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Renew your membership or join the Baylor Law Alumni Association as a Lifetime or Sustaining Lifetime Member! Through your financial support, the Association is able to provide alumni reception and reunion events, networking opportunities, and programming for our alumni community of more than 7,400 Baylor Lawyers.

BAYLOR LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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LIFETIME MEMBER | Status is achieved once $1,500 has been contributed.
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Membership dues can be paid online at baylor.edu/law/give or sent by mail. Please make checks payable to “Baylor Law School” with “Baylor Law Alumni Association membership dues” in the memo line. Checks may be mailed to: Baylor Law Alumni Association, One Bear Place #97026, Waco, Texas 76798
All membership dues are tax deductible.

For more information, contact Berkley Knas, at Berkley_Knas@baylor.edu, or visit baylor.edu/law/give.

Baylor Law.
A Message from
Dean Toben
In an era of uncertainty both for law schools and the legal profession, Baylor Law is a thriving outlier. Alumni engagement is at an all time high, and Baylor Law remains on the forefront of innovation.

In this issue of Docket Call, we honor the Sustaining Lifetime Members and Lifetime Members of the Baylor Law Alumni Association. The Association continues to increase its membership each year because of the generous support of our Baylor Lawyers.

Innovative programs at Baylor Law are making a mark while long-standing programs such as Practice Court continue to effectively prepare graduates for the practice of law. The impact of our programs touches Texas and beyond. For example, you will enjoy reading about the presence Baylor Law has established over the past few years in Washington, D.C. through Viewpoints™ – A Conversation Series.

Also in this issue, you will be introduced to the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year, Allison Dickson, JD ’07. The powerful story of Allison’s life is truly inspirational. In addition, you will meet an outstanding recent graduate, Julie James, JD ’17, a long-time adjunct faculty member, David Dickson, JD ’76, and my colleague Professor Brian Serr, who engages our students in their first-year and beyond, in the classroom and through service.

I hope you enjoy Docket Call’s new look. In the coming months, you will notice a rebranding of Baylor Law on our website, in marketing materials, and more. Stay tuned!

I look forward to sharing Baylor Law’s excitement with you in this issue of Docket Call.

Brad Toben
DEAN OF BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL
We extend our gratitude to the Sustaining Lifetime Members and Lifetime Members of the Baylor Law Alumni Association. Your continued support of the Association is invaluable.
The following Sustaining Lifetime Members contributed $200 or more between September 1, 2016, and August 28, 2017.

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As of August 28, 2017

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<td>Patrick Scott</td>
<td>Ray C. Stoker Jr.</td>
<td>Karen Lynn Watkins</td>
<td>O. Henry “Mike” Young</td>
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<td>Joan Elizabeth Scroggins</td>
<td>David Phillip Stone</td>
<td>Smilie Watkins</td>
<td>Billy J. Youngkin</td>
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Dear Baylor Lawyer:

On behalf of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, I encourage you to join the Association by making a dues payment this year. Your financial support is invaluable to the continued success of the Association. Please see below for details on the membership levels.

**FELLOW** – contributes at least $100 per year for five consecutive years.
The $500 contribution can be accelerated.
- Recognized as a “Fellow” of the Association for each year a $100 contribution is made
- Receives a thank-you gift from the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee

**SUSTAINING FELLOW** – achieves the $500 Fellow level and continues to contribute at least $200 per year for five consecutive years. The $1,000 contribution can be accelerated.
- Recognized as a “Sustaining Fellow” of the Association for each year a $200 contribution is made
- Receives a thank-you gift from the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee
- Recognized on the Baylor Law School website and Rocket Docket, the School’s monthly alumni e-newsletter

**LIFETIME MEMBER** – Lifetime Member status is achieved once $1,500 has been given.
- Recognized as a “Lifetime Member” of the Association
- Once the Lifetime Member level is achieved, the alumnus/a has secured membership for life in the Association
- Excellent recognition for resumes and online biographies
- Receives a marble desk plaque with a cherry-wood base
- Recognized in the Docket Call, the school’s quarterly alumni magazine
- Recognized on the Baylor Law School website and Rocket Docket

**SUSTAINING LIFETIME MEMBER** – contributes $200 or more per year after becoming a Lifetime Member. Baylor Lawyers will be recognized as a Sustaining Lifetime Member for each year that $200 or more is given. Status as a Sustaining Lifetime Member can be accelerated as soon as $1,700 has been contributed.
- Recognized as a “Sustaining Lifetime Member” of the Association
- Recognized in the Docket Call.
- Recognized on the Baylor Law School website and the Rocket Docket
- Invited to a private event hosted by Dean Brad Toben
- A portion of the contribution will support the Baylor Law Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship

Compliments of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, recent graduates’ dues are waived for 24 months upon graduation. All membership dues are tax deductible.

Membership dues can be paid online at baylor.edu/law/give. Payment plan options are available. You also may pay your membership dues by check. Please make checks payable to “Baylor Law School” with “Baylor Law Alumni Association membership dues” in the memo line. Checks may be mailed to: Baylor Law Alumni Association, One Bear Place #97026, Waco, Texas 76798. All membership dues are tax deductible. The Association’s fiscal year runs from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018. Dues received between those dates will be reflected in your records accordingly. For questions regarding your current status and dues, please contact Berkley Knas at berkley_knas@baylor.edu.

Thank you for your consideration of joining the Baylor Law Alumni Association. I look forward to serving you this year.

Sincerely,

Hon. Jeffrey Cureton, JD ’93
President, Baylor Law Alumni Association, 2017-2018
Baylor Law School established a prominent presence in Washington, D.C. through Viewpoints™:

**A Conversation Series**

In 2015, Baylor Law School joined with Baylor University to establish an on-going presence in the nation’s capital. Under the leadership of Dean Brad Toben, JD ’77, Associate Dean Leah Teague, JD ’85, and Stephen Rispoli, JD ’12, assistant dean of student affairs and *pro bono* programs, Baylor Law launched Viewpoints™ – A Conversation Series to engage audiences on issues of concern in the national spotlight. Each Viewpoints™ conversation focuses on practical solutions to public policy issues through discussion and the exchange of ideas aimed at clarity and resolution. In an effort to bring about lasting impact, Viewpoints™ engages distinguished leaders who positively contribute to the public discourse about critical issues.

“Viewpoints™ is an extension of our mission at Baylor Law School: to educate the profession and the public about current challenges facing our nation,” Toben said. “Viewpoints™ has quickly become a premier event in the D.C. area for distinguished members of the legal profession and beyond.”

**Explore the three Viewpoints™ that Baylor Law has hosted**

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<td><strong>THE JUDGE’S OBJECTIVE:</strong> Prediction or a Preferred “Correct” Rule?</td>
<td><strong>ENCRYPTION DEMYSTIFIED:</strong> What Congress Should Consider in the Encryption Debate</td>
<td><strong>PATENT LITIGATION:</strong> Trial and Appellate Issues and Trends</td>
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10 DocketCall Fall 2017
In October 2015, Baylor Law School held the inaugural Viewpoints™ at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The topic of discussion, “The Judge’s Objective: Prediction or a Preferred ‘Correct’ Rule?,” explored the question of whether cases are decided by rule of law or rule of judges. The distinguished panel included Hon. Ken Starr; Hon. Thomas M. Reavley, senior judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; and Hon. Sri Srinivasan of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Daniel Attridge, Dean and Knights of Columbus Professor of Law at the Catholic University of America, moderated the discussion.

A centerpiece to the conversation, Judge Reavley entreated judges to maintain a continuity in the law as opposed to deferring to the “rule of judges,” whereby jurists aim for their decided outcome in a case instead of aiming for the result aligning with the presidential law. Judge Reavley said, “There is too much assumption that the proper job of a judge is to decide what the judge thinks ought to be the law. We have to start promoting the rule of law.”

The inaugural Viewpoints™ was a resounding success and set the stage for Baylor Law to continue the conversation series.


The panel addressed the heated debate in Congress regarding encryption, naturally leading to topics on the right to privacy, the government’s legal obtaining of information in criminal investigations, and the role of American corporations and their security technology policies. Panelists also discussed issues surrounding cyber warfare and the dangers of inaction by Congress.

“Encryption is a topic of importance. It’s the duty of our legislators and our duty as lawyers involved in public policy issues to understand why encryption impacts national security,” Toben said.
In April 2017, Baylor Law’s Viewpoints™ focused on the timely topic of intellectual property litigation. Baylor Law School extends a sincere thank you to the Hon. Rodney Gilstrap, JD ’81, of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, for being the driving force behind the 2017 Viewpoints™.

“Judge Rodney Gilstrap, who presides over nearly one quarter of all patent infringement cases filed in the country, was instrumental in developing the framework and securing prominent panelists for the latest Viewpoints™,” Toben said. “We are most grateful for his support.”

This edition of Viewpoints™ was co-sponsored by the Federal Circuit Bar Association Bench and Bar and Baylor in Washington. A distinguished lineup of panelists, consisting of patent attorneys and judges, participated in three separate panel discussions centering on different issues and trends surrounding patent litigation.

The patent litigators explored the topic of case management in complex intellectual property litigation during the first panel discussion. They discussed case assessment, pretrial discovery and motion practice, and plaintiff and defense trial strategies and tactics. They stressed the significance of comprehensive and effective case management plans.

The second panel discussion, featuring four U.S. District Court judges with lengthy patent dockets, addressed case management and abusive litigation. Each judge described his or her experience with docket management and control, motion practice, discovery disputes, the use of local counsel, the function of the jury in patent litigation, and the role of law clerks in their courts. They spoke about proportionality in discovery practice and claim construction determination. Lastly, they encouraged the equipping and empowering of younger colleagues in the courtroom in an effort to develop a new generation of patent trial lawyers.

In the third panel, justices from the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit discussed the qualities of effective appellate advocacy. The topic elicited insightful conversation from the appellate judges. The justices spoke about guidance from the U.S. Supreme Court on certain substantive claim issues, attorney fee awards, and damages in patent litigation. They also addressed the necessity of professional responsibility and civility in patent litigation.

“Patent litigation is a high stakes arena,” Toben said. “The Department of Commerce reports that over 45 million jobs in the U.S. depend upon the economic value of intellectual property. Baylor Law was proud to host a Viewpoints™ that addressed pressing issues in IP law.”

Managing Complex IP Litigation: Case Management–Effective and Efficient Litigation

PANEL
Nicholas Groombridge  
Partner, Paul Weiss, New York City, NY
Doug Cawley  
Partner, McKool Smith, Dallas, TX
Ruffin Cordell  
Partner, Fish & Richardson, Washington, DC

MODERATOR
Harry “Gil” Gillam, JD ’80  
Partner, Gillam & Smith, Marshall, TX

Case Management and Abusive Litigation

PANEL
Hon. Barbara Lynn, Chief Judge  
United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
Hon. Leonard Stark, Chief Judge  
United States District Court for the District of Delaware
Hon. Rodney Gilstrap, JD ’81  
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
Hon. Cathy Ann Bencivengo  
United States District Court for the Southern District of California

MODERATOR
Nicholas Groombridge  
Partner, Paul Weiss, New York City, NY

Developments in IP Adjudication: Perceptions of the Appellate Bench

PANEL
Hon. Sharon A. Prost, Chief Judge  
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
Hon. William C. Bryson  
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
Hon. Richard G. Taranto  
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
Hon. Kara F. Stoll  
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

MODERATOR
Hon. Rodney Gilstrap, JD ’81  
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas

Baylor Law Representatives
Prof. Jeremy Counseller, JD ‘00, Prof. Liz Fraley, JD ‘88, Prof. Connie Powell Nichols, Prof. Jim Wren, JD ’80, Stephen Rispoli, JD ‘12, Dean Leah Teague, JD ‘85, and Dean Brad Toben, JD ’77.
One of the hallmarks of Baylor Law School’s 160-year existence has been the consistent development of successful Baylor Lawyers. While law schools across the country are beginning to transition to a more practice-focused curriculum, Baylor Law has remained attentive to its students’ professional needs since its inception through long-standing programs like Practice Court and a well-rounded curriculum.

However, this consistency of approach is powered by an on-going focus on innovation. Baylor Law is ahead of the curve in programming to ensure its students receive an education that continues to fully prepare them for the practice of law.
Intensity within a Supportive Community

As its alumni know, Baylor Law School is not the easiest road to a law degree; however, the intensity of the Baylor Law program is a pathway to success for those who are willing to embrace the challenge.

At Baylor Law, expectations for students are high and coursework is demanding, but rather than existing in a “get-ahead” vacuum of competition, students are members of a tight-knit community. Students, and faculty members, exchange ideas and share experiences, developing relationships that last long after graduation.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The level of intensity at the School can be seen through Baylor Law’s two interscholastic law competitions – The Top Gun National Mock Trial Competition and The Closer National Transactional Law Competition. Both competitions are distinct depictions of the careers for which Baylor Lawyers are prepared. Students must be able to work under pressure and under short deadlines, training to think and speak in stressful, unpredictable scenarios. The competitions showcase Baylor Law’s definition of “practice-ready.”

Now in its eighth year, The Top Gun National Mock Trial Competition is an innovative, invitation-only mock trial tournament. Unlike other mock trial competitions, Top Gun competitors receive the case file just 24 hours in advance of the first trial, and the case is modified as the competition continues, with additional changes occurring before the final round.

“Students must accomplish in 24 hours of preparation what they do over the course of three or four months in other competitions,” said Gerald Powell, JD ’77, Abner V. McCall Professor of Evidence Law.

In the tradition of the Top Gun competition for the nation’s best student trial advocates, Baylor Law launched The Closer, an innovative transactional law competition, in 2017. The invitation-only competition is limited to law schools that have excelled at past transactional LawMeets®.

For The Closer, students also receive the competition problem 24 hours before the competition rounds begin, thus eliminating extensive, advanced preparation.

The relational nature of Baylor Law holds true even in the competition setting. Though Baylor Law students do not compete in Top Gun or The Closer, they are involved with the planning and execution of the competition. It is an opportunity to develop relationships, to discover mentors, and to build community within specific areas of practice.

“Baylor Law students also staff the The Closer competition, providing administrative assistance, accompanying competitors to the site visit, role playing representatives of the clients, acting as hosts to the lawyers who judge the rounds, and serving as timekeepers for the rounds,” said Professor Elizabeth Miller, JD ’85, who established The Closer. “In this manner, Baylor Law students become acquainted with the student competitors from other law schools as well as practicing lawyers who act as judges for the competition rounds.”

THE BAYLOR ACADEMY OF THE ADVOCATE IN ST ANDREWS

The Baylor Academy of the Advocate in St Andrews is another shining example of the harmony Baylor Law creates between intensity and community. The Academy is a two-week program where students receive intense practical training in trial and appellate advocacy from some of the best lawyers, judges, and advocacy professors in the United States. Intimate by design, with a student to faculty ratio of approximately 3 to 1, the program is limited to 60 students from Baylor Law and law schools across the United States, providing the perfect environment to develop professional connections and friendships.

“Every summer I am amazed to see our distinguished faculty, such as District Court Judge Ed Kinkeade and his wife, Melissa, entertain students in a personal, one-on-one setting,” said Professor Jeremy Counseller, JD ’00, Academy of the Advocate program director. “The Academy of the Advocate is unparalleled in its curriculum yet still provides students with a fun summer abroad experience and supportive community.”
**Integration for Better-Prepared Lawyers**

While a high level of intensity within a supportive community is one of the most distinctive aspects of Baylor Law’s approach to preparing students for the legal profession, the integration of professional skills and leadership opportunities through the program is distinct. At Baylor Law, courses are sequenced to build on each other. The knowledge, skills, and values learned are continuously utilized throughout the educational experience.

**LEGAL WRITING**

Baylor Law is one of the few schools in the nation with a comprehensive three-year legal writing program that focuses on the development of practice-ready writing skills.

“Baylor Law has never treated legal writing as something adjunct to the rest of the program. The writing faculty serve as voting members of the full faculty, and the full faculty has worked with the writing faculty to develop the program,” said Scott Fraley, director of legal writing at Baylor Law. “Few law schools cover as much material as Baylor Law does throughout the writing program.”

As Fraley noted, legal writing is not only a series of courses in and of itself, but it is also a skill that is exercised throughout the Baylor Law curriculum, particularly in Practice Court, in which the writing faculty is actively involved, preparing writing assignments, and grading motions, and responses.

**PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

“Acquiring critical thinking abilities, legal knowledge, and lawyering skills in law school is essential for law students but not enough to adequately prepare them to meet the demands and pressures they will face in the legal profession,” said Leah Teague, JD ‘85, associate dean and professor. “From their first day at Baylor Law, we begin teaching students the importance of what it means to be lawyers—trusted advisors and zealous advocates for their clients and effective leaders in their communities.” The Professional Development and Leadership Development Programs at Baylor Law were created to help students develop their professional identities, character, and leadership capabilities.

The mandatory Professional Development Program helps students gain a better understanding of the professional and business practicalities of practicing law as well as the professional responsibility that accompanies it. This unique, first-of-its-kind program is more comprehensive than the professional formation programs of any other law school. The Program provides flexibility, allowing students to tailor professional development to the kind of legal practice they plan to pursue.

While leadership training has long been a part of the culture at Baylor Law, the innovative Leadership Development Program was created to provide specific emphasis and training in particular leadership skills that students need in an increasingly-complex and ever-changing environment. Baylor Law is leading the way as more law schools recognize the importance of leadership development to better prepare students to make a meaningful difference in the lives of their clients, the legal profession, and their communities.

**Continuous Approach to Innovation**

While Baylor Law remains committed to many of its long-held traditions, programs are simultaneously evolving and producing new opportunities, demonstrating innovation and willingness to adapt to new ideas. Baylor Law is focused on improving and enhancing its offerings to students so they will be equipped for the rigors and opportunities awaiting them after graduation.

**PRACTICE COURT**

Sometimes this constant push for improvement takes the form of refining and updating the traditional hallmarks of the School, like Practice Court. Practice Court is recognized as one of the most rigorous, but most rewarding, law school experiences for the honing of real-world lawyering skills.

“For most of our students, Practice Court is the hardest thing they have ever done to this point,” said Jim Wren, JD ’80, professor of law. “No other law school has this consuming kind of capstone experience. The only reason we can do it at Baylor Law is because we’ve always done it, since 1922. Every Baylor Lawyer alive has been through it.”

“Through the rigors of Practice Court, I began to realize that grace under pressure, giving your personal best each day, and fighting with integrity for a worthy cause are what define a successful Baylor Lawyer,” said Louie Cook, JD ’16, now an attorney with Sico Hoelscher Harris & Braugh, LLP. “The grueling program requires you to bring your personal best each day and challenges you to live a life that is focused on using your skills and talents to make a difference.”

With the many accolades Practice Court has received, many might take an “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” approach to the program, but that is not the way of Baylor Law. Excellence in any program requires innovation to stay ahead, so Practice Court professors are continually...
seeking to enhance and evolve students’ experiences. In addition to the full integration of legal writing and jury trials, students now conduct evidentiary hearings, discovery hearings, summary judgement hearings, video depositions, and jury voir dires. Students have the opportunity to integrate their chosen professional track with their Practice Court trial as well.

“For example, a student who wants to specialize in trust and estate work can request a case where a trust or estate dispute is at the center of the case,” said Wren. “Also, students now have real juries instead of student juries for their big trials, and we are putting the technology in place to allow students to observe the jury deliberations remotely.”

In addition to enhancing already existing programs, innovation at Baylor Law has led to the creation of new opportunities. Legal Mapmaker™ and Business Boot Camp are two of the newest Baylor Law programs.

Legal Mapmaker™

Legal Mapmaker™ was launched in 2016 in collaboration with other Texas law schools to help prepare young lawyers to open their own law firms. It provides a business model strategy with two goals: (1) to help lawyers succeed, and (2) to help the public find affordable legal services by showing lawyers how to provide legal services efficiently and with low overhead.

“This collaborative program seeks to address the access-to-justice gap and jump-start the careers of our new Texas lawyers,” said Stephen Rispoli, JD ‘12, assistant dean of student affairs and pro bono programs. “Legal Mapmaker™ is not the complete solution to the access-to-justice issue in America, but we believe it is a significant step in the right direction.”

Though other law schools across the country are also working to address the access-to-justice issue, there are many aspects of Legal Mapmaker™ that make this approach unique. For instance, the cost-effective nature of the program is a strong differentiator as many other programs are struggling with sustainability. Also, Legal Mapmaker™ aims to provide concrete, step-by-step recommendations rather than offer a variety of options.

“Rather than subjecting our attendees to information overload and analysis paralysis, we evaluate all the options, consult with experts, and then make the recommendation that we believe is best,” Rispoli said.

BUSINESS LAW BOOT CAMP

Also launched in 2016, Business Law Boot Camp was created by Professor Elizabeth Miller in response to the knowledge that 40-percent of current Baylor Law students are seeking transactional careers. Though Baylor boasts a robust transactional curriculum, Business Law Boot Camp gives students the opportunity to participate in a week-long intensive intersession course that immerses students in practical perspectives on multiple aspects of business and its legal requirements and implications. The course offers networking, mentoring, and professional development opportunities.

“All of the adjunct faculty and speakers were chosen with a view towards their passion for helping prepare future transactional lawyers and their ability to communicate with students in a dynamic and engaging manner,” said Miller.

Boot Camp sessions are interactive and help students discover relationships between the various areas of law and understand how transactional lawyers execute their work. Because the students are exposed to many different voices and experiences through adjunct faculty and guest speakers, they learn there are multiple pathways that lead to a successful or fulfilling career.

“On the final day of the class, after a lively discussion with two M&A lawyers about negotiating strategies and techniques, students engage in a mock negotiation of a confidentiality agreement,” Miller said. “This exercise enables the students to apply insight and knowledge gained earlier in the week, in particular a three-hour session dealing with legal issues and documents involved in structuring the sale of a business as well as a three-hour session on contract drafting.”

No matter what form innovation takes at Baylor Law, the goal remains the same – to develop the curriculum, programming, and environment that will best equip students to become great lawyers, great citizens, and great leaders. As the School looks forward to its next century and a half of equipping students for the practice of law, it is dedicated to advancing this mission: Strengthened by tradition, refined by innovation, Baylor Law is committed to a future of continued excellence.
2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year Allison Dickson, JD’07
Baylor Law School announces Allison Dickson, JD '07, as the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year.

Baylor Law deans, faculty and staff surprised Dickson with the award on May 23 at her home. Dickson and her mother, Johnnie, shed tears of joy and excitement as Dickson was completely surprised by the honor.

“I am truly honored to be named the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year,” Dickson said. “I was surprised by having some of my favorite people come to my home – people who helped shape me into the person I am today and continue to mentor and encourage me. There are so many of my peers, colleagues, and friends who deserve such recognition, but as I can imagine Professor Powell advising, I will just say ‘thank you.’ I am humbled and grateful.”

Dickson lives life to the fullest and is known to say, “it’s not the destination, it’s the journey.”

When she was 15 months old, Dickson was diagnosed with Werdnig-Hoffman disease, a type of spinal muscle atrophy. She was given one year to live. Today, 27 years since that initial diagnosis, Dickson has graduated third in her class from Temple High School, summa cum laude from Southwestern University, and number one in her class from Baylor Law School.

Dickson gives much credit to her mother Johnnie and late father, Joe, who throughout her life have been the epitome of parental love, sacrifice, and devotion. Johnnie and Joe faithfully supported Dickson during her college and law school years. Accompanying Dickson to class, they also became “surrogate parents” to many of her homesick friends and classmates.

Her journey of faith, perseverance, and hard work has led her to be an exemplar on how to live life to the fullest.

“Allison’s courage and tenacity inspires each of us in the Baylor Law family to always look beyond adversity to accomplish our goals,” Dean Brad Toben said. “I am beyond proud of Allison for her accomplishments, and I am proud to award her as the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year. She richly deserves this high honor.”

One of Dickson’s dreams is to leave her legacy at Baylor Law through an endowed scholarship. In order to do so, she needed to raise $50,000 within five years. Her tenacity prevailed once again, and she raised over $50,000 in less than nine months. The Allison Dickson Baylor Law Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in 2016.

“Education really is my passion, and I feel like education is the key to people’s futures,” Dickson said. “If I have any part in helping students pursue their education goals, then to me that is a success and that is leaving a legacy that I will be really proud to leave.”

Baylor Law congratulates Dickson for being named the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year. The valedictorian of her Baylor Law class and now the 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year, Dickson has made a significant impact on Baylor Law School and the Baylor Law family.
Spring 2017 ‘Mad Dog’ Competition
William McMichael won the 2017 Spring “Mad Dog” Practice Court competition. He took home an 18-inch statue of Matt “Mad Dog” Dawson.

RUNNER UP:
Rachel Buchhorn

SEMI-FINALISTS:
Greg Cox and Sarah Holub

FINAL ROUND JUDGES
PRESIDING JUDGE: Hon. Lee Harris, JD ’93, of the 66th Judicial District Court
SCORING JUDGES: David Dumas, JD ’88, of Fulbright Winniford PC, Missy Atwood, JD ’91, of Germer PLLC, and Michelle Tuegel, JD ’10, of Hunt & Tuegel PLLC

TYLA State Moot Court Competition
Hailey Knab, Alex Oestreiche and Katy Thompson won second place at the Texas Young Lawyers Association State Moot Court Competition. Knab also won the award for third best speaker.

Baylor Lawyers Take the State Bar of Texas Oath
Baylor Law’s Justice-in-Residence, Justice Jan Patterson, frequently administers the oath of the State Bar of Texas to recent Baylor Law graduates. After passing the bar, Baylor Lawyers Amanda Koenig and Casey Cashion returned to the Law School to be sworn in by Justice Patterson.

#OnlyAtBaylorLaw
Baylor Law students Chris Griffin, Reid Burley, Ty Drury, and Blain Donnell hit the shooting range with Professor David Guinn.

Profile of the Spring 2017 Entering Class

37 ENROLLED
MEDIAN LSAT/GPA .......... 156/3.46
25% LSAT/GPA .............. 153/3.06
75% LSAT/GPA .............. 160/3.58

ETHNICITY
24 ANGLO OR CAUCASIAN
13 MINORITY STUDENTS (28%)
 1 AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE
 4 ASIAN
 8 HISPANIC/LATINO

GENDER
14 FEMALES 23 MALES

RESIDENCY
28 IN-STATE RESIDENTS
9 OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS

STATES REPRESENTED
1 ALASKA 1 OHIO
1 ARIZONA 1 OKLAHOMA
1 CALIFORNIA 28 TEXAS
1 MISSISSIPPI 2 VIRGINIA
1 NEW MEXICO
Julie James, JD ’17

Julie James, JD ’17, a “Double Bear,” received her undergraduate degree in international studies from Baylor University and her juris doctor from Baylor Law School.

“I chose Baylor Law because of its close-knit network,” James said. “I love how Baylor Law and Practice Court provide an instant connection to any Baylor Lawyer, no matter the age difference.”

Baylor Law School is grateful for James’ support on the April 2017 Baylor Viewpoints™ program. A student at the time, James was responsible for collaborating with Viewpoints™ organizer, Stephen Rispoli, JD ’12, assistant dean of student affairs and pro bono programs, and other speakers to create a CLE-type paper, “Patent Law and Infringement: An Introduction to What You Need to Know,” which was circulated at the Viewpoints™ conversation.

“‘To gather information for the paper, I participated in multiple conference calls and e-mail collaborations with judges and attorneys from across the country,’” James said. “‘Ultimately, I geared the paper toward attendees who may not have as much of a background in intellectual property and patent litigation.’”

James felt honored when she was asked to travel to Washington, D.C., to attend Viewpoints™ with the Baylor Law team. One of her most memorable experiences includes having dinner with a former congressman, Federal Circuit judges, and several federal judges.

“My involvement with Viewpoints™ allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and network on behalf of Baylor Law – something I feel one can never do enough of,” she said. “‘I extend a special thank you to Dean Toben and Stephen Rispoli for giving me the opportunity to be involved in Viewpoints™ – it was an incredible learning experience.’”

After James graduated from Baylor Law in April 2017, she joined Burford & Ryburn, LLP, in Dallas, where she focuses on medical malpractice defense.

“When I am not working, I plan to become involved in the Texas Young Lawyer’s Association, Dallas Bar Association, Dallas Baylor Lawyer Network, as well as other community organizations,” James said.
**1960’s**

George E. Chandler, JD ’62, of Chandler, Mathis & Zivley, PC, in Lufkin, was selected as one of five 2017 recipients of the Texas Bar Foundation’s Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award. The award recognizes attorneys whose practice has spanned 50 years or more and who adhere to the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession and service to the public.

**1970’s**

Otway B. Denny, Jr., JD ’73, partner of Norton Rose Fullbright in Houston, was awarded the Terry Lee Grantham Memorial Award by the Texas Bar Foundation. The award is given to a lawyer who exemplifies the qualities of an accomplished, talented, and dedicated practitioner and who demonstrates a passion for service.

David Kent, JD ’78, of Drinkle Biddle & Reath, LLP, in Dallas, was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the State Bar of Texas, District 6 – Place 4. Kent was sworn in at the State Bar Annual Meeting in June and will serve through June 2020.

W. Neil Rambin, JD ’79, of Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP, was selected to D Magazine’s 2017 list of the Best Lawyers in Dallas and was recognized on the “Best Attorneys in America” list.

**1980’s**

Hon. Brad Cates, JD ’80, County Court at Law No. 2, McLennan County, received the 2017 Outstanding Mentor Award from the Waco-McLennan County Young Lawyers Association.

Keith Nelson, JD ’83, of the family law boutique Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson, LLP, in Dallas, was selected to D Magazine’s 2017 list of the Best Lawyers in Dallas.

**1990’s**

Susan Moore, JD ’90, corporate vice president of Advanced Micro Devices, received the Gary P. Fazzino Award for Innovation Excellence for her service as Information Technology Industry Council Board chairwoman.

JoAl Cannon Sheridan, JD ’92, is the senior name partner in Sheridan Barrett Cable and Andrae, a full-service family law firm in Austin.

Aaron Burkes, JD ’93, is president of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority. He leads an agency that offers low-cost financing for affordable housing development, small industries, government, education, and public facilities and healthcare. His wife, Rebecca, JD ’93, is deputy director/general counsel for the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Andy Payne, JD ’94, of PayneMitchell Law Group in Dallas, was selected to D Magazine’s 2017 list of the Best Lawyers in Dallas.

**2000’s**

Celeste Lawton, JD ’01, of Norton Rose Fulbright in Houston, was promoted to partner.

Aimee L. Stone, JD ’02, joined the Fort Worth office of the J.P. Morgan Private Bank as an executive director trust officer.

Drew York, JD ’05, partner at Gray Reed & McGraw in Dallas, was named a Rising Star for 2017 by Texas Super Lawyers.

Misty Keene Cunningham, JD ’06, trial attorney for Farmers Insurance, was appointed to a three-year term for the Personal Injury Law Advisory Commission by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Her term runs from 2017 to 2020.

Allison Dickson, JD ’07, 2017 Young Baylor Lawyer of the Year, was presented with a State resolution by Rep. Hugh Shine in recognition of her community outreach efforts.
Rick V. Anderson, JD ‘07, shareholder at Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey, PC, in Houston, was selected for the sixth time to the Super Lawyers Rising Stars. Anderson also received the Houston Bar Association (HBA) President’s Award for Outstanding Service to the HBA.

Dan Moore, JD ‘08, was named to the Board of Directors of the Methodist Children’s Home in Waco. Moore is an alumnus of the Children’s Home and also serves on the Home’s Alumni Board as its past president. Moore has reopened his law practice serving Dallas and surrounding counties. His practice serves clients for personal injury, family law matters, criminal defense, and probate.

2010’s

Curtis W. Lucas, JD ‘10, was elected as a Fellow of the State Bar of Texas.

Parrish Whitaker, JD ’10, is president of the board for the Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled (OKFD). OKFD provides high-quality day care for developmentally disabled adults in Central Oklahoma.

Hon. Nick Chu, JD ’11, was unanimously selected by the Travis County Commissioners Court. The court handles issues ranging from small claims to traffic violations. Hon. Chu is the first Asian American Justice of the Peace in Travis County.

Matthew Czimskey, JD ’12, of Beard Kultgen Brophy Bostwick & Dickson, LLP, in Waco, is the president of the Waco-McLennan County Young Lawyers Association.

Jessica Haile, JD ’12, was named shareholder in Abilene law firm McMahon Surovik Suttle, PC. Haile joined the firm as an associate attorney in 2012 and is a member of the Abilene Bar Association and Big Country Women Who Care.

Three Baylor Lawyers serve on the Texas Federal Tax Institute (TFTI) Board of Directors

Gene Wolf, JD ‘91
Kemp Smith Law, El Paso, Texas, current president of the TFTI board

Leah Jackson Teague, JD ’85
Associate Dean of Baylor Law School, Waco, Texas

Michelle Terbay, JD ’05
Mondrick & Associates, Austin, Texas

The TFTI board of directors is made up of leading tax lawyers and accountants from around the State of Texas and assisted by an advisory board of distinguished tax professionals in the country. The TFTI hosts an annual institute that offers tax CLE and provides a networking venue for tax professionals. Baylor Law School served as a sponsor of the TFTI Institute in June 2017 which marked the TFTI’s 33rd anniversary.

Stephen Rispoli, JD ’12, assistant dean of student affairs and pro bono programs, was named 2017 Outstanding Young Lawyer of McLennan County. Rispoli proposed and developed the annual McLennan County Young Lawyer Association Pro Bono Challenge which led to the resurgence in pro bono activity among the McLennan County Bar.

Shelby White, JD ’12, of Harris, Finley & Bogle, PC, in Fort Worth, was awarded a 2017 National Collegiate Equestrian Association Distinguished Alumni Award. White, daughter of retired Baylor equestrian head coach Ellen White and Baylor Law School legal writing lecturer Greg White, JD ’82, is a former Baylor equestrian hunt seat rider.

Brittney Cooperrider, JD ’13, joined Andrews Myers in Houston as an associate in the litigation section.

Marcy Wilkins, JD ’14, was awarded the Waco-McLennan County Young Lawyer’s Association 2016 Outstanding Pro Bono Advocate Award for Young Lawyers.

Alexandria Risinger, JD ’16, of Sommerman, McCaffity & Quesada, LLP, in Dallas, is a Best Attorneys in America National Young Attorney Member.

Staff NOTE

Jerri Cunningham, Baylor Law registrar, was elected executive director of the National Network of Law School Officers (NNLSO) and her role began April 2017. NNLSO is an organization committed to the professional development of administrators at law schools across the country. Cunningham previously served as the assistant executive director of NNLSO for nine years. She has worked at Baylor Law School for 29 years and has served as registrar for 25 years.

To submit your alumni note for publication, please send your professional accomplishment to Berkley Knas (Berkley_Knas@baylor.edu).
Baylor Law School awarded degrees to 76 graduates during the spring commencement exercises on April 29, 2017. The Hon. Ed Kinkeade, JD ’74, delivered the commencement speech, and Professors Liz Fraley, JD ’88, and Elizabeth Miller, JD ’85, hooded the graduates.
Adjunct Faculty PROFILE

David Dickson, JD ’76

David Dickson, JD ’76, a founding partner of Beard Kultgen Brophy Bostwick & Dickson, LLP, in Waco, has been representing business and individual clients for 40 years. Dickson is one of only 57 attorneys in the state of Texas to hold certifications in commercial, residential, and farm & ranch real estate by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Dickson has been a faithful supporter of Baylor Law School for decades. For the past 17 years, he has shared his time and expertise with Baylor Law students as an adjunct professor of real estate finance.

“I enjoy the regular interaction with the students and hearing their interesting stories about how they chose Baylor Law,” Dickson said.

Dickson and his wife, Jeannie, have graciously given back to Baylor Law over the years. Most recently, they established the David and Jeannie Dickson Endowed Scholarship Fund in Law. Dickson accredits much of his success and life experiences to Baylor Law and feels that establishing an endowed scholarship fund will help others to be able to reap similar benefits.

“By earning a law degree from Baylor Law School, my life has been changed and enriched,” he said. “Jeannie and I have had the opportunity to go places, meet great people, and accomplish things that we would not have were it not for Baylor Law School. We want others to have those opportunities as well.”

Throughout his career, Dickson has worked on behalf of the legal profession, serving as a director of the State Bar of Texas, chairman of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and two terms as chairman of the Professionalism Committee of the State Bar of Texas.

“I feel that Baylor Law School gave me the confidence to strive to be a leader at the state level,” he said. “When I served as a director of the State Bar of Texas from 2005 to 2007, I was astonished to learn that Baylor Lawyers comprised only 7 percent of the lawyers in Texas, yet Baylor Lawyers held 25 percent of the Bar leadership positions. That speaks volumes about the leadership training our graduates receive at Baylor Law School.”

In addition to serving at the state-level, Dickson is heavily involved in the Waco community. He recently served as chairman of the Waco Foundation and has served on the board of directors of the McLennan County Appraisal District and Tax Increment Financing District.

Baylor Law applauds Dickson for his steadfast commitment to Baylor Law School, the profession, and his community.
Thomas M. Featherston, Jr.
The Mills Cox Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Senior Editor, Probate & Property, published six times a year by the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section of American Bar Association
- Member, Publications and CLE Committees of the ABA’s Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section
- Member, Legislative Review Committee, Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law Section, State Bar of Texas

Elizabeth M. Fraley
Assistant Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- The Mills Cox Professor of Law

Laura A. Hernández
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Member and Co-chair, AALS Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Program Committee (2017-18)
- Member, AIWDL Annual Conference Program Committee (2017)

Bridget Fuselier
Professor of Law and Executive Director of the Baylor Law School Veterans Clinic

AWARDS
- Recipient of the 2017 State Bar of Texas Military & Veterans Law Section Colonel Bryan S. Spencer Award

Michael Morrison
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Contributing Editor, Defamation and Invasion of Privacy, Texas Association of Defense Counsel Professional Newsletter/Case Law Updates
- Member, Board of Directors, The Forum for Education Abroad, revised The Forum’s bylaws, adopted at the April 2016 annual conference
- Member, Board of Directors, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, revised TADC’s bylaws, adopted at the September 2016 annual meeting
- Vice President of Programs, Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- Chair, Texas Association of Defense Council’s committee, Evaluating and Expedited Trials
- Participant, Texas Conference of Chief Justices, National Center for State Courts, and the Texas Office of Court Administration study to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure governing expedited actions

Justice Jan Patterson
Justice-in-Residence

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- “Justice Critical Enough a Principle to Pursue Through the Years” Waco Tribune-Herald (July 3, 2017)

Michael Rogers
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Director, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center
- Board Member, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center
- Chair, Baylor’s NCAA Pro Sports Counseling Panel

Walt Shelton
Adjunct Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Liaison, 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

Leah Jackson Teague
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- “Why Gritty, Resilient Women Are More Likely to Be Successful, Happy Leaders and How You Can Be Too,” with Assistant Professor Elizabeth M. Fraley 3rd Biennial International Leadership Association Women and Leadership Conference, Omega Institute, Rhinebeck, NY (June 14, 2017)
- “IDEALS: Identity, Develop, Encourage, Advance, Link and Support Women Leaders in Higher Education,” 3rd Biennial International Leadership Association Women and Leadership Conference, Omega Institute, Rhinebeck, NY (June 12, 2017)

Bradley J.B. Toben
Dean and M.C. & Mattie Caston Chair of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Elected Member, American Law Institute
- Board Member, Juliette Fowler Homes, Inc.
- Chair and Accreditation Inspector, American Bar Association (ABA)
- Master of the Bench, Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court
- Member, Board of Directors of the Waco Chamber of Commerce

James Underwood
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Contributing Editor, General Practice Digest, State Bar of Texas, Environmental Law
- Chair, Law School Committee of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas

Patricia Wilson
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Governing Board Member, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Chair of Legal Committee
- Vice-President, Waco-McLennan County Bar Association
- Board Member, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center
- Chair, ABA Law Student Division, Client Counseling Subcommittee
- Contributor, General Practice Digest (Torts)
Faculty PROFILE

Professor Brian Serr

“I consider myself extremely fortunate to find a calling – and a place for that calling. Baylor Law has been, and continues to be, a true blessing,” Serr said.

Professor Serr joined the Baylor Law faculty 31 years ago and has taught courses such as criminal law, criminal procedure, introduction to the law and legal profession, and Supreme Court Seminar. Baylor University previously named Professor Serr the “Most Outstanding Faculty Member in Schools of Law, Business, Engineering and Computer Science,” and Texas Lawyer honored him as the “Most Influential Professor” on the highest rated teaching faculty in Texas.

When not serving in the classroom, Professor Serr is dedicated to the students on his moot court teams. For 30 years, he has coached national moot court competitions. His appellate advocacy teams have won five national championships, one national second-place finish, and five national third-place finishes. His teams have also won numerous regional competitions.

“I coach at least one – and have coached up to three – moot court teams each year,” he said. “The time spent with the students during the practice rounds and multi-day trips for the competitions provides me with a unique opportunity to work more closely with students.”

Throughout his three decades at Baylor Law, Professor Serr has played an important role in the School’s international summer programs. From 1996-2011, he directed the Baylor Law summer program in Guadalajara, Mexico, where he taught courses on human rights.

For the past five years, he has served as Dean of the School of the Appeal at Baylor Law’s Academy of the Advocate in St Andrews.

For nearly 20 years, he led a Sunday night basketball league for students, which quickly became a favorite Law School tradition. As his basketball skills diminished, his need for competition was fulfilled by an active appellate practice. Professor Serr has briefed and orally argued cases in both the United States Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

“In reflecting over my 30 years at Baylor Law, I value every endeavor that has allowed me to work closely with students and get to know them better as individuals and future professionals,” he said. “Whether coaching moot court teams, helping students review for their exams, assisting students writing Law Review articles, teaching small group seminars like the Supreme Court Seminar, serving in the summer abroad programs, or competing against students in ‘law league’ basketball for nearly 20 years – my experiences with students have created invaluable memories.”

Serr counts his colleagues as his closest friends. His wife, Kathy, is a Baylor Lawyer and works down the hall from him, working to foster excellence in the Baylor Law advocacy program. “My children and parents are fans of Baylor athletics,” he said. “I readily include dozens (if not hundreds) of former students as among the best people I have ever known. It is difficult for me to recount any of the various God-given blessings I have enjoyed without being on a path that has causal connections (proximate causal connections!) with Baylor Law School.”
Bell County Baylor Lawyer Network Reception

**APRIL 20** Baylor Lawyers joined Dean Brad Toben, Dean Leah Teague, Professors David Guinn and Jim Wren at a Baylor Law reception held at the home of Anne Potts Jackson, past president of the Baylor Law Alumni Association. The reception was hosted by by Steve Blythe, JD ’69, Linda Wald Gibson, JD ’89, Anne Potts Jackson, JD ’95, Hon. Rebecca DePew, JD ’92, Hon. Jack Jones, JD ’79, and Jerry Secrest, JD ’68. Dean Toben presented Anne Potts Jackson with a plaque recognizing her for her service as the 2016-2017 president of the Baylor Law Alumni Association.
Thanks to all who attended the Baylor Law Alumni Reception held in conjunction with the 2017 State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas.
Hon. Thomas Paul Moore, Jr., JD '43, passed away April 16, 2017. Moore was born in Waco, May 16, 1918 and was a life-long Waco resident. He was a former McLennan County District Attorney and State Representative. He was a leader of the “Dirty Thirty,” a bipartisan group of House members who publicly called for an investigation into what was later known as the Sharpstown Scandal.

Moore is survived by his wife, Robbie; and his children, Margaret Moore, Travis County District Attorney, and husband Robert Oliver, Elizabeth Harris and husband John, Thomas Paul Moore, Ill, and wife Ann, and Grant Farek and wife Keri. He also is survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Charles B. McGregor, JD '48, was born Aug. 30, 1924, and passed away March 11, 2017. He graduated from Sam Houston High School where he was a state debate champion with his partner, Joe Albritton, JD '49. McGregor attended Baylor University before suspending his education to join the United States Army Air Corps where he served three years as an instructor pilot. He returned to Baylor to finish his education and graduated first in his class from Baylor Law School.

McGregor was a Baylor Law School professor, president of Memorial Oaks Cemetery in Houston, president of Security Tires, and partner with the Beard and Kultgen law firm and then the McGregor and White law firm. He served on numerous boards including Hillcrest Hospital and Baylor University.

McGregor was preceded in death by his parents, and brother, Frank McGregor. Survivors include his wife, Peggy McGregor; his children, Mike McGregor and wife, Deborah, Becky Adkins and husband, Al, and Ellen White and husband, Greg, JD '82; brother, Joel McGregor Jr.; 15 grandchildren and their families; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Phil Harris, JD '59, was born March 29, 1936, and passed away March 11, 2017. He graduated from McAllen High School and then received his undergraduate and law degree from Baylor in five years. During his time at Baylor, Harris joined ROTC and served in the army.

Harris became a successful attorney and was active in the Weslaco community, serving as the Lion's Club president and Weslaco city commissioner. He loved being an attorney and worked until his last days, appearing in court a week before his passing.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; daughter Cathleen McLean and husband Jeff; two granddaughters Kelley and Jaclyn; sister Daisy Stone; and nephews, Lloyd and Ron, Jr., Stone.

John Larimer McLain, JD ’60, was born Oct. 6, 1936, and passed away May 5, 2017 in Fort Worth, Texas. He served in the Naval Reserve from 1955–1963. In 1957, he received a bachelor’s degree from North Texas State College, participating in the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, and in 1960, he received a juris doctor from Baylor Law School.

McLain moved to Fort Worth in 1960 and practiced oil, gas, and mineral law for 52 years. He retired in 2012, achieving Texas Board of Legal
Specialization certification. McLain, an avid fan of all Baylor sports, held football season tickets continuously from the mid-1960s until his declining health in 2014 precluded attendance. He was a loving father strongly devoted to his children and grandchildren, as he was to his parents, and will be deeply missed by his family and many dear friends.

Survivors include his sons, James McLain and Robert McLain and wife, Deborah; daughter, Holly King and husband, Ross; and five grandchildren.

Donald Gene “Buck” Horton, JD ’69, was born Oct. 7, 1938, in Tyler, TX to Novie and O.Z. Horton. He passed away April 23, 2017. Horton received his bachelor’s degree in marketing from the University of North Texas and then attended Baylor Law School where he was associate editor of the Baylor Law Review. He started his career at John Nuveen and Co. as a municipal bond salesman and then pursued his goal of becoming an attorney. With his passion for law, he became assistant district attorney to Henry Wade. Horton then entered private practice and was with Glast, Phillips and Murray until 2010.

Horton is survived by his wife, Sharon Horton; daughter, Kristen; grandchildren, Jack, Tyler, and Natalie; sister, Olene Heasley; nieces, Rouye and Holly; and nephew, Brett. He is preceded in death by his parents, Novie and O.Z. Horton.

Tommy J. Turner, JD ’74, was born March 16, 1948, and passed away April 27, 2017. He graduated from Texas Tech University in 1971 with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. In December 1970, he and Lou Pat Camp married and together they went to law school at Baylor Law School. After he graduated from Baylor Law School in 1974, the two returned to Lubbock, and Turner worked at the Lubbock County District Attorney’s office. Shortly thereafter he moved on to the law firm of Waggonseller and Cobb. In 1981, he opened his own law firm where he practiced primarily plaintiff’s law until 2015. Turner had 37 years of trial experience with the past 20 years upholding his mantra to represent injured and aggrieved persons one case at a time. Following the death of his wife Lou Pat in June 2015, Turner left Lubbock briefly for Beaumont, where he was the chief of the Jefferson County District Attorney Public Integrity Unit.

Turner was a member of the American Association for Justice, the Texas Trial Lawyers Association (director emeritus), the American Board of Trial Advocates, a faculty member for the Trial Advocacy College of Texas, and lectured in statewide seminars on jury selection. He was a dedicated alumnus of Pi Kappa Alpha, serving as advisor to the local chapter for years, as well as serving on the International Fraternity Supreme Council for sixteen years, culminating in a term as International President of the entire fraternity. Locally, he was a Lubbock County Reserve Deputy Sheriff and volunteered with several non-profit charitable organizations, including Legal Aid Society of Lubbock, the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, Family Outreach, Meals on Wheels, United Way, and CASA of the South Plains. Most recently, he was president of CASA and from 2009–2011 served as chairman of the Lubbock United Way campaign’s legal division. Turner was a member of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church and taught adult Sunday school there for years.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joe S. Turner, and his wife, Lou Pat Turner. His mother, Jackie Turner, passed away shortly after him. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Matt Stevens, and their children; his son and daughter-in-law, T.J., JD ’04, and Jamie Turner, JD ’04, and their children; brother and sister-in-law, Jay and Elaine Turner; sister and brother-in-law, Terre and Grant Carthey; as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Jeff W. Mays, JD ’75, passed away March 10, 2017. He attended Southern Methodist University and received a bachelor of business administration. He continued his education at Baylor Law School, attaining his juris doctor degree. At Baylor Law, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta. Mays then returned to his hometown, where he practiced law for 42 years, specializing in real estate and probate law.

Mays was a life-long member of First United Methodist Church in Atlanta, but spent many years worshiping at his wife’s home church, First Baptist Church of Atlanta. Recently, he greatly enjoyed the fellowship of Laws Chapel United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Lee Thompson Mays; daughter and son-in-law, Dana Mays Septien, JD ’12, and Dr. Spencer Septien; sister and brother-in-law, Marsha and Craig Innes; brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Julia Mays; and a host of nieces, nephews; and their children. He was preceded in death by his parents, Tom and Beth Mays.
Ed Walton, JD ’76, was born Aug. 5, 1953, and passed away March 15, 2017. He grew up in Teague and graduated from Teague High School in 1971 and then graduated from Baylor Law School in 1976.

Walton had a love of reading and believed every day presented a new opportunity to learn by reading or listening to audio books. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Wills Point where his service to others mirrored his service to the Lord. He was also a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and his love for his family was unparalleled.

Walton is survived by his beloved wife Debi Walton; children, Jeremy Ledbetter and wife Deanna, Jennifer Harrell and husband Wes, and Glenn Walton; six grandchildren; sisters and their families. He is preceded in death by his mother and father, Edward Allen and Linnie Lorene Knight Walton, and niece Amy Katherine York.

Terry Lynn Simmons, JD ’78, passed away April 3, 2017. He graduated from Baylor University and Baylor Law School in five years. His career led him to work for the Baptist Foundation of Texas before joining Thompson & Knight, LLP, where he eventually became senior partner. Simmons founded Charitable Accord and worked as the lead lobbyist and strategist in an effort to protect the interests of charities and nonprofits. In defense of the American Council on Gift Annuities, his efforts in organizing charities led to passage of federal legislation that included The Charitable Giving Protection Act of 1995 (which amended the Sherman Antitrust Act), The Philanthropy Protection Act of 1995, and The Charitable Donations Antitrust Act of 1997.

Simmons was a member of the Texas, Colorado, and New York state bars as well as the United States Supreme Court. He was named to The Best Lawyers in America from 2004–2017, the Top 100 Attorneys in America by Worth magazine from 2005–2006, and as a Texas Super Lawyer from 2003–2011. Simmons has been an active member of Royal Lane Baptist Church since 1988. He was a proud card carrying member of Mensa and the NAACP, whose commitment to inclusion would never be in question.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; sons, Jordan and wife Lauren, and Adam; daughter, Shannon; and two brothers and their wives.

Thomas J. Tom Blankenship, JD ’85, was born July 22, 1939, and passed away March 6, 2017. He graduated from Temple High School as valedictorian. He received his degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University and went to work for Humble Pipeline, which later became Exxon Oil. He worked as an electrical engineering instructor at TSTI for over 20 years. He then received his juris doctor from Baylor Law School and began practicing law in 1986. Blankenship liked to fish and hunt and was an avid fan of the Baylor men and women’s basketball programs. His favorite pastime was gardening.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Charlotte Tucker Blankenship; and son, Randy Blankenship. Survivors include his companion, Gail Williams; daughters, Debbie Hooten, and Diana Gamboa; five grandchildren; and sister, June Summers.

Glenn Talmadge Nix III, JD ’97, was born January 4, 1973, and passed away April 24, 2017. He graduated from Sherman High School and received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a law degree from Baylor Law School. He married Stephanie Nix in 2013. Nix worked as an attorney in Sherman and McKinney, Texas, for more than 18 years. He was known for his quick wit, creative humor, and intellectual superiority. He is survived by his father, Glenn Talmadge, Jr.; mother, Barbara; and wife, Stephanie.
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