rekha Roarty, JD ’14 | Austin
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Outgoing Executive Committee Members

Cynthia Clack, JD ’78 | Odessa
Susan Moore, JD ’90 | Austin
Jessica Schwartz, JD ’16 | Dallas
Ronnie Turner, JD ’10 | Beaumont
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BAYLOR LAW GRADUATES WHO OFFICIALLY BECAME BAYLOR LAWYERS DURING THE FALL 2023 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY!

Dean Patricia Wilson presided over the ceremony and conferred the degrees and Natalie Drott addressed the graduates as the highest-ranking student. Professor Jeremy Counseller delivered an inspiring address and Dean Wilson, Associate Dean Matt Cordon, and Senior Assistant Dean Angela Cruseturner presented the diplomas. Dean Emeritus Brad Toben and Director of Student Affairs Katherine Sims hooded the graduates.
The Power of Speech Symposium
September 28, 2023
Creating Environments in Which Free Speech and Civil Discourse Thrive

The 2023 Baylor Law Leadership Symposium, hosted in collaboration with the Association of American Law Schools Section on Leadership and the Baylor Law Review, was held on Thursday, September 28, 2023. Under the theme “Power of Speech: Creating Environments in Which Free Speech and Civil Discourse Thrive,” the virtual event brought together legal scholars, professionals, and experts to discuss the critical issues surrounding free speech, civil discourse, and their significance in today’s society.

2023 Starr Federalist Papers Lecture Series
September 28, 2023
The Founding Fathers and the Importance of Civil Discourse

On September 28, 2023, Baylor Law hosted acclaimed constitutional scholar Akhil Reed Amar, the Sterling Professor of Law at Yale Law School, for a compelling lecture titled “The Founding Fathers and the Importance of Civil Discourse.” The event, part of the Starr Federalist Papers Lecture Series underwritten by John and Marie Chiles, was held in the Jim Kronzer Appellate Advocacy Classroom & Courtroom at the Sheila & Walter Umphrey Law Center. A reception and book signing with Professor Amar followed.

Alumni Weekend
October 6-7, 2023

Hundreds of Baylor Lawyers gathered in Waco in October, for Baylor Law’s Alumni Weekend. The weekend kicked off with Burgers and Blue Bell at the Umphrey Law Center on Friday, October 6, and ended with a special alumni and student tailgate in the Student Lounge and back lawn for the Baylor v. Texas Tech football game. Alumni were also able to tour the law center throughout the weekend.
Fall Orientation, Alumni Panel  August 17, 2023
At Fall 2023 Orientation, Baylor Lawyers shared their backgrounds, experiences at Baylor Law and in practice, and advice. They offered wise counsel and encouragement to the new students and welcomed them to the Baylor Law community.

Transactional Law Mentorship Program’s Welcome Back Dinner  September 8, 2023
The Transactional Law Mentorship Program recently sponsored the second annual welcome back dinner for aspiring transactional Baylor Lawyers at Brazos Landing. Conversations lasted well into the evening as students and alumni exchanged war stories from summer associate programs, Practice Court, and their lives as new lawyers.

PDP: Implicit Bias and the Texas Pattern Jury Charge  September 14, 2023
Judge Tonya Parker, 116th Judicial District Court in Dallas County, spoke on the Dallas County Implicit Bias Task Force’s work to secure an implicit bias jury instruction included in the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and the Pattern Jury Charge books along with other recent Task Force updates.

AALSA Mid-Autumn Moon Festival  September 22, 2023
Baylor Law’s Asian American Law Student Association (AALSA) hosted a Mid-Autumn Festival celebration on Friday, September 22nd. Aijun Cheng (mom of student Ashley Tran, 2L) and the many ‘aunties’ from their temple in Dallas brought delicious handmade mooncakes and tea for students to share. AALSA also shared delicious food from Le’s Kitchen in Waco.

Judicial Clerkship Reception  September 22, 2023

Fall Dawsson & Sodd Moot Court Winners  September 25, 2023
The team of Rebekah Miller and Anna Jennings narrowly defeated the team of Nicholas Baker and Jake Adams to win the Fall Dawson & Sodd Moot Court Competition at Baylor Law.

The teams of Sean McLoughlin and Michael Stevenson and Nathan Dasilva and Brody Volpe ended the competition as Semi-Finalists.
Hispanic Heritage Month  September 2023
Baylor Law celebrated Hispanic Heritage month with a series of social events including a luncheon for students. The Hispanic American Law Student Association hosted a “quiz day” for students, with prizes, and a Reggaeton dance class taught by Kumbala Dance Studio.

National PreTrial Competition 2nd Place Win  October 14, 2023
The team of Tiffani Skroch, Asna Poonawalla, Tony Pana, and Seth Howton, with coaches Bailey Strohmeyer (JD ’18, LLM ’20) and Chandler Dean (JD ’21, LLM ’24), took second place at the National PreTrial Competition at Stetson University.

The team also won Best Movant Brief and the Professionalism Award.

Criminal Law Society’s District Attorney Visit  October 18, 2023
Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner and members of his staff visited Baylor Law to meet with our students and learn more about our criminal law program.

Criminal Law Boot Camp,  October 13-15, 2023
Professor Richard Alpert offered the Criminal Law Boot Camp in the fall. The Boot Camp is a hands-on workshop spanning three days, offering students practical exposure to criminal law practice in Texas. Led by a diverse faculty including prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges, the Boot Camp features instruction and simulations covering various aspects of trial practice. With a faculty-to-student ratio of nearly one-to-one, participants engage in lectures, discussions, and mock trials. Limited to 16 students per session, the program offers personalized guidance and critiques from faculty.
Native American Heritage Month  November 2023

In honor and celebration of Native American Heritage Month, Baylor Law hosted a quiz day on November 8 for faculty, staff, and students to learn more about Native American culture. On November 29, Baylor Law enjoyed a performance by the Anoli Dancers, world-champion singers and dancers of the Indigenous Cultures Institute. The group, including Baylor University graduate student Rebecca Roberts, shared insight into Native American culture through a performance of exhibition dance styles, storytelling, and a brief Q&A session.

Baylor Law Family Fall Festival  October 21, 2023

On Saturday, October 21, Baylor Law alumni, faculty, staff, students, and their families enjoyed music, delicious food trucks, arts & crafts, and a popular “faculty dunking booth.” The four faculty members with the most cans (votes) in the canned food drive in the fall took turns in the hot seat while students and family members attempted to dunk them. The four lucky winners were Dean Matt Cord, Prof. Jeremy Counsellor, Dean Brad Tobin, and Prof. Chris Jaeger.

Midnight Breakfast  October 18, 2023

On October 18, Baylor Law alumni, faculty members, staff, students, and their families got to enjoy a delicious midnight breakfast together.
Appellate Lawyers Association’s National Moot Court Competition  
November 2-5, 2023
Two Baylor Law teams competed in the Appellate Lawyers Association Donald C. Hudson Memorial Moot Court Competition in November. The team of Joe Garrey, Eric Grant, and Tony Pana finished as semifinalists and were awarded Third-Best Brief. The team of Emily Duckworth, Amber John, and Tansy Nicholson were Quarterfinalists.

National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition  
November 3-6, 2023
The team of O’quilla Jones and Camille Callaway finished in 3rd place in the National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition hosted by University of San Diego School of Law. Camille Callaway was named 2nd best speaker of the competition.

Pepperdine National Entertainment Law Moot Court Competition  
November 10-11, 2023
The team of Kelton Munch, Gigi Tartaglino, and Ashley Tran finished as semifinalists at the National Entertainment Law Moot Court Competition hosted by Pepperdine Caruso School of Law.

Family Law Boot Camp  
November 10-12, 2023

National Veterans Law Moot Court Competition  
November 3-6, 2023
The Baylor Law team of Waverly Shannon and Maria Zermeno narrowly defeated a second Baylor Law team of Tayler Kennedy and Catherine McKinney to finish as Champions at the National Veterans Law Moot Court Competition hosted by George Washington School of Law.

Just Cause Experience  
November 9, 2023
Baylor Law hosted the Just Cause Experience, a ripped-from-the-headlines legal drama from the creators of The Defamation Experience. Baylor Law students engaged as the jury to decide the fate of the plaintiff and defendant, while contemplating the impact of several pressing social issues.

Bridging the Gap: A Reflection on Military Service and Law  
November 14, 2023
In honor of Veterans Day, Baylor Law’s Military & Veterans Legal Society invited Chief Justice Nathan Hecht, Supreme Court of Texas; Judge Gary Coley, 74th Judicial District Court; Major Steve Dray, U.S. Army JAG; and Dr. Samantha Marasa, Psychologist at Fort Cavazos, to discuss their experiences as or working with JAGs and military officers as well as the effect of military careers on current positions in the legal field.
Baylor Law
IN THE COMMUNITY

Baylor Law Day of Service
September 30, 2023

On the second annual Day of Service, dozens of Baylor Law faculty, staff, and students signed up to serve at Caritas of Waco, Waco Habitat for Humanity, The Salvation Army of Waco/McLennan County, the Humane Society of Central Texas, or Cameron Park Zoo.

Canned Food Drive Benefiting Food for Families
September - October, 2023

Students, faculty, and staff “cast their votes” for their favorite professor (or staff member) by placing donations of canned food in specially-marked boxes. Over 800 cans were donated and the four highest vote-getters were plunged into the dunking booth at the Baylor Law Family Fall Festival in October. The “winners” were Dean Matt Cordon, Professor Jeremy Counseller, Dean Brad Toben, and Professor Chris Jaeger.

Harmony School of Innovation
October 18, 2023

Captain Rhasean T. Stephens, JD Candidate ’24, and Intern with the City Attorney’s Office in Waco, TX, detailed his personal and professional journey and the importance of advocacy with the Service Leadership Society at Harmony School of Innovation in Waco.
George Chandler, JD ’62, founder of Chandler Mathis & Zivley, P.C. in Lufkin and Houston, Texas, was elected to the 2023 Baylor Athletics Wall of Honor. George was a three-year letterman and team MVP for men’s tennis. He and his wife, Martha, also received the Legacy Award for extraordinary service and philanthropy to Baylor in 2015. In his distinguished legal career, George was honored as the 2009 Baylor Lawyer of the Year, one of the Top 100 Super Lawyers in Texas for ten years, and as a Texas Legal Legend in 2014 by the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Neal W. Adams, JD ’70, with Adams, Lynch & Loftin, P.C. in Grapevine, Texas, was honored with the 2023 Blackstone Award by the Tarrant County Bar Association. The Blackstone Award, established in 1963, is named after Sir William Blackstone (1723-1780), a British jurist and legal scholar. The nomination for the Blackstone Award is made solely based on consistent ability, integrity, and courage as a lawyer, and it is the highest award given by the Tarrant County Bar Association.

Carmen Eiker, JD ’78, with Carrington Coleman in Dallas, has been honored as a 2023 Texas Super Lawyer in Family Law, one of the Best Lawyers in America® for 2024 in Family Law and Family Law Mediation, and as a 2024 500 Leading Family Law Attorneys in America by Lawdragon.

Mark Lambert, JD ’87, a veteran diplomat, has been appointed by United States President Joe Biden as a top China policy official at the State Department, filling the role as high-level engagements between the two countries resume and a possible meeting between Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping looms.

Honorable Vicki Menard, JD ’90, was honored on her retirement on November 30 with “Judge Vicki Menard Day” by the mayor of Waco, Dillon Meek, JD ’10. Mayor Meek along with City Council and City staff recognized her distinguished legal career and her dedication to the citizens of McLennan County and the State of Texas during her 18 years of judicial service. Judge Menard is the first woman to serve as a state district judge in the history of McLennan County. In 2005, she was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve as the first judge of the 414th District Court. Her leadership on the bench led to many significant improvements in the local judicial system. In 2021, she was selected by her peers to serve as the local administrative district judge for McLennan County, presiding over the board of judges. She has mentored many young lawyers through the years. Judge Menard is a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation and is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the Waco-McLennan County Bar Association. She has served on the boards of the Waco Coalition for the Homeless, the Waco Family Abuse Center, and the McLennan Community College Foundation. She is a past president of the Waco Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Judge Abner V. McCall Inn of the American Inns of Court, and the Rotary Club of Waco. She will long be remembered for her exemplary judicial service, her dedication to justice, and her commitment to the rule of law.

Honorable Lori Ann DeAngelo, JD ’98, has been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to the 487th Judicial District Court in Harris County.

Clint Butler, JD ’04, a Shareholder at Langley & Banack, has been recently honored as a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America (LCA).

Deborah M. Perry, JD ’04, Shareholder with Munsch Hardt in Dallas, was honored in the 2024 Best Lawyers in America® publication in the areas of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation – Bankruptcy.

Honorable Christine Nowak, JD ’05, was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to the 493rd Judicial District Court in Collin County.

Michael Pass, JD 04, was recently named Chief Compliance Officer at Freeport-McMoRan, Inc. Freeport-McMoRan is a leading international mining company with headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona, operating large, long-lived geographically diverse assets with significant proven and probable reserves of copper, gold, and molybdenum.

R. Heath Cheek, JD ’06, Partner with Bell Nunnally in Dallas, was named a “Litigation Star” in the Benchmark Litigation 2024 guide.

Akilah Craig, JD ’12, Labor and Employment Associate with Locke Lord in Houston, returned to her alma mater, Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to receive the “Sydney N. Bridgett ’51 Medal.” The medal is named in honor of the second African American graduate of the college and honors alumni of African descent for outstanding achievement in a chosen profession or endeavor.

Brandon Neely, JD ’14, joined Whitley Penn, LLP in Fort Worth, Texas, as General Counsel and Chief Risk Officer.
Arianna Smith, JD ’15, has joined Knox Ricksen LLP, a civil litigation firm specializing in complex healthcare fraud cases, as an associate in the Dallas office. Arianna is a member of the Dallas Bar Association and the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers. She volunteers with the Marbridge Foundation’s mentorship program and provides pro bono legal services for the Texas Civil Rights Project.

Garrett L. Beach, JD ’16, has joined The Zimmerman Firm in Waco as an associate in the area of Estate Planning.

Christian Cowart, JD ’17, has joined Bell Nunnally as senior counsel in the Litigation area of Estate Planning.

Zimmerman Firm in Waco as an associate in the Dallas office of Steptoe & Johnson PLLC. He has joined the Economic Development practice in the Dallas office. Andrew L. Martinez, JD ’20, is a securities attorney at Dentons up until his passing. He was recognized as a “Texas Rising Star” for 2022-2023.

J. Reid Burley, JD ’18, in Commercial Litigation with Bell Nunnally, has been named to the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America 2024.

William “Bill” Latimer Floyd, JD ’62, passed away on August 31, 2023, surrounded by his family at the age of 82. Bill was born in Atlanta, attended Henry Grady High School, and graduated from Baylor Law School in 1962. He married his wife, Connie, in 1972 and practiced law as a corporate securities attorney at Dentons up until his passing. He is survived by his wife, Constance Jones Floyd; his son, Bill Floyd; and his daughter, Blair Bleiman; as well as his three grandchildren.

Ralph Parks “Skip” Cornelius, JD ’71, entered this world in Shreveport, Louisiana, on July 1, 1948, and moved from Houston, Texas, to his heavenly home on October 21, 2023. In the intervening time, Skip built a legacy. Born to Ralph and Betty Cornelius, Skip grew up in the Oak Forest neighborhood in Houston. His youth was filled with family hunting trips, boating adventures, and a multitude of sports. He gained his nickname from his father, who taught him how to be the “skipper” of a boat. Skip graduated from Waltrip High School and, at age 23, earned combined Bachelor of Business Administration and Juris Doctorate degrees from Baylor University.

Subsequently, Skip launched a 50-year career as a renowned trial attorney in criminal law. He first-chaired approximately 500 jury trials, including dozens of capital murder cases, becoming one of the most prolific trial attorneys in the United States. Skip spent the first decade of his career as a prosecutor, serving in the Harris County District Attorney’s Office (“the greatest job you could ever have”) and the United States Attorney’s Office. Afterward, he built a criminal defense practice, serving as counsel to the accused, and often indigent, for four decades. Skip impacted hundreds of Texas attorneys as a teacher, mentor, and friend. He was a passionate trial lawyer, respected for fairness and integrity in working for the best interest of his clients. Skip earned Board Certification in Criminal Law (a feat accomplished by less than 1% of Texas attorneys) and was admitted to the Bar in multiple state and federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court. The Harris County Criminal Law Association recognized Skip as “Attorney of the Year” in 2009 and awarded him the “Lifetime Achievement Award” in 2018. However, his favorite career highlights were trying cases side-by-side with his daughter, Kristin, and later with his wife, Laura.

While Skip’s career success was remarkable, his devotion to his family and Christ was matchless. In 1978, he met and, two years later, married Laura, the love of his life. Together, they spent 45 years laughing and building their life, family, and faith. Skip was a pillar of love, generosity, and strength to his family. He ate pizza with a fork and knife and taught his children to show respect to everyone. As he taught them to ski (snow and water), mow grass, or tell jokes, Skip’s kids learned that by following their father, they would succeed, enjoy life, and become more like Christ.

As a lifelong Christian, Skip was an active leader at First Presbyterian Church of Houston (where he co-led a several hundred-person Sunday school class for 25 years) and, later, helped establish the Seven Mile Road Houston church community where his son Bill served as an elder. A natural athlete, Skip completed more than 20 marathons, established the Young Lawyers Basketball League, and served as Chairman of the Downtown YMCA. He took up golf and patiently coached the sports teams of his children and grandchildren and would celebrate their modest achievements as if they had won a world championship.

While preceded in death by his parents, William Ralph and Betty Singley Cornelius, brother William Terrell “Rusty” Cornelius, and father-in-law, Walt Duemer, numerous family members remain to carry on his legacy and love. Skip’s family includes sister Shirley Cornelius Hipp (Richard); brother James Russell “Rusty” Cornelius (Julie); wife Laura Duemer Cornelius; son William Ralph “Bill” Cornelius (Sarah); daughter Kristin Cornelius Assaad (Gabriel); son James Walter “Jay” Cornelius; grandchildren Isabel Assaad, Michael Assaad, William Ralph “Chip” Cornelius III, Mary Lisa Cornelius, and baby born in February 2024; mother-in-law Joan Duemer; lifelong friend Roger Synnott; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. As a friend to many, Skip deeply cherished his relationships with extended family and friends.

Alumni news and notes are published based on the information we receive from our alumni. If you have been recognized or have other professional news to share, please e-mail law_alumni@baylor.edu for inclusion in a future issue of Docket Call.
Glenn Alan Sodd, JD ’72, continued to hold court until his passing on November 12, 2023. He was surrounded by his family as he went to be with his Lord. Glenn was born in Ft. Worth, Texas, on June 29, 1948, and grew up in Arlington. He graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington and then proceeded to graduate at the top of his class from Baylor University School of Law in 1972. While attending Baylor, he met his long-time mentor and law professor, Matt Dawson. Upon graduation, Glenn joined Mr. Dawson in Corsicana to form Dawson & Sodd, which he grew into a successful state-wide law firm that is still in practice today by the same name. Glenn’s skill as a trial lawyer was legendary. When preparing for a trial, no detail was too small and rarely was the day long enough. For the last 35 years of his legal career, he vigorously and successfully represented landowners in eminent domain cases across Texas, including, most notably, landowners whose property was condemned for building both The Ballpark in Arlington and Cowboys Stadium. As a result of his success, he was frequently asked to lecture on myriad eminent domain topics at conferences and to audiences all over the State and Country, including the Texas Legislature. Glenn was a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, National Order of Barristers, American Association for Justice, and practiced in numerous Texas and the United States courts.

Glenn was active in his community. Among his many civic duties, he served as President of the Corsicana Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Corsicana ISD Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Corsicana Development Commission, Director of the Corsicana Lions Club, and an Organizing Director of City National Bank. He taught Sunday school for many years at his beloved Grace Community Church, which he was instrumental in starting in the early 1990s. In addition to his community involvement and law practice, Glenn spent much of his free time operating a 4,000-acre working ranch in Navarro County, known as The Refuge, which was, true to its name, a refuge for him and his family. Glenn originally purchased the ranch with a partner, who died shortly after their ownership. Upon purchasing his partner’s half interest, Glenn was forced to figure out how to make the ranch profitable or at least not too expensive. And so, Glenn, with his usual vigor and acumen, researched extensively grass production, dairy operations, and the scientific deer breeding business, and then, to no one’s surprise, he turned The Refuge into a successful dairy operation with 1200 head of dairy cattle as well as one of the most prolific whitetail deer breeder operations in Texas. Above all else, Glenn was most proud of his large family. Glenn met the love of his life, Pat, while in college. Pat supported Glenn through law school and continued supporting him in all his endeavors throughout his life. Over the course of their 54-year marriage, they built a full and fun life in Corsicana with their three children and nine grandchildren. And while he wore many hats in his life (husband, father, trial lawyer, rancher, Cowboys fan), his favorite hat was that of “Papa,” which his grandchildren affectionately called him. In fact, his favorite part of each week was driving his grandchildren, who lived within a block of him and Pat, to school in the morning. The lessons, sayings, and stories shared (and shared again!) during those morning drives will provide lasting memories and wisdom for each of his grandchildren.

Glenn is survived by his loving wife Pat, son and daughter-in-law Jason and Ellen Sodd; daughter and son-in-law Jody and Chris McSpadden; daughter and son-in-law Jourdan and Caleb Hollingsworth; grandchildren Gabe and Eva Sodd; Will, Jake, Annie and Luke McSpadden; and Lyla, Leddy and Molly Hollingsworth. He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Gary and Donna Sodd; sister, Janet Sodd; brother-in-law, Gordon Ailshie; and wife, Corae. Glenn was preceded in death by his parents, Betty and Ellis Sodd, and his brother, William “Bill” Sodd.

Marsh “Kay” Koos Hawkins, JD ’74, passed to the life triumphant October 9, 2023, surrounded by her family at home. Kay was born to Anne and Neil Koos in Waco, Texas, on November 5, 1950. She grew up in Waco alongside her beloved sister Kitty Koos Kenyon and graduated from Richfield High School before moving on to attend Baylor University and Baylor Law School. In July of 1980, she married the love of her life, John Hawkins, and for the next forty-three years, they created a beautiful life together, raising their two sons, Ben and Daniel, in Waco. After living in a world filled with boys, Kay welcomed the daughter she never had but always wanted when April married Daniel in 2003. She was ecstatic when the trend continued, and she soon welcomed her three cherished granddaughters, Abby, Chloe, and Harper. She delighted in her family, and they delighted in her.

Kay wore many hats in her lifetime. After receiving a call to ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church later in life, Kay graduated from Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth. In addition to her time spent with her family, she was honored to serve God and God’s people during her 17 years of pastoral ministry at Speegleville UMC, Valley Mills and Cayote UMC’s, Cogdell Memorial UMC, Glen Lake Camp, and FUMC Burleson. Whether you knew her as a cherished spouse to John, a loving mom to her boys, a joy-filled grandma to her girls, a beloved sister to Kitty, a spiritual pastor to communities across central Texas, or a cherished friend to many, you couldn’t help but be drawn to her radiant personality, quick wit, persistent love, and feistiness. Kay’s personality was big, and so was her heart. Her presence could fill a room, and her heart could fill your life. Her humor was infectious, and her care was real. Whether she was meeting you in a moment of celebration or sorrow, she could be present with you, invite you to see the divine in the midst of the ordinary, and leave you with a laugh or two to lift your spirit. Kay was preceded in death by her parents, Neil and Anne Koos of Waco. She is survived by her husband, John Hawkins; her son, Ben Hawkins; her son, Daniel Hawkins, and his wife, April; her grandchildren, Abby, Chloe, and Harper Hawkins; her sister, Kitty Kenyon, and her husband, Terry; and many beloved extended family members.

Marvin Joe Angle, JD ’76, devoted husband, loving father, respected attorney, civic leader, and committed follower of Christ, went to be with our Lord on Sunday, August 20, 2023, in Tyler, Texas, after succumbing to sudden health complications. He was 77. Prior to his passing, Joe and Judy, his wife of 55 years, lived in Jacksonville, Texas, for 47 years. Joe is survived by his beloved wife Judy Weatherly Angle and their two adoring children, John Harrison Angle (Seattle, WA) and Mary Claire Angle (Georgetown, TX), his sister-in-law Nancy Weatherly Salyer (Dough) (Albuquerque, NM), nieces Rebecca Dodd Nixon (Grant) (Houston, TX), Tamara Angle Hitt (Shawn) (College Station, TX), Katherine Angle Wood (John) (Bolling Springs, SC), nephews Bobby Dodd (Beth) (San Antonio, TX), Jim Salyer (Melinda) (Georgetown, TX), Jeff Salyer (Jennifer) (Albuquerque, NM), numerous great-nieces and -nephews, as well as countless dear friends. Joe further left behind Milton Friedman Angle, the family’s beloved dog.
Joe was born on September 1, 1945, in Marshall, Texas, to Marvin Giger Angle and Pauline (Wilson) Angle, the third of four children. He graduated from Nacogdoches High School in 1963, received a BA in History from Stephen F. Austin in 1967, a Master’s in History from UT Austin in 1969, and then served in the United States Air Force (staff sergeant) for four years before entering law school. Joe received a Juris Doctor (JD) degree from Baylor Law School in 1976. Joe insisted that he and Judy, his high school sweetheart, not get married until they both had at least one degree. Judy completed her degree in record time, and they married in 1968. Following law school, Joe and Judy moved to Jacksonville, where Joe joined the Norman Law Firm, eventually becoming a partner with the firm. Joe developed a successful transactional law practice in real estate, probate, estate planning, and municipal law as Jacksonville’s City Attorney, but opposing counsel learned early not to underestimate Joe’s abilities in the courtroom, where Joe’s sincerity and gentlemanly approach often won the day with local juries.

Joe’s Christian faith governed everything he did, whether it be family, work, church, or community. Joe was a tireless volunteer, striving to make Jacksonville and East Texas a better place to live. His faith extended well beyond the doors of his church, motivating his involvement in educational, healthcare, political, and youth/scouting activities. Joe served as an Elder in various Presbyterian churches for 54 years, beginning with his time being stationed in New Jersey with the Air Force. As an Elder at Tyler Presbyterian Church, Joe was the building committee chairman for both the sanctuary and fellowship hall projects. His love of history led to him teaching church history to high school students in the church for many years. Joe further helped establish the TPC Choir and the church’s scout troop.

Joe’s community involvement included serving as President of the Jacksonville Rotary Club, Jacksonville Library Board, Cherokee County Bar Association, and the Jacksonville High School Band Boosters, Chairman of Jacksonville United Fund, Director of Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Director of Nan Travis Hospital, Chairman of the Cherokee County Republican Party, Trustee for Nan Travis Foundation, and Boy Scout scoutmaster (Troops 416 and 131). Joe was a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow, was awarded The Legion of Honor Award by The Chapel of the Four Chaplains, and, not insignificantly, was a longstanding member of the Order of the Churn. Joe was one of the last surviving members of the Yesterdays, a 15-piece nostalgia ensemble with a “big band” sound. He played the trumpet. In addition, many locals still recall Joe whimsically playing the role of Elwood P. Dowd in the Mary Chase play, “Harvey.” His initial performance was at Lon Morris College in 1977, and later reprised the role at the Rusk Civic Theater in 1996. Like Elwood P. Dowd, Joe would recommend pleasant.

Marvin Joe Angle was preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Pauline (Wilson) Angle, his sister Delphine (Angle) Dodd, and his brothers, John Franklin Angle and Donnie Lee Angle.

Robert James Woody, JD ’78, who took the Road Less Traveled and showed us what love looks like, passed away on November 8, 2023. He left this world a better place. Robert was born in Midland, Texas, to Alvin and Joanna Woody, who predeceased him. At Cooper High School in Abilene, TX, Robert lived out his glory days as the unlikely pick for “Monster” under the bright “Friday Night Lights.” Quoted in the local paper, Robert’s football coach said, “Woody makes up for lack of size with character and football sense.” Indeed. A cradle Southern Baptist, Robert received his undergraduate and law degrees from Baylor University where he excelled in curricular and extracurricular activities with KOT. His mediation skills were honed when he saved the future legal careers of several successful and eternally grateful lawyers following a prank gone wrong (they know who they are). Winning the National Mock Trial Competition took Robert to a leading New York City law firm, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP. Well-liked and gifted in the law, he was offered a lucrative partnership, which he subsequently turned down to discern his true vocation. The spiritual journey he set out on would eventually lead to ordination as an Episcopal priest. While at Simpson & Bartlett, Robert met and married Julie Plantes. They moved to the Catskill Mountains, where Robert single-handily renovated a broken-down, turn-of-the-century church into a home. Seth Woody was born in the Catskills, and Sam Woody was born two years later, shortly after Robert and Julie moved to Austin, Texas. After several years of practicing law in Austin, Robert discerned the call to go to seminary and earned his M.Div at Seminary of the Southwest. After three years as Associate Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd Church in Tomball, Texas, Robert answered the call to the Church of Reconciliation in San Antonio. He served for sixteen years as Rector, leading the church in the practice of radical inclusion, born out of a theology of love.

Robert encountered his Creator in creation. He loved birds, bow hunting, fly fishing, wilderness backpacking, and traversing as often as he could to the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains. He shared his passion with his family, friends, and parishioners. He did service work in Costa Rica, Navajo Land, and locally in REC’s neighborhood. He spent a sabbatical in Rwanda where he studied reconciliation. In January 2020, Robert received a devastating dual diagnosis of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), formerly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, and Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD). He called the diagnosis his “last great adventure” and somehow held onto his gentle spirit. In the end, the FTD and ALS rendered him unable to move, speak, swallow, or breathe. He will be sorely missed.

In addition to Julie, Seth, and Sam, Robert is survived by his sister Christy White (Jim), brother Sterling Woody (Leigh), Julie’s siblings, and many beloved nephews and nieces. He’s also predeceased by his many dogs, including Trixie, Hugo, Cassie, Maggie, Katie, Ellie, Frank, and Lucky. The family wishes to thank siblings and friends who supported Robert, Julie, Sam, and Seth throughout the last four years, as well as his loving caregivers, especially Sandra Rosales, hospice workers, especially RN Beverly, and Lily, Robert’s canine caregiver extraordinaire.

Carroll White Sturgis, Jr., JD ’83, passed away September 25, 2023, at Providence Village in Waco, Texas, surrounded by his loving family. A private family graveside service was held Saturday, September 30, at Oakwood Cemetery in Waco, with Reverend Dr. Leslie King officiating. Carroll was born in Waco to Frances Burnett Sturgis and Carroll White Sturgis. He attended Waco schools and graduated from Baylor University with a BBA. After graduation, he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the USAF, first stationed in Sumter, South Carolina, then later in Denmark at the NATO base in Karup. In his career with the USAF, he held Top Secret Security Clearance (USAF) and Cosmic Top Secret Security Clearance (NATO) due to the nature of their work and their control of tactical nuclear weapons on Danish soil. Following his years in the USAF, Carroll was national sales manager for L.L. Sams and Sons Church Furniture. When he was 40, he made a career change and entered Baylor University School of Law. After earning his JD degree and practicing law in Waco,
he was solicited to become head of a newly formed bank Trust Department in Waco. Later, he was asked to become head of the Trust Department at Harlingen National Bank and its eventual successor, Texas State Bank, in McAllen, Texas. At Texas State Bank, he helped build a successful Trust Department with over $1 billion in assets under management. In 2008, he took on a new challenge of starting a Trust Department at First National Bank, McAllen, Texas. Carroll led a team of trust professionals in growing the assets under management from inception to 250 million in assets under management in 5 years. In 2014, he retired from a long and distinguished trust career. In retirement, Carroll began theological studies and became a Commissioned Lay Pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA). In that capacity he served the Veteran’s Home in McAllen. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of McAllen.

Carroll married to Carey Ann Sanford in 1961, and they had three children: Laura Ann Sturgis, Carroll W. Sturgis III (Trey), and Margery Frances Sturgis (Fran). Lois Detiveaux and Carroll were married on July 4, 1993. They had a son, Hunter Carroll Detiveaux Sturgis, and a daughter, Danae Detiveaux Sturgis. He was preceded in death by his parents, Carroll and Frances Sturgis; grandparents, J. H. and Lula Carroll Sturgis; grandparents, George and Laura Yates Burnett; and numerous aunts and uncles. Carroll is survived by his wife, Lois Detiveaux Sturgis; children, Laura Sturgis Patterson (Dr. Joel), Carroll Sturgis III (Gaby), Fran Sturgis Calderon (Joe), Danae Detiveaux Sturgis Fredrickson (Brian), and Hunter Carroll Detiveaux Sturgis; as well as his sister, Elinor Sturgis Davis (JP); his grandchildren, Caroline Boone (Andrew), Margaret Rogers (Eric), William Patterson, Tyler Sturgis, Matthew Sturgis, Haley Lucero, Trey Lucero, and Isabelle Lucero; he is also survived by his great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Brooks William “Bill” Conover III, JD ’84, of Cleburne, passed away on October 25, 2023, after contracting a severe case of pneumonia. At his side were his spouse, Ken Miser, Jr., sister, Carol Conover McCord, and pastor, Lauren Christenberry, of Saint Mark’s Methodist Church. Bill was born in Corsicana, Texas, on December 28, 1959. During most of his childhood, he lived in the Rio Grande Valley. He attended high school in Cleburne, Texas, where he became valedictorian and earned the Ball Scholarship to attend Baylor University. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees at Baylor. Bill began his law career with the Office of the Texas Attorney General in 1984, representing several state agencies. His most notable case was representing the state in its lawsuit against the KKK on behalf of the Texas Commission on Human Rights. He ultimately returned to Cleburne and opened his own practice, the Conover Law Firm. His practice primarily included criminal, family, and estate planning. He also handled general litigation and represented small cities. He was a litigator at heart and loved defending his clients in court.

In high school and throughout college, he was active in the Texas Young Democrats despite the strong Republican roots of his grandparents, Nell and Brooks Conover, Sr.; with whom he lived. During his lifelong involvement with the Democratic Party, he was a member of the state DNC for several years, a past chair of the Johnson County Democratic Party, and a founding member and President of the Texas Chisom Trail Stonewall Democrats.

Bill officially married his life partner, Ken, on April 11, 2013, in Seattle, Washington. They had an active life together, sharing their faith, family, politics, community, and dogs. For the past few years, Ken also worked at the law firm. Bill is survived by his spouse, Ken Miser; his mother, Betty (Fail) Powledge; his sister, Carol McCord (Pat); his aunt Patti Conover Whiteside; and several cousins, nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Nell and Brooks Conover, Sr., his father, Brooks Conover, Jr., and his brother, Gordon Conover.

Mark Alan Mayfield, JD ’90, a Seventh Generation Texan, passed away on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at his home in Austin, Texas. Mark was welcomed into this world on the evening of February 5, 1965, to parents Carroll Wayne Mayfield and Carolyn Chaffin Mayfield in Marshall, Texas. After living in Marshall, Tyler, and Waskom, Texas, he moved with his family to Beaumont, Texas, for a few short years, where he began his educational journey and love of reading at the Concord School of Phonics. At the age of 6, moving again with his family, he arrived in Beeville, Texas, where he settled in, started first grade at Tyler Elementary, and completed his public school education at A. C. Jones High in 1983, making lifelong friends. Working summers to hone his work ethic, he held positions as a warehouseman, water drilling roustabout, plumbing assistant, air conditioning installer, and sporting goods sales clerk. He began his higher education at Bee County College, now Coastal Bend College, when he was awarded the Joe and Reese Wade Scholarship for students pursuing a career in the field of law. When he had taken all the courses he could at the community college level, he headed off to The University of Texas at Austin, graduating in 1987, cum laude, with a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science, with honors. While waiting to begin his studies at Baylor School of Law, he occupied his time doing substitute teaching at his old high school, A. C. Jones. He made his way to Waco and Baylor Law School in 1988, studying some long, continuous quarters, clerking for the Clark Thomas Firm in Austin and the Barrow Law Firm in San Antonio, and enjoying the wisdom and leadership of Dean Charles W. Barrow, among others. He was awarded his law degree in the summer of 1990, took the Bar Exam, passed it, and was licensed to practice law in November 1990. Mark began his legal career with the Clark, Thomas & Winters law firm in Austin, later becoming a partner and serving on the firm’s management committee. He then became a partner in the Austin office of Gardere Wynne and Sewell. Mark’s practice specialized in complex commercial litigation in federal and state courts across Texas and beyond. At the time of his death, he was engaged in the private practice of law. Law & Politics Media, Inc. named him as a Texas Super Lawyer. He was a Fellow of the Texas Bar Association, a Member of the Austin Bar Association, and a Life member of the Baylor Law Alumni Association. Mark was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, J. D. and Lois Adams Chaffin, and his paternal grandparents, J. P. and Sarah Pricer Mayfield, as well as his uncle, John Mayfield, James Mayfield, Jerry Mayfield, and Gary Robertson; his aunt, Rita Cisco, Eleanor Robertson, and Gay Nell Morris; several cousins; and his lifelong friend, Mark Edward Huckman. He is survived by his wife, Holly Mayfield of Austin, TX, and her children, Darby and Preston Wright of Austin, TX; his parents, Carroll W. and Carolyn Chaffin Mayfield of Beaumont, TX; his uncles, Donald Chaffin and wife, Barbara Chaffin, of Shreveport, LA and Alvis Cisco of Marshall, TX; his aunts, Mary Mayfield of Carthage, TX and Wynell Polson of Gilmer, TX; numerous cousins and many beloved friends.
Allison Dickson, JD ’07, a lifelong resident of Temple, TX, passed away October 18, 2023. She was born September 18, 1979 at Scott & White, where her father, Joe Dickson, was the hospital administrator for 20 years. Allison grew up in a loving home with her parents, Joe and Johnnie, and her older siblings, Ashley Dickson Smith and Brad Dickson.

At the age of 15 months, Allison was diagnosed with a rare form of Muscular Dystrophy called Werdnig-Hoffman Disease. The doctors told her parents she might live to 3. Not only did she defy the odds and survive, but she thrived. Allison excelled academically during her years in the Temple Independent School District graduating third in her class. She also was involved and held leadership roles throughout her time in the TISD system. It was a national presidential election year when she was in third grade, and her class learned about our election system by holding a mock election where Allison was elected President. In high school, she served as an officer in numerous extracurricular clubs such as Student Council, Keywomenettes, and honor societies. She was a part of Teen Involvement, mentoring elementary and middle school students, and was involved in children’s theater arts productions put on by the Temple High School drama department. An avid sports fan, she was named Wildcat Football Sweetheart her senior year, and she served as her Class Treasurer her sophomore through senior years. Allison was the permanent Class Treasurer and continued to keep the books and help organize reunions. She was also a Homecoming Queen and Class Favorite finalist. Her proudest high school accomplishment though was ensuring a ramp was built in the front entrance of the high school. For four years, Allison entered the building through a back entrance because the front was not handicap accessible.

Following graduation, Allison was accepted and received a scholarship to attend Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. A small, liberal arts college, it was the perfect fit for Allison, Johnnie, and Joe. The family moved into a two-bedroom on-campus apartment and were quickly welcomed into campus life. As her siblings were 12 and 14 years older than Allison, they had both married and started their families, and Joe had retired from Scott & White and was able to commute daily from Temple to Georgetown while working part time as a consultant. Allison again excelled academically graduating summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a double major in English and Psychology. While enjoying diverse and challenging academic offerings, Allison also had the full college experience through joining and serving as a leader in campus activities. She served as one of four student representatives in the University’s Strategic Planning Committee, was Vice Chair of Student Foundation, Vice President of Finance and Philanthropy, co-chair of Delta Delta Delta sorority, Officer in honor and service organizations, and was named Outstanding Student her senior year in both of her majors. She loved cheering on the athletic teams and socializing at parties or small get-togethers. Allison continued to be active with her alma mater serving as a volunteer class agent for her graduating class and as a friend and mentor to her sorority chapter.

Allison next took on her dream of becoming a lawyer by attending Baylor Law School. Allison and her parents were welcomed by faculty, staff, and students alike at Baylor. To say law school was an eye opener would be quite the understatement but despite the academic, physical, and emotional challenge, Allison graduated summa cum laude and first in her class. She was a member of Baylor Law Review, was elected to numerous terms on the Student Bar Association, and was an officer in the honor society. She and her parents enjoyed campus life—especially supporting the Baylor athletic teams.

After graduation, Allison and her parents moved home to Temple. Joe was undergoing treatment for cancer and ultimately passed away in 2008. Before his death, Joe saw Allison pass the Bar and be sworn into the State Bar of Texas as a licensed attorney. He also saw her begin working as a Research Assistant for the professors at Baylor Law. This major life change for Allison and her mom, Johnnie, bonded them even closer, and in true Dickson form, they carried on and kept his memory alive despite missing him deeply.

As she settled back in to life in Temple, Allison soon became active in numerous community volunteer organizations such as Temple Bible Church, Junior League of Bell County, the Temple/Belton Tri Delta Alumnae Chapter and the Rotary Club of Temple. She served as President of her sorority alumnae chapter since 2010, and she served on the Board of Directors in multiple capacities for Junior League, earning recognition as the New Member of the Year and being elected to serve as President. She maintained her Sustainer status.

In 2014, another major life change occurred when Allison was admitted to the hospital and went into respiratory failure and septic shock. She was placed on life support three times and eventually had to receive a permanent trach. Doctors told her she may never breathe on her own again, may never return home, and may never eat or drink by mouth. After five months of getting stronger with the support of family and friends, weaning off the ventilator, and adjusting while learning a new normal, Allison returned home. Despite numerous and ongoing hospital stays for respiratory issues, Allison’s spirit was not broken. At the end of 2021, Allison spent two months in the hospital after contracting covid. #AlliBeatsCovid was born and once again, she returned home.

For Allison, her changing health circumstances inspired her to use the time she was given to work on philanthropic efforts. She began by creating and fundraising to endow a scholarship for her sorority chapter, The Allison Dickson Delta Delta Delta Scholarship at Southwestern. Created in 2015, it has provided assistance to several deserving recipients and has doubled in size from its original minimum endowment. Next, she set her sights on an Endowed Scholarship at Baylor Law School. Given five years to raise the endowment minimum, with the help of many, it reached its goal in just nine months. The Allison Dickson Scholarship Fund at Baylor Law has assisted several students since forming 2016. Finally, Allison began working on fundraising to endow the Allison Dickson Temple Proud Scholarship through the Temple Education Foundation in August of 2017. It will be awarded annually to a graduating Temple High School Senior who will be attending Temple College. As Allison said at a press conference when she was honored by State Representative Hugh Shine with a Proclamation in her honor, “I hope the recipients of these scholarships are encouraged and empowered to keep going to achieve their dreams. I hope they feel inspired and know that it might not be easy but anything is possible—I’m proof of that.”

Allison continued her fundraising and awareness on the impact of education through the numerous scholarships. She also joined the Board of Directors of Variety Peaceable Kingdom in the Fall of 2017 (an international non-profit which seeks to empower children with disabilities), and she was named the 2017 Baylor Young Lawyer of the Year and 2018 Distinguished Baylor Woman by the Central Texas Baylor Club. In 2022, she was honored as one of Tri Delta’s Women of Achievement and Baylor Law honored Allison in 2023 with the W.R. White Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service and continued loyalty to the University. She was recognized as a Distinguished Alumna for her service to Southwestern University as well as a Distinguished Alumna of Temple Independent School District.

In addition to being an Of Counsel member of the Patterson Law Group, Allison continued to serve her beloved Baylor Law School in a legal research role she held since getting her law degree.

If you would like to remember Allison with a donation to the Allison Dickson Scholarship Fund at Baylor Law, a fund personally meaningful and significant to her, please visit law.baylor.edu/AllisonDickson.

Allison’s causes, fundraisers and philanthropy efforts can be found at JustNeedPossible.com.
Following a nationwide search, Baylor University Provost Nancy Brickhouse, Ph.D., announced on November 9 that Jeremy Counseller, J.D., The Abner V. McCall Chair of Evidence Law at Baylor, has been selected as the next dean of the University’s nationally ranked School of Law. His appointment is effective July 1, 2024.

Professor Counseller will succeed Dean Emeritus Brad Toben, who returned to the Baylor Law faculty at the end of the 2022-2023 academic year after a 31-year tenure as dean of Baylor Law. Professor Counseller will follow Interim Dean Patricia Wilson, who has superbly led Baylor Law in the period after Dean Toben’s return to the faculty.

“Professor Counseller knows Baylor Law well—both its strengths and its opportunities for growth and improvement,” Provost Brickhouse said. “He has articulated a vision for Baylor Law that is ambitious and aligned with that of Baylor University. The campus community also knows Professor Counseller very well and expressed overwhelming support for his vision and his leadership. Professor Counseller has the courage and mandate to lead Baylor Law into the future, preparing lawyers and producing scholarship informed by Christian perspectives on service and leadership.”

“I am grateful to President Livingstone, Provost Brickhouse, and the members of the Search Committee, chaired by Dean Sandeep Mazumder of the Hankamer School of Business, for entrusting me with this privilege and responsibility,” Professor Counseller said. “I am blessed by the opportunity to serve our students as dean alongside my faculty and staff colleagues and our alumni and friends. I will do so with a deep sense of optimism about the future of Baylor University and the Law School. The Law School’s tremendous successes have prepared it to embrace the full import of its Christian mission within the legal profession, which I believe impels us to improve the quality of justice through the highest-caliber teaching, scholarship, and service.”

“The education I received at Baylor Law positively transformed my life, and so I will do everything I can to preserve and enhance the Law School’s existing strengths, particularly its distinctive commitment to preparing students for leadership and service in the profession, while also working collaboratively across the University to find bold new opportunities to better serve our students, achieve Law School and University objectives, and fulfill our distinctive mission,” Professor Counseller said. “In all that I do, I will endeavor to be guided by God’s command in Micah 6:8, inscribed on the walls of the Umphrey Law Center, to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God.”
Professor Counseller joined the faculty of Baylor Law in 2003. He graduated from Baylor Law with honors and was a member of the Baylor Law Review, the Order of the Barristers, and the interscholastic moot court and mock trial teams. He also earned an M.B.A. from Baylor’s Hankamer School of Business and a B.A. summa cum laude from Stephen F. Austin State University.

Following his graduation from law school, Professor Counseller served as a law clerk to the Honorable Reynaldo G. Garza of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Professor Counseller then entered private practice in Houston, Texas, with Bracewell & Patterson LLP (now Bracewell LLP), where he was an associate in the trial section. He also served as an Assistant Criminal District Attorney in McLennan County, Texas, where he prosecuted both misdemeanors and felonies.

Professor Counseller has authored articles and presented papers on various evidentiary and procedural issues. He is the co-author of four books: Handbook of Texas Evidence, Texas Commercial Causes of Action, Texas Trial Procedure and Evidence, and Civil Procedure: In Focus. In 2006, the President of the State Bar of Texas appointed him to serve on the Administration of the Rules of Evidence Committee, where he helped restyle the Texas Rules of Evidence.

Professor Counseller has served as the director of the Baylor Law Academy of the Advocate at St Andrews, Scotland, since the program’s inception in 2013. He previously served as Baylor’s Faculty Athletics Representative to the Big 12 Conference and NCAA from 2014 to 2019. As an educator, he has received Baylor University Outstanding Faculty awards in 2007 and 2022.

Provost Brickhouse thanks the search committee, who provided their time, insight, and service to Baylor during this process: Dean Sandeep Mazumder (chair), Jerry Clements, Matt Cordon, Angela Cruseturner, Laura Hernández, Chris Holmes, Chris Jaeger, Julie King, Elizabeth Miller, David Reid, and Ronnie Turner Jr. Additionally, the Provost expresses sincere gratitude to Professor Patricia Wilson, J.D., for her leadership as interim dean of Baylor Law School since July 2023.
Professor of Law Elizabeth M. Fraley Honored by Dallas Women Lawyers Association with the 2023 Louise B. Raggio Award

Professor of Law Elizabeth M. Fraley, the Gerald Reading Powell Chair in Advocacy and Co-Director of the Executive LL.M. in Litigation Management, was honored with the Louise B. Raggio Award by the Dallas Women Lawyers Association at their Annual Awards Reception on October 24, 2023. The award recognizes Professor Fraley’s outstanding achievements as a trial lawyer, a legal educator, and an advocate for women in the profession.

Each year, the Dallas Women Lawyers Association bestows the Raggio Award upon a legal professional who exhibits the highest standards of professionalism and significantly contributes to the progression of women attorneys in the field.

Jessica Asbridge
Associate Professor of Law

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Tax Forfeitures and the Excessive Fines Muddle, 118 Northwestern University Law Review Online 170 (2023)

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Panelist: “Recent Supreme Court cases on the Takings Clause, and the role of state governments in protecting property rights in light of Tyler v. Hennepin County” William & Mary Law School, Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Conference (October 2023)

Josh Borderud
Director of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs and Clinical Lecturer

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Waco City Council
- Chair, Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board
- Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network
- President-Elect, Waco-McLennan County Bar Association
- Master of the Bench, Judge Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court

Matt Cordon
Interim Associate Dean, Director of the Legal Writing Program, The A. Royce Stout Chair of Law

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Panelist, “Understanding AI and AI Applications: A Baylor Faculty Panel Discussion.” Baylor University, Special Series on Teaching and Artificial Intelligence. (October 26, 2023)

Thomas M. Featherston Jr.
The Mills Cox Professor of Law

**PUBLICATIONS**

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Tarrant County Probate Bar Association, Fort Worth (May 2023)
- State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning and Probate Course, Dallas (June 2023)
- “Skills Training for Estate Planners” ABA Real Estate, Probate and Trust Section, Chicago (August 2023)

Elizabeth M. Fraley
Gerald Reading Powell Chair in Advocacy and Co-Director of the Executive LL.M. in Litigation Management

**HONORS**
- 2023 Louise B. Raggio Award Recipient – Dallas Association of Women Lawyers

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Fraley, E., Powell, G., Kinkeade, E. Texas Rules of Evidence with Objections, NITA (5th ed.) (Forthcoming, 2024)

**PRESENTATIONS**
- “Focus Groups” State Bar of Texas 39th Annual Advanced Personal Injury Law CLE (August 16 and September 20, 2023)
- “Leadership and Resilience” Federal Court Clerks Association (FCCA) (August 9, 2023)
- “Applying Litigation Management for More Cost-Effective and Satisfying Outcomes in Health Care Litigation” American Hospital Lawyers Association Annual Meeting (June 25, 2023)
- UT CLE and Discussion Group, “Winning at Deposition: Deposing for the Defendant” University of Texas CLE (June 13, 2023)
- “Ethical Conundrums in Mass Tort and Multi-District Litigation” Mass Torts Puerto Rico (May 5, 2023)
- “Jury Testing on a Budget” ABOTA Foundation Webinar (April 18, 2023)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- American Board of Trial Advocates, Past President (Waco Chapter), National Board Representative; Member, Editorial Committee; Member, Judicial Independence Committee; Member, Diversity of Membership Committee
- American Bar Association
- Master of the Bench, Judge Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court
- Member, Board of Directors, Waco Symphony
- Vestry member, St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Waco
- Chair, Finishing the Work Capital Campaign, St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Waco, TX
Baylor Law Adjunct Professor, Beth Toben, Honored with Lone Star Prosecutor Award

Beth Toben, Adjunct Professor of Law at Baylor Law and Assistant County/District Attorney in Limestone County, has been recognized with the prestigious Lone Star Prosecutor Award, a state-wide award given to one prosecutor each year by the Texas District and County Attorney’s Association. The recognition was made during the TDCAA’s annual meeting held in Round Rock.

The Lone Star Prosecutor Award recognizes a prosecutor who excels in advancing justice in their career, including outstanding trial advocacy and other innovative contributions that might otherwise go unnoticed across the state.

Bridget Fuselier
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- Defining & Acquiring Interests in Property, Aspen Publishing (3rd ed.) November, 2022
- REPTL Newsletter, updates on Easements & Covenants (published quarterly)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Member, Waco Historic Landmark Presentation Commission (appointed by Waco City Council to serve until December 2024)
- Baylor Teaching Fellow
- Executive Director, Baylor Veterans Clinic
- Editor (Easements & Covenants), REPTL Reporter
- Contributing Editor (Real Estate), General Practice Digest

Chris Galeczka
Reference Librarian

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Volunteer Attorney, American Gateways and AFL-CIO Citizenship Clinic, Waco (May 27, 2023)
- Chair, McLennan County Bar Association Law Library Committee

Laura Hernández
Professor of Law

PRESENTATIONS
- Mock law class presentation to undergraduates enrolled in the Law School Preparation Institute at the University of TX-Rio Grande Valley (July 17, 2023)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Conference Organizer and Presenter, GO LILA - Conference for Latina Law Professors, Stanford Law School (May 30-31, 2023)
- Named as a Latina Commissioner by Pedro J. Torres-Diaz, the President of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA)

Rachel Kincaid
Assistant Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- Mass Incarceration and Misinformation: The COVID-19 Infodemic Behind Bars, 19 University of St. Thomas Law Journal 323 (2023)

Christopher Brett Jaeger
Assistant Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- Sarah Brown-Schmidt, Christopher Brett Jaeger, & Emily Conder, Schooling the Judges: How Varying Judge Age Affects Forensic Accuracy, (Forthcoming, Psychology: Human Perception and Performance)

Elizabeth Miller
The M. Stephen and Alyce A. Beard Chair in Business and Transactional Law

HONORS
- W. Page Keeton Award for Excellence in Continuing Legal Education, University of Texas School of Law (2023)

PUBLICATIONS
- Fiduciary Duties, Exculpation, and Indemnification in Texas Business Organizations, 21st Advanced Business Law Course, State Bar of Texas (November 2, 2023)

PRESENTATIONS
- Senior Commentator, 2023 Texas Junior Scholars Faculty Workshop, SMU Dedman School of Law (December 1-2, 2023)
- “Fiduciary Duties” 21st Advanced Business Law Course, State Bar of Texas (November 2, 2023)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Member, Joint Editorial Board on Uniform Unincorporated Organizations Acts, Uniform Law Commission, and American Bar Association
- ABA Advisor, Drafting Committee for Revision of Uniform Unincorporated Organizations Acts, Uniform Law Commission
- Chair, Editorial Board of Publications of the LLCs, Partnerships and Unincorporated Entities Committee of the Business Law Section, American Bar Association
- Founding fellow and board of directors, American College of LLC and Partnership Attorneys
- Member, Business Organizations Code Committee of the Business Law Section, State Bar of Texas
- Elected member, American Law Institute
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- Life Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation
Walt Shelton
Adjunct Professor of Law

HONORS
- Inaugural recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas for fifteen years of service (and continuing) as the Chair and Co-Chair of the Law School Committee. This Committee implements and oversees numerous Environmental Law educational initiatives for all accredited Texas law schools, including scholarships, internships, and annual programs.
- Selected through peer review process as the 2024 Best Lawyers in America® “Lawyer of the Year” in Environmental Law for the Dallas-Ft. Worth geographical area. One lawyer per practice area and region of the country is selected as Lawyer of the Year based on the highest peer voter feedback.
- Selected through peer review process for inclusion in the 2024 annual edition of The Best Lawyers in America® in the practice areas of Environmental Law and Water Law. Professor Shelton has been recognized by and listed in Best Lawyers for 26 consecutive years.

PUBLICATIONS
- “Jesus and Friendship: A Model for All,” Austin American Statesman (July 9, 2023, at 7E)
- “Positive ‘Self Talk’ Enhances Personal Wellbeing,” Austin American Statesman (May 14, 2023, at 4E)

PRESENTATIONS
- “The Power of ‘With,’” Tarrytown United Methodist Church, Searching Together in Fellowship Group, Austin, Texas (September 24, 2023)
- “Raw and Honest Prayer,” Tarrytown United Methodist Church, Searching Together in Fellowship Group, Austin, Texas (September 17, 2023)
- “Wellness for Law Students,” Baylor Law School (May 17, 2023)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Liaison of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas with the Section of the Environment, Energy and Resources of the American Bar Association
- Contributing editor (environmental law and water law), General Practice Digest, State Bar of Texas
- Co-Chair, Law School Committee of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section, State Bar of Texas
Baylor Law Launches Family Law Clinic to Empower Self-Represented Litigants

Baylor Law announces the launch of its Family Law Clinic, set to begin operation in Fall 2024. This clinic aims to provide vital support to pro se litigants in navigating the complexities of family law cases, focusing on divorce and matters affecting parent-child relationships. Created with financial assistance from the Texas Bar Foundation, the clinic will address the increasing trend of self-representation among divorce litigants, especially those facing literacy and language barriers. Baylor Law students, faculty, and volunteer attorneys have served over 1,500 Central Texans through its legal clinics over the past few years. The Family Law Clinic joins Baylor Law’s six other clinics that promote the Law School’s mission of service and access to justice.

Baylor Law created the Family Law Clinic, led by Baylor Law Professor Stephanie Tang, to address the access to justice issue. Professor Tang, who joined Baylor Law in May 2022, brings a wealth of experience from her six years of practice in family law, including her involvement in Chicago’s pro bono community. Her commitment to access to justice and her dedication to assisting pro se litigants became the driving force behind the creation of the Family Law Clinic.
Jenny Branson
Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Board Member and Immediate Past President, American Council on Education: Texas Women in Higher Education
- Law School Admission Council Investment Committee
- Director and Mock Trial Competition Co-Chair, McLennan County Young Lawyers Association
- Baylor University Staff Council
- Past President, Baylor Round Table

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Panelist/Presenter, “Reframing Professionalism in a (Post)-COVID Era,” Western Association of Pre-Law Advisors Annual Conference
- Panelist/Presenter, “No Grad/Prof Financial Aid Office? No Problem,” AccessLex Institute Annual Conference
- Panelist/Presenter, “Reframing Professionalism in 2022 and Beyond,” Midwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors Annual Conference
- Panelist/Presenter, “Building Your Cast: Building Relationships Across Campuses and Disciplines,” Texas Women in Higher Education Annual Conference

Kristine Bridges, JD ’03
Assistant Dean of Career Development

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Panelist: Law School Panel on Current 1L & 2L Recruiting Trends, Recruiting Administrators of Dallas, September 26, 2023

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Dallas Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Institute for Energy Law, Advisory Board Member
- Judge Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court
- Texas Minority Counsel Program, Steering Committee

Austin C. Byrom JD ´21
Director of Career Development

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Mock Trial Competition Co-Chair for the McLennan County Young Lawyers Association

Angela Cruseturner, JD ´02
Senior Assistant Dean

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Immediate Past President, Judge Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court
- Treasurer, Waco-McLennan County Bar Association
- Board Member, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center

Jerri Cunningham
Director of Academic Services & Registrar

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Presenter, “The ABA Wants What?! How to Approach Law School Accreditation and All Those Questionnaires.” 2023 American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Annual Meeting

Chandler Dean, JD ´21
LL.M. Associate

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Member, Texas Bar College
- Liaison: Special Committee on Rule of Law Initiative, American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
- Liaison: Standing Committee on Delivery of Legal Services, American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

Jordan Hannah
Director of Alumni Relations

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Vice-President, Board of Directors for the CASA of McLennan County
- Chair, Board of Trustees, Baylor Chapter (Theta Nu) of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity

Rick Sowell
Information Technology Director

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Baylor Teaching and Learning Technology Committee
- International Legal Technology Association
- Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI)
- EDUCAUSE
- Southwestern Association of Law Libraries
- American Legion
- Disabled American Veterans

Nancy McEachern
Senior Director of Marketing & Communications

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Baylor University Solid Gold Neighbor Ambassador Council Member

Ed Nelson
Director of Marketing & Communications

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Newsletter Editor Leadership Section, American Association of Law Schools
- Newsletter Editor Pro Bono & Access to Justice Section, American Association of Law Schools

Samantha Smith
Diversity and Event Coordinator

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Waco Race Equity Professional Group
- National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Conference Planning Committee
- Baylor University CASE Race Equity Collaboration
- Baylor Black Faculty & Staff Association
- Baylor Latinx Faculty & Staff Association

Jordan Hannah
Director of Alumni Relations

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- President, American Legion
- Disabled American Veterans

Baylor Law’s Diversity and Event Coordinator, Sam Smith, and Director of Development, Stephanie Mabry, took the spotlight on Episode 5 of the “Cub Talk” podcast (November, 2023) hosted by Baylor University’s Department of Multicultural Affairs. Sam and Stephanie shared their individual life paths that led them to their current positions at Baylor Law. Listen at law.baylor.edu/CubTalk.
INTERVIEW PROGRAMS

JUNE 27 - JULY 2, 2024
AUGUST 21 - 23, 2024

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