

CHAIR



MICHAEL C. SMITH, of Siebman, Burg, Phillips & Smith, L.L.P., in Marshall, specializes in complex commercial and intellectual property litigation. He is a former chair of the Eastern District of Texas' Local Rules Advisory Committee; publishes **EDTexweblog.com**, a blog on practice in the Eastern District; and edits O'Connor's *Federal Rules — Civil Trials*. He is chair of the State Bar Litigation Section and has served on the State Bar Board of Directors.

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RHONDA HUNTER is certified in family law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She is a past president of the Dallas Bar Association, the J.L. Turner Legal Association, and the Dallas Association of Black Women Attorneys. She has served on the

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JOHN G. BROWNING is a partner in Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith, L.L.P., in Dallas, where he handles commercial litigation, employment, health care, and personal injury defense matters in state and federal courts. He is an award-winning legal journalist for his syndicated newspaper column, "Legally Speaking," and the author of *The Lawyer's Guide to Social Networking*. He is an adjunct professor at Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.



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STEVE FISCHER, of Rockport, serves on the State Bar Board of Directors. He has been a professor at the University of Texas–Permian Basin and worked on cases in Midland and Odessa. Before that, he was Willacy County District Attorney. He has also practiced in El Paso, Denton, and Huntsville, and has authored numerous articles on demographics and education. He has a B.A. with honors from the University of California Berkeley, a J.D. from Indiana University, an M.P.A. from the University of North Texas, and an M.A. in Criminology from Sam Houston State.

MEET THE BOARD OF EDITORS



ALBERT GAVALDON is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Business and the University of Texas School of Law, and is presently engaged in the private practice of criminal defense in the DFW metroplex. He also serves as court-appointed attorney on the Dallas County Indigent Appointment Wheel. His public sector law career includes serving as misdemeanor trial chief at the El Paso County Public Defender's Office and as senior felony trial attorney at the Dallas County Public Defender's Office.



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FRANK A. KING is an assistant attorney general with the General Litigation Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office. He is the incoming chair of the Austin Bar Association Civil Litigation Section and serves on the Judicial Affairs Committee, the Legal Build Committee (in association with Habitat for Humanity), the Austin Bar Mentoring Program, and the Animal Welfare Committee. He is a barrister with the Lloyd Lochridge Inn of Court, and volunteers with Meals on Wheels. King formerly served on the Austin Bar Association Board of Directors, where he received the Outstanding Director Award, and also received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Austin Young Lawyers Association.



MILES J. LEBLANC, a graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School, is an assistant general counsel in the Legal Services Department of the Houston Independent School District. His public sector law career includes serving as an assistant district attorney in Taylor County; a federal district law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Jorge A. Solis, Northern District of Texas; an assistant attorney general in the

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J. MITCHELL SMITH is a partner in Germer Gertz, L.L.P., in Beaumont, where he practices commercial litigation, FELA litigation, intellectual property litigation, and civil appellate law. He is an active member of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel and International Association of Defense Counsel, and serves on various boards in the Southeast Texas area. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and editor of the *Jefferson County Bar Journal*.