

TEXAS BAR JOURNAL

Guidelines for Legal Articles

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN SUBMITTING AN ARTICLE FOR PUBLICATION in the *Texas Bar Journal*. The *Journal* is published monthly (except August) and is the only publication mailed to every member of the Texas Bar. Articles on varied subjects pertaining to Texas law and other laws significant to Texas practitioners are welcomed.

Every article submitted to the *Journal* is reviewed by the Bar Journal Board of Editors, which is composed of attorneys, including representatives from the State Bar Board of Directors, all appointed by the State Bar President. The *Journal's* staff acts as liaison between authors and the board. All communication concerning legal article submission, review, and publication should be directed to the *Journal* staff.

Submissions must conform to the following guidelines:

Length: Articles must be 3,000 words or less, excluding endnotes (approximately 12 double-spaced typewritten pages generally translates to 3,000 words).

Endnotes: Endnotes should be concise and at the *end* of the article. Cites are checked before publication.

Form: Only completed articles will be considered (no abstracts, outlines, or ideas). Articles must be typewritten, *double-spaced* on 8^{1/2}" x 11" paper; four (4) copies of each article must be provided. Articles also may be submitted by email in electronic word processing format to tbj@texasbar.com.

Content: Articles should be on a topic of interest to a broad cross-section of the legal profession. *Not* acceptable are articles from authors regarding their pending litigation, or current political or religious issues or personalities. Articles which advocate legislation or a legislative position are published when approved by the State Bar Legislative Committee and/or Board of Directors.

Bar Journal Online: Some articles may be accepted for the online version of the Texas Bar Journal. The Journal will include an overview or introduction to the article, the author's photo and biography, and a link to the full article. Articles for the Bar Journal online may be more narrowly focused or longer than those approved for publication in the print version.

Continued on reverse

Guidelines for Legal Articles (continued)

Previously published articles: Exceptional articles printed in other forums will be considered. The author is responsible for providing the name and date of previous publication.

Compensation: No compensation is offered for any legal article.

Biographical information: Each author of an accepted legal article will be asked to supply a brief biographical sketch and photograph which will appear in the *Journal* in conjunction with the article.

Update: Prior to the publication of an accepted article, the author is notified of the publication date and provided an opportunity to update the article as required. Authors also will be asked to send a final version of the article in electronic format. Authors may also include links to webpages or other online articles that may be included in a sidebar with their article. Articles are scheduled by the managing editor.

Publication time frame: Due to the large number of legal articles submitted to the *Journal*, the Editorial Board generally takes 60 to 90 days to offer its judgment on each article. After an article has been approved, it is usually published in the *Journal* within six to nine months. **If an article is not published within a year after acceptance, the author should submit the article to another publication.**

Affirmative Action Plan: In June 1990, the State Bar Board of Directors approved an affirmative action plan for legal articles. After an article has been reviewed and accepted by the Board of Editors, the author is notified and informed of the existence of the plan. Authors who are members of a minority group may request that their article be published in accordance with the plan. As defined by the State Bar Board of Directors, a minority is a member of a recognized minority group, including but not limited to, African American, Hispanic, American Indian, and Asian American. Under the plan, a qualifying legal article will be published in the next available issue of the *Journal* provided the author has met necessary requirements including provisions of updates and biographical information. The plan is implemented only upon the choice of the author and only after the article has been accepted. Articles under consideration include no indication of the author's ethnicity or possible participation in the affirmative action plan.

Contact: All communications concerning legal articles and submissions of articles should be submitted to:

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