



# BY THE NUMBERS 2019-2020

*The State Bar of Texas collects the following information pursuant to section 81.0215 of the Texas Government Code chapter 81 (the State Bar Act), which requires the State Bar to adopt a strategic plan every two years that includes measureable goals and a system of performance measures. The State Bar Act further requires the bar to report to the Texas Supreme Court the outcomes of these strategic plan performance measures.*

*As the basis of its current strategic plan, the State Bar identified six broad strategic categories guiding its goals and performance measures: 1) Service to the Public; 2) Service to Members; 3) Protection of the Public; 4) Access to Justice; 5) Sound Administration and Resources; and 6) Financial Management. The following data reflect results and outcomes of State Bar core services for the 2019-2020 bar year.*

## SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

*Distribution of information regarding legal issues of interest to the public: **25,669** pamphlets or printed materials*

*Distribution of multimedia information regarding legal issues and topics of particular relevance to the public: **44** news releases, media advisories, and op-eds*

*Visits to page on State Bar website relating to disaster relief resources for the public: **4,263** page views*

*Visits to page on State Bar website relating to disaster relief resources for attorneys: **1,956** page views*

*Visits to pages on State Bar-related websites containing legal information on issues of importance to the public: **24,706** pamphlets page hits, **920** media page hits, **20,018,930** total hits to the SBOT website, and **14,504,359** unique page views*

*Traffic to Texas Bar Blog on legal issues of importance to the public: **169,352** page views*

*Traffic to State Bar social media sites on legal issues of importance to the public: **272,274** engagements, **27,101** clicks, and **5,592,371** impressions*

*Courses provided to teachers by the Law-Related Education Department: **151** Law-Focused Education teacher training sessions and **3,191** participants trained by LRE*

*Degree of satisfaction: **99%** would recommend LRE training to other teachers*

*Students taught by LRE-trained teachers: **218,723** students impacted by teacher training sessions*

*Traffic to LRE/LFEI website and related sites and social media: **308,400** visits*

*Traffic to the After the Bar Exam online resource: **6,772** watched segments; **9,844** downloaded segments*

*Traffic to the TYLA Ten Minute Mentor online resource: **68,091** watched segments; **35,677** downloaded segments*

*Traffic to the TYLA Ten Minute Mentor Goes to Law School online resource: **3,982** watched segments; **1,811** downloaded segments*

*Number of TYLA presentations given at law schools: **13***

*Number of TYLA presentations by attorneys and judges in public schools: **10** presentations, including *Vote America!*, *I Was the First. You Can Be a Lawyer Too!*, and *What Do Lawyers Do?**

*Distribution of TYLA resources and information regarding legal issues of interest to the public through community service and education: **4,500** project distributions*

*Number of those helped by Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans:* Since 2010, over **11,000** volunteer attorneys, paralegals, and law students have assisted more than **32,000** veterans through local bar associations and other attorney volunteer organizations

*Number of people who received a referral through the Lawyer Referral and Information Service:* **56,445** calls answered and **64,177** referrals made

## SERVICE TO MEMBERS

*Attendance for TexasBarCLE webcasts:*  
Offerings—**190**, Attendance—**22,811**

*Attendance for TexasBarCLE online CLE:*  
Offerings—**1,295**, Attendance—**119,166**

*Attendance for TexasBarCLE video courses:*  
Offerings—**48**, Attendance—**2,277**

*Attendance for TexasBarCLE live courses:*  
Offerings—**85**, Attendance—**14,327**

*Number of registrants for TexasBarCLE free 1/2-hour online classes:* **26,887**

*Number of low-cost offerings:* More than **55**

*Number of publications offered by TexasBarCLE:*  
**258** course book titles for sale

*Number of CLE scholarships given to members:* **548**

*Sales of books by Texas Bar Books:* **10,899** print, electronic, and DVD sales; **13,855** online subscription sales; **24,754** total sales

*Number of CLE ethics publications offered by Texas Bar Books:* **20** Texas Bar Books publications that include ethics topics; **179** Law Practice Management CLEs with most of them having an ethics component

*Diversity of SBOT membership:* **63%** male and **37%** female; **78%** White, **10%** Hispanic/Latino, **6%** Black/African-American, **4%** Asian/Pacific Islander, less than **0.03%** American Indian/Alaska Native, and **2%** all others (numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding)

*Diversity of SBOT section membership:* **62%** male and **38%** female; **80%** White, **9%** Hispanic/Latino, **5%** Black/African-American, **3%** Asian/Pacific Islander, **0.38%** American Indian/Alaska Native, and **2%** all others (numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding)

*Diversity of SBOT committee membership:* **56%** male and **44%** female; **73%** White, **12%** Hispanic/Latino, **8%** Black/African-American, **4%** Asian/Pacific Islander, **0%** American Indian/Alaska Native, and **3%** all others (numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding)

The State Bar remains committed to offering its members unique access to resources, goods, and services to help them in their professional as well as personal lives. In the 2019-2020 bar year, a total of **60** contracted benefits were offered through the State Bar Member Benefits Program. Goods and services offered include lawyer-specific programs, financial services, travel discounts, car rentals, office supplies, health insurance through the Texas Bar Private Insurance Exchange, and professional liability insurance through TLIE.

*Statistics related to the aging lawyer population:* The median age of Texas attorneys increased from **48** to **49** between 2009 and 2019; during that same period, attorneys 65 and older went from making up **10%** of the attorney population to **18%**

*Visits to SBOT Member Benefits homepage:* **61,991** page views

*Visits to Texas Bar Private Insurance Exchange website:*  
**124,778** page views

*Number of members enrolled in one or more insurance products through the Texas Bar Private Insurance Exchange:*  
**19,873**

*Number of members enrolled in major medical insurance:* **12,493**

*Number of attorneys, law firms, and legal departments attending and participating in the Texas Minority Attorney Program:* **96**

*Number of attorneys, law firms, and legal departments attending and participating in the Texas Minority Counsel Program:*  
**588** attendees, **23** interviewing corporations, and **94** sponsoring firms/organizations

*Attendee satisfaction with the Texas Minority Counsel Program:* Through a conference evaluation survey, the overall course was given a positive rating of **93%**; **99%** of respondents stated they are likely to recommend the conference to others

*Attendee satisfaction with the Texas Minority Attorney Program:* Evaluation form results show an overall event rating of **3.8** out of **4**

The Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program handled a total of **877** consultations—**63%** were related to mental health, **34%** were related to substance use, and **3%** were related to cognitive issues. TLAP's website—tlaphelps.org—garnered **9,907** users and **19,893** page views. TLAP made **140** educational outreach presentations, including at law schools.

*Number of distributed publications:* **6** articles written by TLAP have been distributed

*Number of views of TLAP videos via the website:* **1,854** page views of TLAP video page that houses *Courage, Hope, Help—TLAP Is There*, the four-minute excerpt of *Courage, Hope, Help—TLAP Is There*, the short TLAP promo, *Practicing From the Shadows*, and *Practicing Law and Wellness*

*Number of attorneys and volunteers/mentors participating in the Texas Opportunity & Justice Incubator, or TOJI:* **86** volunteers/mentors, including **72** lawyers

*Number of TOJI-created resources shared with the State Bar membership at large:* TOJI made **10** public presentations with supplemental materials

*Number of hours of training to TOJI participants:* **84**

*Number of users and page views to TOJI website:* **2,103** users and **5,700** page views

*Number of counties served by participants:* With the 2020 expansion to a statewide virtual program, TOJI has served clients in **118** of Texas' **254** counties

*Number of page views to the Law Practice Management Program webpage:* **44,257**

*Number of lawyers who attended live, video, webcast, or online CLE courses on law practice management topics:* **19,438**

*Number of phone calls and emails the Law Practice Management Program responded to:* **66** phone calls and **109** emails

*Number who voted in the 2020 SBOT elections:* **19,748** (**18.76%** of the **105,258** ballots sent)

*Visits to page on State Bar's website related to lawyer succession planning:* **4,557** page views

*Visits to pages on State Bar of Texas Law Practice Management Program's website related to lawyer succession planning:* **409** page views related to succession planning and **9,898** page views related to closing a practice

*Number of custodian attorney designations received by the State Bar:* **316**

## PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC

*Contacts the Client-Attorney Assistance Program, or CAAP, received:* **22,664** via mail, email, and phone

*Dispute resolutions conducted by CAAP:* **1,016**, with productive communication successfully reestablished in **87%** of the cases

*Number of referrals by the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel to the CAAP program:* **251**

*Number of submissions reviewed by the Advertising Review Committee:* more than **3,204**

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE SYSTEM (CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL)  
*Information regarding disciplinary trends:* The number of barratry-related grievances filed with CDC increased by more than **36%**

*Number of barratry-related complaints filed:* **31** (number includes grievances that were pending classification at the end of the bar year)

*Number of grievances filed:* **7,505**

*Number of grievances classified as complaints:* **2,202**

*Number of grievances dismissed as inquiries:* **5,123**

*Number of investigatory hearings held by CDC:* **338**

### BAR YEAR 2019-2020

Total Complaints Resolved	<b>497</b>
Total Sanctions	<b>403</b>
Disbarments	<b>21</b>
Resignations	<b>9</b>
Suspensions	<b>142</b>
Public Reprimands	<b>39</b>
Private Reprimands	<b>106</b>
Grievance Referral Program	<b>86</b>

*Eligible applications reviewed by the Client Security Fund:* **230**

*Eligible applications approved by the Client Security Fund:* **149**

Total amount of grants approved by the Client Security Fund: **\$871,782.89**

Efforts to publicize the Client Security Fund to eligible recipients and to discourage theft of clients' funds by their attorneys: CDC continues to provide information on the Client Security Fund to complainants who have filed attorney grievances and to publicize the fund via the media

The ethics attorneys on the Ethics Helpline returned about **5,500** calls.

Number of continuing legal education ethics offerings: TexasBarCLE programs provided **7,242** total MCLE hours and of those hours, **1,668** hours (**23%**) were for ethics credit

Number of ethics publications by Texas Bar Books: **1** devoted solely to ethics and **20** that contain ethics topics

## ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Legal aid and pro bono attorneys using free legal research: **475** attorneys; **90** paralegals

Legal aid referrals made by the State Bar of Texas Legal Access Division staff to members of the public and to inmates: **1,122**

Legal aid and pro bono attorneys using the Texas Legal Services Network Malpractice Insurance Program offered through the State Bar of Texas Legal Access Division: **17,806** attorneys; **65** different organizations

Legal aid and pro bono attorneys who used the joint TexasBarCLE and Legal Access Division tuition waiver program: **125**

Legal aid and pro bono attorneys who participated in the Language Access Fund: **11,135** interpreted phone calls; **48** translated documents; **76** on-site interpreter reimbursements; served clients speaking **71** languages

For 2019-2020, the Texas Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program approved **201** legal aid lawyers for up to **\$4,800** a year in repayment support.

Attendees at Legal Access Division annual seminars: **500** attended the Poverty Law Conference; **120** attended the Pro Bono Coordinators Retreat pre-conference only

Number of Justice For All Calendars distributed: **955** in English; **0** in Spanish; **0** in Vietnamese

Number of those helped by Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans: Since 2010, over **11,000** attorneys, paralegals, and law students have assisted more than **32,000** veterans through local bar associations and other attorney volunteer organizations

Number of sections that have pro bono initiatives: **24** sections have pro bono initiatives, which include grants, CLE scholarships for legal aid providers or attorneys who agree to undertake a pro bono case, internships with legal aid providers, or other programs that support access to justice initiatives

Number of lawyers and law students participating in pro bono initiatives (including grants, CLE scholarships, and internships): **159** (these programs were impacted by COVID-19 and transferring Texas Legal Answers to a legal aid organization)

Total voluntary ATJ contributions through membership fee statements: **\$1,302,313** from **9,582** attorneys

Number of access to justice presentations made to attorneys and groups: **10**

Number of pro bono legal clinic resources, such as toolkits, provided by the Legal Access Division and the Texas Access to Justice Commission: **114** Limited Scope Representation Toolkits; **482** Texas Transfer Toolkits

Total amounts funded to legal assistance to the poor: Federal funding—**\$37,119,823** to the Legal Services Corporation. State funding—**\$18,780,784** in general revenue over the biennium in basic civil legal services funds; **\$6 million** in general revenue over the biennium to provide legal services to veterans and their immediate families; **\$10 million** in general revenue for the Legal Aid for Survivors of Sexual Assault (LASSA) Program

Traffic to and usage of [probonotexas.org](http://probonotexas.org): **13,920** users; **27,358** page views

Utilization of Texas Legal Answers ([texas.freelegalanswers.org](http://texas.freelegalanswers.org)): This program was transferred to a legal aid provider

Participation in New Opportunities Volunteer Attorney (NOVA) Pro Bono Program: **60** participants

Types of services and number of hours of legal services provided to low-income and modest means persons by participants in the Texas Opportunity & Justice Incubator: TOJI lawyers represented **2,682** clients in **35** areas of law, including **251** pro bono clients and **1,041** modest-income clients, which equates to **7,424** modest-income hours and **1,805** pro bono hours (saving Texans **\$1,103,455** in legal fees)



Visits to page on State Bar website relating to disaster relief resources for the public: **4,263** page views

Utilization of online disaster preparation and recovery resources on [texasbarcle.com](http://texasbarcle.com): **8,889**

## SOUND ADMINISTRATION AND RESOURCES

*Trainings provided to staff:* Mandatory EEO/harassment training for all new hires; all employees received mandatory EEO/harassment training; unconscious bias/harassment training for managers and staff; employees offered extensive online training through the Employees Assistance Program service; customer service training offered to employees responsible for providing direct phone customer service; tuition assistance offered to staff for professional development in current or future positions at the State Bar; new managers received **3** days of management development training; **4** full staff meetings were held

*Statistics regarding staff retention and attrition:* **9.9%** turnover rate

*Number of customer service complaints received via the “Contact Us” page on the SBOT website:* **26** and all resolved successfully

*Implementation of disaster preparedness plan to assure continuity of State Bar administration and services in the event of any disaster affecting the State Bar:* The State Bar makes every effort to stress test the approved Disaster Recovery and Communications plan

*Effectiveness of disaster preparedness plan:* The State Bar can be at normal operations in under **3** days at an off-site location

*Number of periodic tests conducted of disaster preparedness plan and results of such test:* Biannual tests prove all major systems can be operational in under **3** days

*Ethnic and gender diversity of SBOT staff:* **219 (75%)** female and **72 (25%)** male; **173 (59.2%)** White, **81 (27.7%)** Hispanic/Latino, **29 (9.9%)** Black/African-American, **4 (1.4%)** Asian/Pacific Islander, **1 (.3%)** American Indian/Alaska Native, and **3 (1%)** Other

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

*Financial audit:* The result of the most recent financial audit (FY2019) resulted in an unmodified opinion on the State Bar’s Annual Financial Report for the year-ended May 31, 2019—this opinion level is considered the best audit result available; the FY2020 financial audit began June 2020

This audit’s purpose is to provide assurance that the annual financial report presents the financial position of the State Bar fairly; in other words, the statements are free of material misstatements. To provide an opinion on the financial statements, the auditors test controls over financial operations and target financial areas that generate a significant amount of revenue or expense and review asset liability controls and reporting. The auditors concluded that the financial statements comply with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

*Annual internal control audit:* The annual internal control audit examined TexasBarCLE, Accounting and Finance, and Public Funds Investment Compliance at the State Bar and issued **3** internal audit reports, which concluded that controls over operations were generally effective to provide reasonable assurance that risks are being managed and objectives should be met—the detailed reports, recommendations, and management responses can be viewed at anytime at [texasbar.com/finances](http://texasbar.com/finances)

*Amount SBOT has set aside in general fund reserves:* **\$11,140,350**, which represents **3** months of operating expenditures

*Success of cost-saving measures implemented by the State Bar:* The State Bar’s submitted budgets for FY2021 contained **\$274,495** in budget reductions primarily from the reduction of three positions no longer needed at the State Bar due to efficiencies and reallocating resources

### Expenditure Protest Policy

The purpose of the State Bar of Texas is to engage in those activities enumerated at § 81.012 of the State Bar Act. The expenditure of funds by the State Bar of Texas is limited both as set forth at § 81.034 of the State Bar Act and in *Keller v. State Bar of California*, 496 U.S. 1 (1990). If any member feels that any actual or proposed expenditure is not within such purposes of, or limitations on, the State Bar, then such member may object thereto and seek a refund of a pro rata portion of his or her dues expended, plus interest, by filing a written objection with the executive director. The objection must be made in writing, addressed to the executive director of the State Bar, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711, and postmarked no later than 90 days after the conclusion of the challenged activity.

Upon receipt of a member’s objection, the executive director shall promptly review such objection together with the allocation of dues monies spent on the challenged activity and, in consultation with the president, shall have the discretion to resolve the objection, including refunding a pro rata portion of the member’s dues, plus interest. Refund of a pro rata share of the member’s dues shall be for the convenience of the State Bar and shall not be construed as an admission that the challenged activity was or would not have been within the purposes of, or limitations on, the State Bar.