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A Message from Dean Toben

BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL DEVELOPS GREAT LAWYERS. BAYLOR LAWYERS OFTEN ARE HAILED FOR THEIR PROWESS AS LITIGATORS. BAYLOR LAWYERS ALSO EXCEL IN TRANSACTIONAL PRACTICE, BUT NOT EVERY BAYLOR LAWYER REMAINS IN OR EVEN ENTERS PRACTICE. STILL, BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL HAS PREPARED THESE INDIVIDUALS FOR SUCCESS AS WELL.

In this issue of Docket Call, we spotlight seven Baylor Lawyers who have taken their legal education and used it to shine in businesses, nonprofits, and the arts.

Paul Kruse (JD ’80) is the president and CEO of Blue Bell Creameries. After law school, Paul began working in private practice and would have stayed there, if not for his father. Paul shares that his father kept asking him to become in-house counsel at Blue Bell Creameries, a family-owned enterprise. Paul finally relented and adds that his legal training has an impact on almost everything he does.

There was no doubt in Baylor Regent Jay Allison’s (JD ’80) mind that he would start his own business. After all, when he was 13, he was selling tropical fish. After five years of working as an attorney in Midland, Jay decided to start his own oil and gas company. Today, Jay is CEO of Comstock Resources Inc., the 49th largest public oil and gas company in the U.S. with $2.3 billion in assets. Jay considers a law degree “a ‘how to’ manual for basic business.”

Bill Shaddock (JD ’77) already had an MBA when he arrived at Baylor Law. Bill worked at a firm specializing in real estate law, but it soon became apparent to Bill that he wanted to “make deals rather than document other people’s deals.” In 1984, Bill opened the Shaddock Development Company, which was followed by the Willow Bend Mortgage Company, Capital Title of Texas, and First National Title Insurance Company.
Shannon Sedgwick Davis (JD ’00) serves as CEO of the Bridgeway Foundation, a private organization dedicated to the prevention of genocide, oppression, and human rights violations. After law school, Shannon worked at a firm in Dallas, but feeling she needed to do more, she moved to Washington, D.C., and began her career as an international human rights advocate. At Bridgeway Foundation, Shannon spends much of her time trying to end the atrocities perpetrated by the Lord’s Resistance Army in Central Africa. She credits Practice Court for teaching her the “skills for listening carefully in conflict in order to be able to best reach the desired conclusion.”

Always wanting to be a prosecutor who worked on women’s issues, Cindy Dyer (JD ’93) started with an unpaid internship in the fledgling domestic violence unit in the Dallas District Attorney’s Office, eventually served as the director of the Office of Violence Against Women, and now is vice president for human rights for Vital Voices, an NGO that deals with women’s issues around the globe. Like Shannon, Cindy says Practice Court — and former PC director Professor Louis Muldrow — prepared her to handle “difficult questions thrown at me by some scary official from a foreign country.”

Baylor Lawyers also are making their presences known in the world of arts. One of the most high profile of these creative Baylor Lawyers is director and screenwriter John Lee Hancock (JD ’82). He directed actress Sandra Bullock to an Oscar in the film “The Blind Side,” and recently was at the helm of the critically acclaimed “Saving Mr. Banks.” John Lee worked as a lawyer for three years before pursuing his Hollywood dream. He says his legal education taught him to “analyze problems in a unique way, something that has served me well in Hollywood.”

Another Baylor Lawyer in the arts is novelist Julie Beck Kenner (JD ’88). She worked as a lawyer for several years in Los Angeles and Texas, but creative writing always beckoned. She published her first novel in 2000. She now publishes about three books a year. Julie says the skills she learned at Baylor Law provided her with the discipline to write novels.

I hope you enjoy reading about these Baylor Lawyers’ alternative careers as much as I have.
Numerous Baylor Lawyers have taken their education to build careers outside of the legal realm.

An award-winning Hollywood director and screenwriter. A champion of human rights. An ice cream mogul. All are Baylor Lawyers. Many Baylor Law alumni have forged successful careers in business, the nonprofit arena, and the arts. And all have relied upon their law degrees and the training they received at Baylor Law to prosper in their chosen fields.
LAW AND BUSINESS HAVE A NATURAL AFFINITY, and a wide swath of alumni have gravitated to careers in business. Paul Kruse (JD ’80) has certainly enjoyed the sweet taste of success as president and CEO of Blue Bell Creameries. It was a career that almost didn’t happen.

“He was the CEO at that time. I told him ‘no,’” Kruse said. “Actually three different times I told him no. He said he really needed an attorney in-house to help out with the things he was dealing with. I told him to go hire one. He replied that there was only one he was interested in. It was a difficult decision for me at the time, but I think it was a good decision to join the company.”

Kruse said his law school education and law practice have had a huge impact on him. He is still the only attorney at Blue Bell, which means legal questions often come his way. With close to 4,000 employees in 23 states, he deals with employment law questions almost daily. He also tackles questions regarding intellectual property, bankrupt customers, and preference actions.

“I knew from being at Baylor Law School that I wanted to practice law and inevitably it was going to be in the town I grew up in,” Kruse said. “After graduating from Baylor, I went to the Eastland Court of Appeals for almost a year as law clerk for Chief Justice Austin O. McClyod. He also is a Baylor grad. It really was a great experience and very educational. From there I went into private practice in Brenham.”

Kruse had every intention of remaining in private practice, but his father approached him about joining Blue Bell.

“Probably the only thing I do at Blue Bell that is not impacted by my legal training is the decision I need to make on new flavors of ice cream. We have a group of employees who vote on a new flavor, but I tell them my vote is the only one that counts,” he joked. “Actually, I don’t trust myself in this area and I universally defer to the people here who have a great track record of making and selecting that next tremendous flavor. If you don’t believe me, ask who said that Peanut Butter ‘N Jelly would sell really well. I’m still trying to live that one down.”
Baylor Regent Jay Allison (JD ’81) was destined for a career in business. After all, he had his own tax ID number at age 13.

“I had started a little company called Jay’s Country Aquarium, selling tropical fish,” he said.

Allison, who also has a BBA and MS from Baylor University, knew little about lawyers and law firms when he entered Baylor Law School, but he thought he would practice some form of business law. He had a friend, David Sledge, with whom he had played football at Baylor and was a native of Midland. Allison was in Baylor Law’s placement center and saw that a firm from Midland was interviewing.

“I signed up to interview, flew out to Midland, and was offered a job and accepted. The firm was an oil and gas firm, so I practiced oil and gas law,” Allison said.

He practiced with Lynch, Chappell and Alsup for five years and liked the work, but when he was asked to be a partner, Allison decided to turn down the offer and start his own oil and gas company.

“I think the fact that I had practiced as an oil and gas attorney and had a business background gave me the confidence to start my own company,” he said.

Today, Allison is CEO of Comstock Resources Inc., the 49th largest public oil and gas company in the U.S. with $2.3 billion in assets. The corporation spends $500 million a year to lease acreage, drill wells and discover oil and gas mainly in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

“As CEO, I oversee all of that, from the geologists and engineers to the accountants and all the legal work. I have found that I do the same type of legal work that I used to do for the firm,” he said.

He believes he never would have achieved his success without the law degree and actually putting in the time as a practicing lawyer.

“I think the law degree is a ‘how to’ manual for basic business. I think you have to take that ‘manual’ and use it to master the business issues in the industry that you are focused on,” he said. “But I also think most students should try to practice. Getting your law degree and not practicing is akin to training for a marathon but not actually running the race. When you practice law, you gain the confidence of seeing that you understand what you have learned.”
IKE KRUSE AND ALLISON, ALUMNUS BILL SHADDOCK (JD ’77) ALSO SAW THE VALUE OF PRACTICING LAW before embarking on a business career. In Shaddock’s case, he chose real estate.

“I had an MBA in real estate from [Southern Methodist University] before I went to law school,” he said. “I learned the concepts of the law and how to practice law at Baylor. However, it was important for me to actually practice, because I saw the way deals were structured and I met people who were actively engaged in business.”

During the mid-1980s, when Shaddock was practicing for a firm in Dallas, real estate became an excellent business to enter. In fact, many of Shaddock’s friends had made the switch from law to real estate.

“I was a good lawyer, but the environment at that time had changed. I was working a tremendous amount of hours, and I felt that ultimately I could use my law degree in other ways. I didn’t just have to practice to use the degree I worked so hard to get. I made the fundamental decision that I like to make deals rather than document other people’s deals,” he said.

In 1984, he opened the Shaddock Development Company, which is responsible for the acquisition and development of a wide range of residential subdivisions in the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area. That was followed by the formation of the Willow Bend Mortgage Company, Capital Title of Texas, and First National Title Insurance Company.

“My company, Capital Title of Texas, is the largest independent title company in Texas with 50 offices. We do thousands of transactions a month. My law firm, the Shaddock Law Firm, does closing documents for over a 1,000 closings a month. I still directly use my law degree by preparing the legal documents for closing on those or in drafting my own contracts. There are certain legal documents that I produce every day that are related to my own business,” Shaddock said.

Baylor Law also taught Shaddock about hard work and discipline, two traits needed for starting his own business. But in the end, he believes the critical thinking he learned at Baylor Law School might be the most important skill.

“A law degree is so versatile,” he said. “There are increasingly a large number of lawyers who should consider making the transition to an alternative career like business. They have the skills and abilities that are needed for a successful career. Private practice of law is just one option for a Baylor Law graduate. There are significant opportunities in the business world for those with a law degree. People should be mindful of these opportunities that may be available. Don’t just think of yourself as a private attorney. You should think of yourself as a person with the skills and abilities to succeed in a variety of career options.”
TWO BAYLOR LAWYERS DISCOVERED THEIR TRUE VOCATIONS AS HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPIONS, AND BOTH HAVE RELIED ON THEIR LAW DEGREES TO ANSWER THAT CALL.

Shannon Sedgwick Davis
Bridgeway Foundation

ADVOCATING FOR JUSTICE

Sedgwick Davis to go to that country to help with relief efforts and to test her resolve and commitment.

“In Turkey, something awoke in me — a passion to serve people who do not have a voice,” she said.

After law school, Sedgwick Davis went to work for a law firm in Dallas. She said that while she enjoyed the work, she knew there was something else she needed to do. When an opportunity opened at the International Justice Mission in Washington, D.C., she made the jump. She served as vice president of Geneva Global before being named CEO of the Bridgeway Foundation.

These days, she spends a majority of her time trying to end one of the world’s longest-running conflicts perpetrated by the Lord’s Resistance Army. The Lord’s Resistance Army, or LRA, is a guerrilla rebel group in east-central Africa. Starting in Uganda and spreading throughout Central Africa, the LRA has killed thousands, abducted nearly 70,000 boys to serve in its ranks, and has led to the internal displacement of more than 2.1 million Africans.

“We have pushed past more traditional forms of philanthropy realizing that until the LRA commanders are brought to justice the

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HAMMION SEDGWICK DAVIS (JD ’00) SERVES AS CEO OF THE BRIDGWAY FOUNDATION, a private organization dedicated to the prevention of genocide, oppression, and human rights violations.

“I think we are all motivated at some deep level toward a calling; something we have to do or make right in the world. For me it was to advocate for others (who had) little or no access to justice,” Sedgwick Davis said.

She had a real taste for social justice while in law school. As a 3L in October 1999, a massive earthquake hit Turkey, and Professor Brian Serr encouraged
crisis will not end,” Sedgwick Davis said. “Currently, we are leading efforts to end this crisis and encourage the defection of LRA combatants. This includes blanketing the jungles of Africa with defection flyers explaining it is safe for the LRA combatants to surrender, as well as sending helicopters over the top of the jungle with LRA defectors announcing over loud speakers ‘it’s safe to surrender, you will be given amnesty.’ This program, only one example of the work we are doing, has had a dramatic impact on depleting LRA forces.”

Sedgwick Davis said the excellent advocacy training she received at Baylor Law has been an invaluable asset, whether she is standing in front of a jury, serving as a board member or trying to help end a war in Central Africa.

“As I continue to work in the area of human rights, I find my training in peacemaking, negotiation, and Practice Court taught me skills for listening carefully in conflict in order to be able to best reach the desired conclusion,” she said.

“I am one of those fortunate people who has done what I loved and it has worked out,” she said.

Dyer was a felony prosecutor for the Dallas District Attorney’s Office when she was offered the chance to be the sole prosecutor for the new family violence unit.

Under a determined Dyer, the unit began accumulating convictions and received a federal grant to increase the size of the division. In 2007, she received a call from the White House asking if she would direct the Office of Violence Against Women.

Dyer then moved on to Vital Voices.

Now she works with all kinds of women, from judges to police officers to women running shelters.

“I don’t push my ideas on people who don’t want my assistance. I just give them the benefit of my experience and listen to their local knowledge to come up with ideas that will be effective,” she said.

Dyer credits Practice Court for the preparation she needed as a prosecutor and as a leader in international human rights issues.

“I loved Practice Court, even though Professor Louis Muldrow scared the living daylights out of me,” she said. “Even today when I speak in front of thousands of people or get very difficult questions thrown at me by some scary official from a foreign country, I feel prepared and confident because of Practice Court.”
A career in the fine arts might seem a long way from a legal education, but several Baylor Law alumni are successful writers, artists, performers, and more. Perhaps one of the most high profile of these creative Baylor Lawyers is Hollywood director and screenwriter John Lee Hancock (JD ’82), director of the “The Blind Side” and this year’s critically acclaimed “Saving Mr. Banks,” among others.

After receiving a degree in English from Baylor University, Hancock didn’t have a firm grasp on what career he wanted to pursue. He said the law seemed viable because it valued writing, and would give him more time to decide what to do with his life. At Baylor Law, he particularly enjoyed Master Teacher David Guinn and his Constitutional Law class.

“Like me, Professor Guinn loved the stories behind the cases and reveled in the fact that some important Supreme Court decisions were 5-4 and could have gone either way. Thus, he was interested less in a ‘right answer’ and more in how you tackled the question,” Hancock said.

After graduating, Hancock worked for three years for a general civil practice firm in Houston and wrote during nights and weekends.

“I made the decision to move to California and try my hand at screenwriting,” he said. “In my three years in Houston, I’d written my first screenplay and several plays and had been involved in taking acting classes, mostly so I could better understand the language. Upon arrival in California, I started working as a production assistant just so I could get on a set and see how the sausage was made. I worked myriad odd jobs to pay the rent and started a theater company where I wrote and directed original plays of mine. I continued to write screenplays and slowly I gained traction. When (the script for) “A Perfect World” [with Clint Eastwood] was bought and made I broke through and haven’t looked back.”

Hancock believes a law school education is an open door to many things in life and the skills learned have benefitted him well.
"You are taught to analyze problems in a unique way, something that has served me well in Hollywood," he said. "You also have to deal with other attorneys, a working legal system, as well as case law that informs your client’s circumstances. These skills serve one well in any business, as well as just being helpful in daily life. As for legal dealings, having a law degree and having practiced gives me the ability to know what lawyer to hire to represent me. Entertainment law is very specific and ever-changing. I’ve been with my lawyer, who negotiates all my deals (along with my agent), for 20 years."

Hancock said that he has no typical work day. When in the throes of a writing project, he will work a regular business day with meetings or business lunches thrown into the mix. However, if he is directing, he will be awake by 4:30 a.m. and will not get to bed until 11 p.m. or so during production.

"People forget or don’t know that every time I sign on to direct a movie it’s a year-and-a-half to two years of my life," he said.

LIKE HANCOCK, NOVELIST JULIE BECK KENNER (JD ’88) entered law school without a firm idea of what her future held. She was only 20 when she started classes, but she did exceptionally well in her studies, which afforded her some excellent opportunities.

"I started out by clerking for the Hon. Judge Sam D. Johnson on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals," she said. "I was in that position for two years. I absolutely loved it — the research, the writing, the wrangling with meaty legal issues. It was exciting, thrilling, relevant, and challenging."

From there, Kenner moved to Los Angeles and worked for three firms, including one that allowed her to practice entertainment law.

Kenner married and moved back to Texas, where she spent the last eight years of her practice at Fleckman & McGlynn in Austin. She also wrote a lot on weekends. Her first published novel, a contemporary romance called Nobody Does it Better, came out in 2000. Since then, she has had three books hit the shelves annually in a variety of genres. She has won the Romantic Times’ Reviewer’s Choice Award for Best Contemporary Paranormal of 2001, the Reviewers International Organization’s award for best romantic suspense of 2004 and best paranormal of 2005, and the National Readers’ Choice Award for best mainstream book of 2005.

"About three years after I was first published, I sold two series for advances that were significantly higher than what I’d made before," she said. "Then Warner Brothers optioned one of those series, and the money from the option was enough to kick me over my own financial line in the sand. I started writing full time the summer of 2004."

Kenner said her law school education has helped her tremendously as an author.

"You can’t get anywhere in publishing without putting in the time and being dedicated," she said. "And, of course, there’s the skill set of being able to read and understand contracts, to be detail oriented, to put the pieces of a book (like a brief) together in a way that flows for the reader (or judge)."

Julie Beck Kenner
Novelist
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The Professor David M. Guinn

"The Godfather" Endowed Scholarship

"To teach constitutional law, a subject that I hold dear to my heart, to students I consider as family, is a great privilege. As 2013 Baylor Lawyer of the Year, you bestowed on me more than I feel worthy to accept, and I am grateful. Each kind note and conversation this award generated has touched me. Like many of you, college and law school were made possible because someone helped pave the way. The Professor David M. Guinn 'The Godfather' Endowed Scholarship is meaningful to me because of the impact scholarships had on my life and education. I believe in our students. I believe that our alumni are the best evidence of the greatness of Baylor Law. Your support leaves an indelible footprint along the path. From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU."

Professor David M. Guinn

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"As life is action and passion, it is required of a man that he should share the passion and action of his time, at peril of being judged not to have lived."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.
During a Baylor Lawyers reception in Amarillo in January, Baylor Law School Dean Brad Toben made the surprise announcement that the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee had selected Bill Brian as the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year.

"It's a much-deserved honor for Bill, who in addition to once having served on the Baylor University Board of Regents, has been a longtime supporter of Baylor Law School," Toben said.

U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Texas, the Hon. Ed Kinkeade (JD ’74), describes his longtime friend, Brian, as "a quiet giant."

The Executive Committee selected the Baylor Lawyer of the Year much earlier than it has done in the past. Normally, the selection and announcement are made in the fall. Starting in 2014, the selection and announcement will be made in the early months of the new year. As a result, honorees will hold the title throughout the selection year. A luncheon honoring Brian was held in Amarillo on May 28.

Brian received his bachelor of arts degree and a juris doctor degree from Baylor in 1974. He also earned his LLM degree in taxation from Southern Methodist University’s School of Law in 1975. He has practiced with Courtney, Countiss, Brian & Bailey, L.L.P. in Amarillo and its predecessors for 37 years, and has been certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in the field of estate planning and probate law since 1984. He also served as briefing attorney for the then Seventh Court of Civil Appeals in Amarillo from 1975-76. *Docket Call* interviewed Brian about his recent honor.

Q: How did Baylor Law prepare you for your career?

Baylor Law School requires a core curriculum designed to prepare each graduate for the practice of law. I am grateful for the commitment of faculty and administration to that theory of training. It meant the world to me as a beginning lawyer.

Q: For you, personally, what does it mean to be named Baylor Lawyer of the Year?

It is a great honor and at the same time sobering when I look at the criteria for selection. I am grateful to the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee for honoring me and my wife, Carol, as Dean Toben correctly pointed her out at the Amarillo reception. The Lord has graced me with her companionship and direction as my wife for more than 40 years. I am also reminded of the influence of parents, sisters, and friends upon my life.

Q: What are some of your most vivid memories as a student at Baylor Law?

In Professor (William) Boswell’s torts class I can remember the thrill of reciting on a case and hearing Professor Boswell say, “Precisely.” And the agony of defeat when in the same class reciting I would hear Professor Boswell say to me, “Not at all.” In other words, I had completely missed the point of the case. Then I remember the time when Ed Kinkeade and I landed in Matt Dawson’s Practice Court class on the first day of class and selected seats in the middle of the middle of the room. Those who had the great experience of being instructed by Professor Dawson in the Practice Court class remember that those who sat in the middle of the middle were called on more frequently than any other position in the class. It seems like Ed (now judge) Kinkeade and I were called on every day. Another memory I have is of being in Professor John Wilson’s remedies class. The topic, one day, turned to a discussion of charitable organizations. Professor Wilson correctly described these as eleemosynary institutions.
SNAPSHOT

PROFILE OF THE SPRING 2014 ENTERING CLASS
(49 ENROLLED)

MEDIAN LSAT ........................................... 155
25% LSAT .................................................. 153
75% LSAT .................................................. 158

RESIDENCY
7 OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS
2 INTERNATIONAL
40 IN-STATE RESIDENTS

GENDER
FEMALES .............................................. 17
MALES ................................................... 32

ETHNICITY
10 MINORITIES (20.40%):
4 HISPANIC/LATINO (1 ALSO IDENTIFIED AS AMERICAN INDIAN)
5 ASIAN
1 AMERICAN INDIAN

STATES/NATIONS REPRESENTED
ARIZONA
KANSAS
LOUISIANA
OHIO
TEXAS
UTAH
CHINA

Powell Wins ‘Top Gun’
Congratulations to Colin Powell for winning the Bob and Karen Wortham "Top Gun" Practice Court Competition. Powell took home a $3,000 prize, as well as an 18-inch bronze statuette of former PC Director Matt "Mad Dog" Dawson. Runner-up Jessica Underwood received a $1,000 prize. Semifinalists Matt Greenberg and Jacqueline Hamer each received $500.

Andrews & Kurth Results
Congratulations to the team of Faith Johnson, Kelsey Warren, and Steve Harmel for advancing to the quarterfinals of the Andrews & Kurth National Championship Tournament in Houston, the first Baylor team to make the break in this national moot court tournament.

National Security Law
Congratulations to Connor Buchanan and Sarah Bosold who advanced to the semifinals at the National Security Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C., Feb 8-9.

Client Counseling Regionals
The two teams of Josh Arnold and Andrew Valencia, and Skylar Simons, Jason Taylor, and Mark Lankford advanced to the semifinals at the Client Counseling Regionals in Houston on Feb 8.

Client Counseling Results
Congratulations to Jason Taylor and Brad Ryynanen for winning the Naman Howell Smith & Lee Client Counseling Competition. Andrew Valencia and Josh Arnold were the second-place team.

Immigration Competition Results
Congratulations to the 2014 NYU Immigration Moot Court team for advancing to the finals. Their excellent advocacy skills also led to Neha Paymaster earning the Best Advocate award for the competition. Maria de la Torre earned the fifth-best advocate award.
W.H. "Bill" Brian Jr. has been named the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year. Brian is a partner with the firm of Courtney, Countiss, Brian & Bailey, L.L.P. in Amarillo.

The Hon. Manlea Lewis has been named managing shareholder and chief operating officer for the Dallas-based law firm of Godwin Lewis PC. A fifth-generation Texan and former district judge, Lewis assumed her new role on Dec. 1. In 2012, she became one of the few women in history to become the named shareholder of a major Texas law firm. In addition to her roles as managing shareholder and COO, Lewis will continue to serve as the chair of Godwin Lewis’ family law litigation and arbitration/mediation practice groups. Lewis joined Godwin Lewis in 2011 after serving as judge of the 330th District Court in Dallas from 2002 to 2010. She previously served as the master/referee of the 305th District Court from 1986 until 1992, and as an associate judge of the 330th District Court from 1992 to 2002.

John Eddie Williams of Williams Kherker Hart Boundas, LLP took office as 2014 chair of the Houston Bar Foundation on Feb. 25 at the Foundation’s Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Welcoming him and serving as keynote speaker was The Hon. Kay Bailey Hutchison, former U.S. senator from Texas and now senior counsel in the Dallas office of Bracewell & Giuliani LLP. Williams’ firm specializes in representing plaintiffs in mass tort cases and in representing workers and organized labor. Williams serves on the board of governors of the American Institute for Justice, the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, and the Houston Police Foundation. Williams served on the executive committee of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association and has served on the Houston Bar Foundation board since 2009. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Baylor Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the Baylor Law Review.

Jerry Clements has been re-elected chairwoman of the law firm Locke Lord LLP, which she has headed since 2006. As leader of the law firm, Clements had overseen the 2007 merger between Texas-based Locke Liddell & Sapp, and Chicago-based Lord, Bissell & Brook. She also was instrumental in expanding the firm’s international presence with offices in London and Hong Kong.


Stephen Cockerham has been named the Dallas office managing partner of Husch Blackwell.

Jerry L. Stovall Jr. of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has been listed in Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business for Louisiana. Stovall’s practice areas are labor and employment.

The Hon. Roy DeFriend was named the Groesbeck, Texas 2013 Citizen of the Year. He was presented with the award at the Groesbeck Chamber of Commerce banquet. He has served as the district attorney of Limestone County since 2001.

Greg McConnell, assistant general counsel with Tenet Healthcare Corporation in Dallas, recently was elected as the 2014 chair of the Dallas Bar Association Health Law Section.

James Carter was elected to become a Fellow of The Texas Bar Foundation. Each nominee must be elected by the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees and membership is restricted to Texas attorneys. Election is a mark of distinction and recognition of Carter’s contributions to the legal profession. Carter is a partner with Drought, Drought & Bobbitt, LLP in San Antonio.

Edel Caudillo has joined Phelps Dunbar LLP’s Dallas/Fort Worth office as counsel.

Robert Gregson was promoted to partner in the global legal practice of Norton Rose Fulbright’s U.S.-member firm.

Kevin Muenter has been promoted to partner in the Dallas-based law firm of Estes Thorne & Carr PLLC. Muenter is a trial lawyer who maintains an active litigation practice primarily representing Fortune 500 companies, small and medium-size businesses, and individuals in complex business disputes. He has litigated matters in both state and federal courts throughout the state involving claims of breach of contract, fraud, nuisance, negligence, deceptive trade practices, bad faith, and violations of the Texas Insurance and Property Codes.

J.D. Resseter has been made partner at Zimmerman, Zimmerman, Cotner, Lejeune and Villarreal, P.C. Resseter joined the Waco-based firm in 2009. He focuses his practice on personal injury.

Akilah F. Craig has been hired as an associate at the Longview-based law firm of Ward & Smith. Craig represents clients in a wide variety of cases involving personal injuries, commercial litigation, oil and gas disputes, and other areas of law.
THE FOLLOWING BAYLOR LAWYERS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR INCLUSION IN TEXAS SUPER LAWYERS 2013 BY THOMSON REUTERS:

Joe E. Broussard (JD ’88)
MehaffyWeber

Glenn W. Cunningham (JD ’90)
Law Offices of Glenn W. Cunningham

Carmen E. Eiker (JD ’78)
Godwin Lewis PC

Thomas E. Myers (JD ’79)
Brackett & Ellis, PC.

Marion Woodrow Kruse Jr. (JD ’78)
Henke Law Firm, LLP (Best Law Firm)

Andrew Sims (JD ’86)
Top 100 Dallas - Fort Worth, Harris, Finley & Bogle, P.C.

JoAl Cannon Sheridan (JD ’92)
Ausley, Algert, Robertson & Flores LLP

John Sloan Jr. (JD ’80)
Sloan, Bagley, Hatcher & Perry Law Firm

Michele Y. Smith (JD ’92)
Top 100 List - Houston Region, Top 50 Women in Texas, and Top 100 List – Texas, MehaffyWeber

THE FOLLOWING BAYLOR LAWYERS HAVE BEEN SELECTED AS RISING STARS IN TEXAS SUPER LAWYERS 2014 BY THOMSON REUTERS:

Chad Newman (JD ’09)
Erskine & McMahon

Corey Seel (JD ’02)
MehaffyWeber

THE FOLLOWING BAYLOR LAWYERS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED IN THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA 2014:

Joe E. Broussard (JD ’88)
MehaffyWeber

JoAl Cannon Sheridan (JD ’92)
Ausley, Algert, Robertson & Flores LLP

Marion Woodrow Kruse Jr. (JD ’78)
Henke Law Firm, LLP

Michele Y. Smith (JD ’92)
MehaffyWeber

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

PUBLICATIONS
  (Substantial revision in view of effective date of new Texas
  Estates Code, 1-1-14), Three Volumes (co-authored)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Articles Editor, "Trusts & Estates,
  Probate & Property," published six
times a year by the Real
  Property, Trust and Estate Law
  Section of the American Bar
  Association.
- Member, Planning and
  Publications Committees of the
  ABA's Real Property, Trust and
  Estate Law Section
- Member, Advisory
  Commission — Estate Planning and
  Probate, Texas Board of Legal
  Specialization
- Member, Legislative Review
  Committee, Real Estate, Probate
  and Trust Law Section, State Bar
  of Texas

Chris Galeczka
Reference Librarian

PUBLICATIONS
- "Expedited Civil Actions in
  Texas and the U.S.: A Survey of
  State Procedures and a Guide to
  Implementing Texas's New
  Expedited Actions Process,"
  Michael Morrison, James Wren,
  and Chris Galeczka, 65 Baylor L.
  Rev., Number 3, 824-937 (2013)

Jill W. Lens
Assistant Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- "Tort Law's Deterrent Effect and
  Procedural Due Process," 50
  TULSA L. REV. (forthcoming
  2014) (available in SSRN's Top Ten
  Downloads for the LSJ's Journal of
  Judgments & Remedies)
- "Warning: A Post-Sale Duty
  Targets Small Manufacturers,"
  2014 UTAH L. REV. (forthcoming
  2014)

Elizabeth Miller
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- "Unincorporated Business
  Entities," LexisNexis (5th ed.
  2013) (co-author)
- "Governing Persons in Action:
  Liability Protection and Piercing
  the Veil of Texas Business
  Entities," Essentials of Business
  Law, State Bar of Texas,
  March 6, 2014

- "Governing Persons in Action:
  Overview of Fiduciary Duties,
  Exculpation, and Indemnification
  in Texas Business Organizations,"
  Essentials of Business Law, State
  Bar of Texas, March 6, 2014
- "Shareholder and LLC Member
  Oppression in Texas," 8th
  Annual Fiduciary Litigation
  Course, State Bar of Texas,
  Dec. 6, 2013

Michael Morrison
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- "Expedited Civil Actions in
  Texas and the U.S.: A Survey of
  State Procedures and a Guide to
  Implementing Texas's New
  Expedited Actions Process,"
  Michael Morrison, James Wren,
  and Chris Galeczka, 65 Baylor L.
  Rev., Number 3, 824-937 (2013)

Walt Shelton
Adjunct Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- "Emerging from Bitterness into
  Gratefulness," Austin American
  Statesman, March 8, 2014 at E9
- "Living Without Waiting," Austin
  American Statesman, Dec. 31,
  2013 at E6

James E. Wren
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- "Expedited Civil Actions in
  Texas and the U.S.: A Survey of
  State Procedures and a Guide to
  Implementing Texas's New
  Expedited Actions Process,"
  Michael Morrison, James Wren,
  and Chris Galeczka, 65 Baylor L.
  Rev., Number 3, 824-937 (2013)
Tom W. Bullington (JD ’50), 88, was born Feb. 18, 1925 in El Paso and passed away Nov. 27, 2013 in Austin. His parents were Clyde and Lula Bullington. He entered Baylor Law School in February 1948 and graduated from Baylor Law with an LLB degree on May 28, 1950. On May 30, 1969, Baylor Law elevated his degree to a juris doctor. He was elected county attorney of Knox County and took office on Jan. 1, 1953, where he continued to serve until he resigned on Dec. 1, 1968 to take a position with the Texas Attorney General’s office as chief of the crime prevention unit. He also served in that capacity under the administrations of Attorney General John Hill and Attorney General Mark White. Bullington was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, Fifth Circuit Court Appeals and the federal district courts of Texas, the Supreme Court of Texas, and all other state courts of Texas. He also held an instructor’s certificate with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education. In 1971, Bullington created an in-watts service in the Attorney General’s Office for the target groups to get legal advice, and in 2006 it was still in operation. Bullington also noted for producing the Selected New Legislation book and making it available to the target groups and had done so since 1971. On Jan. 18, 1983, Gov. Mark White appointed Bullington to the position of deputy director of the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor’s Office and as Interstate Parole Compact Administrator, where he served until he resigned on Dec. 30, 1986. He was hired on Jan. 1, 1987 as general counsel for the Sheriffs’ Association of Texas until he resigned on Oct. 31, 1998. On Nov. 1, 1998, Bullington became the legal/technical advisor for the Sheriffs’ Association of Texas.

Mary Lou Clark (JD ’78), 59, died peacefully, surrounded by family and dogs, on Feb. 12, 2013, after a courageous and hard-fought 43-month battle with cancer. Clark graduated from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville with honors, where she received a BBA in accounting. After college, Clark became a CPA and attended Baylor Law School in Waco. Following Law School, she moved to Houston and took an accounting position with Arthur Andersen. After two years with Arthur Andersen, Clark moved to the tax department of Shell Oil Company, using both her accounting and legal backgrounds. In late 1982, she and her husband moved to Austin, where Clark began her long career of practicing bankruptcy law, joining Fred E. Walker & Associates, P.C. The family moved to Shreveport, Louisiana, for 10 months in 1990, but they soon returned to Westlake Hills, where they lived for another seven years. In the summer of 1997, the Clarks left Austin for Fort Worth. While in Fort Worth, Clark continued to practice bankruptcy law with Venable & Vida (now The Vida Law Firm). In 2007, the couple moved to the Highland Lakes area of the Hill Country. Clark continued to practice bankruptcy law, opening a satellite office for Austin-based bankruptcy attorney Michael Baumer, serving as a court-appointed attorney in child protection cases, and joining the Highland Lakes Bar Association. Clark was a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Bankruptcy Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, the Austin Bankruptcy Bar, the Highland Lakes Bar Association, and the Texas State Society of CPAs.

Benjamin J. Cuba (JD ’63), 77, of Temple, passed away on Dec. 13, 2013, at his residence. He graduated from the University of Texas with a business degree in 1959, and from Baylor Law School in 1963. He was a lawyer at Cuba & Cuba, PLC. He was a member of the State Bar of Texas and also was licensed to practice before the United States Supreme Court and the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal.

William Karl DeNath (JD ’78), 60, passed away on Jan. 11, 2014, after a brief illness. DeNath had been a resident of Athens, Denton, Waco, Dallas, and Fort Worth, as well as Los Angeles and Birmingham, Alabama. He was currently employed by Dudley Hopton-Jones, Sims & Freeman, certified public accountants, of Birmingham. He attended North Texas State University in Denton, and graduated from Baylor University and Baylor Law School.

Wesley Lawrence “Larry” Evans (JD ’73), 63, passed away Nov. 24, 2012 at Texoma Medical Center in Denison. He attended Texas Christian University, where he received a football scholarship and graduated with cum laude status in 1971. Evans continued his education by attending Baylor Law School, where he again graduated cum laude in November 1973. After completing law school, Evans and his wife settled in Denison. He joined the law practice of Kennedy & Minshew in Sherman, where he worked for seven years until he opened his solo practice in Denison, practicing for 30 years until his retirement in 2011. Evans’ practice consisted of real estate, probate, contracts, and closely held corporations and business entities, but he especially enjoyed serving as a mediator during the last 20 years before retiring.
**Ronald Ray Goodwin (JD ’69)**, 72, passed away on Dec. 12, 2013, in San Angelo. Goodwin attended Baylor University on a football and baseball scholarship. He was All-Southwest Conference in both football and baseball. He went on to play professional football for six years for the Philadelphia Eagles. In his rookie year, Goodwin was named to the NFL All-Rookie team. During the off-seasons, Goodwin attended Baylor Law School and graduated in 1969. In 1977, Goodwin was inducted into the Baylor Hall of Fame. In 2000, Dave Campbell’s *Baylor Bears Insider’s Report* named Goodwin as one of 20 best athletes for the 20th century at Baylor. Goodwin was an attorney in San Angelo for nearly 40 years. The highlight of his law career was when Goodwin’s son moved back to San Angelo to become his law partner.

**Robert Edward Hensley Jr. (JD ’99)**, 53, was born in Bradenton on Feb. 5, 1960 and passed away on Nov. 5, 2013. Hensley graduated from the University of South Florida in 1998, and Baylor Law School in 1999. He practiced law in North Carolina before returning to Bradenton. His God-given talent was music and he was active in the New Village Church music department.

**Calvin B. Reeves (LLB ’50)**, 87, passed away in Ennis on Nov. 14, 2013. He attended Baylor University, where he received a bachelor’s degree and went on to receive his JD from Baylor Law School. Reeves served his country proudly in the United States Marine Corps during World War II. He served as general counsel for the Baptist Foundation of Texas for more than 30 years.

**Jonathan Charles Silko (JD ’11)**, 27, loving and adoring husband of Violet Silko (JD ’11), died in a car accident on Feb. 13, 2014. A proud Baylor Bear, Silko was an honors student of history. He was an active and beloved brother with the Baylor chapter of Brothers Under Christ. While students at Baylor Law School, Silko met the love of his life, Violet. The two remained inseparable through law school and their early legal careers. The couple resided in Pittsburgh, where they pursued successful law careers.

**Amber Ann Steiss (JD ’09)**, 30, passed away on Dec. 17, 2013, in Austin. She was born Nov. 10, 1983. She was dubbed “the miracle baby” since she was not expected to survive birth because her mother had a life-threatening disease. However, Steiss not only survived, she excelled in her short life. Steiss graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2006 with three degrees. She then pursued her dream of becoming a lawyer by attending Baylor Law School, where she graduated with honors.

**Teresa Blanton Turner (JD ’82)**, 65, passed away Nov. 21, 2013. Turner was born Oct. 9, 1948, in Ohio. She spent the first six years of her life in Kentucky. She moved to Texas at age 6, and graduated from Arlington Heights High School and Texas Christian University. At the time of her graduation from TCU in 1970, she was married and pregnant with her first child, William Gilliam Cowan Jr. Her daughter, Molly Blaine Cowan, was born in 1974. Turner was a teacher for eight years before she decided to return to school.

She graduated from Baylor Law School in 1982. During her career, Turner specialized in personal injury and family law.

**Larry Don Woody (JD ’75)**, 78, died Oct. 15, 2013 at Conroe Medical Center of a stroke following surgery. He was born in Gorman on Dec. 4, 1934, and was a native of Stamford, Texas. Woody retired as a major after 20 years of service with the Marine Corps. He was a pilot and spent three years as a gunnery flight instructor in Pensacola, Florida. During his years of service he received 21 decorations for combat duty in the Korean and Vietnam wars. Following his retirement, he went back to college and earned a bachelor’s degree at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. He then pursued a law degree at Baylor Law School and graduated in the top 15 percent of his class. After graduating, he joined a law firm in Victoria. Later, he opened up his own firm in Victoria. During his 38 years as a lawyer, he was a trial lawyer and became board certified in consumer and business bankruptcy. Following retirement from his law practice, Woody became an avid programmer, selling many of his computer programs.
BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL'S WINTER 2014 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY took place Feb. 8 at First Baptist Church of Waco. Congratulations Baylor Lawyers!

Graduation Day
April 3 Judge Ken Starr discussed responsibility in the legal profession

About 100 Waco-area attorneys attended the event at Baylor Law. Attorney Kent Mckeever of Mission Waco wore prison scrubs to highlight the plight of ex-convicts.
Baylor Law School continuously fields strong advocacy competition teams. In 1980, then Practice Court Director Matt “Mad Dog” Dawson coached (from L-R) Tim Herron (JD ’80), Harry “Gil” Gillam (JD ’80), and self-described “lowly alternate” Jim Wren (JD ’80) to the National Trial Competition (NTC) championship round. Unfortunately, the Herron-Gillam-Wren team lost. Fortunately for Baylor Law, the team lost to another Baylor Law team comprised of Joe Johnson (JD ’80) and Ken Patterson (JD ’80). Wren, of course, is now a professor at Baylor Law, where he teaches in the Practice Court program.
BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL

2014 Fall On-Campus INTERVIEWS

SESSION I: AUGUST 18–22 • SESSION II: OCTOBER 6–10

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Baylor Law School
Established in 1857, Baylor Law School is ranked third in the nation for advocacy by U.S. News and World Report. Every year, Baylor Law students achieve one of the highest bar passage rates in the country and enjoy an excellent career placement rate.

Baylor Law is committed to being one of the smallest law schools in the nation. With a total student body of 373 (Spring 2014), we are able to offer more personalized attention to each student.

**TOTAL STUDENT BODY SPRING 2014**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>373</td>
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<td>MEN</td>
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**PROFILE OF ENTERING CLASS SPRING 2014**

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