

L aurels is a selection of exemplary professional accomplishments by Texas attorneys. To submit a listing to be considered for Laurels, please use the online form at texasbar.com/tbj.

Ricardo Hinojosa, chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, was named Border Texan of the Year during BorderFest 2014.

Bill Brian, partner in Courtney, Courtiss, Brian & Bailey in Amarillo, was selected as the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year by the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee.

Jay W. Burnett, retired senior state criminal district court judge in Houston, received the South Texas College of Law Alumni Association's 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Haynes and Boone was awarded the Thomas L. Sager Award for the South Region by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association.

William D. Goren, of William D. Goren in Decatur, Ga., co-founded and is president of the National Association of Attorneys with Disabilities.

Patrick Keel, a mediator-arbitrator in Austin, was admitted to the Texas chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

Locke Lord received the 2013 Pro Bono Leadership Award from Texas Appleseed.

Megan Sheffield, attorney with Casa Marianella in Austin, received the 2013 Law Student Pro Bono Award from the Texas Access to Justice Commission.

William H. Lemons, founder and principal in William H. Lemons in San Antonio, received his diploma in international arbitration and was admitted to full fellowship in the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in London.

Robert C. Cowan Jr., of counsel to Tyler and Peery in San Antonio, was selected to the board of governors of the University of Texas Health Science Center's Cancer Therapy and Research Center in San Antonio.

Marilyn C. Maloney, shareholder in Liskow & Lewis in Houston, was named a 2013 Distinguished Achievement Honoree by the Louisiana State University Law Center.

Al Ellis, of counsel to Sommerman & Quesada in Dallas, was given the Mary Brock Award by Dallas Habitat for Humanity for 23 years of service.

Joe A. Flores, of the Law Offices of Joe Flores of Corpus Christi, was certified in nonprofit management by the University of Texas at Austin.

Deirdre B. Ruckman, bankruptcy and business reorganization partner in Gardere Wynne Sewell in Dallas, was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.

Carlos Romo, senior associate in the environmental department of Baker Botts in Austin, was selected for the 2014 Fellows Program of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity.

William C. Shrader, formerly of counsel to Shrader & Associates in Houston, was elected to the board of directors of the John P. McGovern Foundation in Houston.

Olivia Carbajal de Garcia, associate of Schlanger, Silver, Barg & Paine in Houston, was elected president of the Mexican American Bar Association of Houston.

Brian Shannon, professor at Texas Tech University School of Law in Lubbock, was re-elected as president of the 1A Faculty Athletics Representatives association.

Gardere Wynne Sewell was honored by the Houston Bar Foundation for its outstanding intermediate firm contribution to the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program. **TBJ**

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