

CONVERSATIONS ENHANCE OUR COMMUNITY



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And I do so daily.**

“Don’t wish it were easier, wish you were better. Don’t wish for fewer problems, wish for more skills. Don’t wish for less challenges, wish for more wisdom.”

WHETHER IT WAS SAID BY J. EARL SHOAFF, JIM ROHN, OR ANYONE ELSE, this message resonates with me. I strive to be better. I work to improve my skills. I pray for greater wisdom. And I do so daily. I am not the only one who does. Countless others do the same.

Deciding what to share with you in this March issue proved challenging. Usually, my conversations with you through this opinion page present themselves more easily. So, I suppose this is the right time to share with you what my experience has been writing this column and hearing your responses. I have truly enjoyed the opportunities that have arisen from this page. My goal has to been to provide my perspective to the *Texas Bar Journal* readership. In return, I am pleased to report that I have received positive, negative, and neutral feedback in the forms of agreement, affirmation, outrage, ridicule, fresh perspectives, offers of assistance, and queries about the bar and its services.

Some of our colleagues have corresponded with me via email, others have posted comments using social media (Twitter and Facebook, most frequently), and still others have picked up the telephone to visit with me. Admittedly, some encounters were more pleasant than others. Some conversations were tremendously productive and allowed for incredible information sharing. I have indirectly shared a few of those exchanges with you already through my writings. I have taken all of those interactions to heart and drawn from each occasion the ways to continue to create a more positive impact on our legal community.

Although this is not the only way I have been working to communicate with our membership, this column has proven to have an expansive reach. The *Texas Bar Journal*'s distribution, along with your responses, has afforded me a chance to connect with fellow members around the state, as well as members who are currently out of state. I love making appearances across Texas, but the ability to visit everyone is not possible with limited time and resources, and, frankly, a need to continue to practice law in order to keep the business lights on.

This March issue is one of the last remaining moments I have with you before my time as president comes to an end. Being president continues to enrich my life as an attorney and as a person. I hope that you affording me the privilege of serving has cultivated good things for you and our State Bar of Texas as well. It comes with the position to put oneself out there monthly through the President's Opinion Page. And, the pleasure remains mine.

LISA TATUM
President, *State Bar of Texas*