LAURELS

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Michael P. Lyons, a founding partner in Deans & Lyons, L.L.P. in Dallas, was elected to membership as a Fellow of the Dallas Bar Foundation.

Lisa Huerta, of the Huerta Law Firm, L.L.P., was elected president of the Corpus Christi Young Lawyer's Association.

Steve Kean, deputy city attorney for the City of Tyler, received the 2010 Galen Sparks award from the Texas City Attorney's Association. The award is given to an assistant city attorney who has demonstrated sustained dedication and contributions to the profession.

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid awarded a 2010 Private Attorney Involvement Award to the following Texas attorneys for their volunteer efforts at TRLA's 10th annual Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Cross-Training: **Ernest Alderete**, Taylor; **Patrick Dee Bramblett**, El Paso; **Mayra Castro**, San Antonio; **Guillermo G. del Barrio, Jr.**, Laredo; **Shelli Lyons Egger**, Austin; **Nereida Lopez**, Mission; **Kirk Meade**, Alpine; **Pedro Nieto**, Uvalde; **David Ortiz**, Del Rio; **Enrique Ramirez**, El Paso; and **Seferino Trevino, Jr.**, Harlingen.

Samuel E. Bassett, a partner in Minton, Burton, Foster & Collins in Austin, was awarded the 2010 Ambassador Award from the Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association in recognition of outstanding service to the law and criminal defense bar. Bassett also was elected secretary of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers' Association.

Henry Gilchrist, counsel to Hunton & Williams, L.L.P. in Dallas, received the Hunton & Williams LLP Lifetime Achievement Award for his five decades of leadership and dedication to pro bono work, community service, and civic affairs.

John S. Gray, a partner in Gardere, Wynne, Sewell, L.L.P., was appointed by the Houston Bar Association as editor in chief of the *Houston Lawyer* for the 2010–11 bar year.

Texas-licensed **David B. Schneider**, of the Law Offices of David B. Schneider, P.C. in Oklahoma City, Okla., received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Transportation Lawyers Association for his service and dedication to the organization and the legal profession.

Donald D. Feare, a sole practitioner in Arlington, and **Khayan Williams**, a member of the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, Civil Division in Fort Worth, were named recipients of the 2010 Texas Wesleyan School of Law Distinguished Alumni Award.

Wayne Risoli, managing partner in Chamberlain Hrdlicka in Houston, was selected as a finalist for the 2010 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Program for the Houston/Gulf Coast Area. Risoli was the only law firm managing partner in the running for the award this year.

Stephen Moll, a partner in Gardere, Wynne, Sewell, L.L.P. in Houston, was named editor in chief of the *LexisNexis Texas Annotated Insurance Code*. Moll, who has been a contributing editor for three years, will be paid a stipend, which he will donate to the Ben Love Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Tom Rhodes, managing partner in Tom Rhodes Law Firm, P.C. in San Antonio, was selected for membership and inclusion in the Inner Circle of Advocates.

Jay Old, a partner in Germer Gertz, L.L.P. in Beamount, was named chair of the State Bar Construction Law Section.

David Toney, a partner in Adams and Reese, L.L.P., was elected to serve as 2011 president of the Houston Bar Association Construction Law Section.

Al Riddle, vice president — Legal, Products and Technology for Baker Hughes Incorporated, was elected president of the Houston Intellectual Property Law Association.

Eliot P. Tucker, a shareholder in Tucker, Vaughan, Gardner & Barnes, P.C., was elected a member in the Houston Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Texas Solicitor General **James C. Ho** and Assistant Solicitors General **Joseph D. Hughes** and **Beth Klusmann**, all of Austin, received the Best Brief Award from the National Association of Attorneys General for excellence in brief writing in the U.S. Supreme Court for the State's successful petition for certiorari in *Thaler v. Haynes*, No. 09-273.

Yvette Ostolaza, a partner in Weil, Gotshal & Manges, L.L.P. in Dallas, was appointed to a one-year term as the State Bar liaison to the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees.

Lonnie Schooler, a partner in Jackson Walker, L.L.P., was elected to serve on the council of the Houston Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Section and was appointed by HBA President Mark Kelly to serve as co-chair of the HBA's Historical Committee. Schooler will serve in both positions in the 2010–11 term.

Peter Hosey, a partner in Jackson Walker, L.L.P. in San Antonio, was elected to a three-year term on the council of the State Bar Oil, Gas, and Energy Resources Law Section.

Rogge Dunn, a partner in Clouse, Dunn, Khoshbin, L.L.P. in Dallas, received a Purveyor of the Year award from Outback Steakhouse.

Witcher McCullough, an attorney-mediator and arbitrator with McCullough ADR in Austin, was elected chair of the State Bar District 9 Grievance Committee. He also continues to serve as an appointed ex officio member of the Texas Supreme Court's Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee.

For a second time, King & Spalding, L.L.P. has received a Law Firm Diversity Recognition Award from Chevron Corporation. The firm was one of three firms honored for its commitment to promoting diversity in the legal field. As part of the award, the Chevron Law Department is donating $5,000 to the Houston Urban Debate League and the Minority Corporate Counsel Association's Lloyd M. Johnson, Jr., Scholarship Program in honor of the firm. King & Spalding matched the donation with a $5,000 contribution of its own.

Lynette Fons, of Houston, was elected chair of the board of Lone Star Legal Aid.

Don Pierson, of Donald R. Pierson II Attorney at Law, was elected treasurer of the Fort Worth Chapter, Texas Society of CPAs.

Headnotes, the Dallas Bar Association's official newsletter, received an APEX Award for Publication Excellence for its October 2009 issue, which focused on tort and insurance practice law.

William M. "Mick" McKamie, a partner in McKamie Krueger, L.L.P. in San Antonio, will serve as the 2010–11 chair of the State Bar Government Lawyers Section. He is the first person to hold the position two times.

James Cooper, a partner in Gardere, Wynne, Sewell, L.L.P., and **Chris Lopez**, an associate of Weil, Gotshal & Manges, L.L.P., received President's Awards from 2009–10 Houston Bar Association President Barrett H. Reasoner. Cooper was awarded for his service as co-chair of the HBA's Professionalism Committee, while Lopez was honored for his service as co-chair of the HBA's Minority Opportunities in the Legal Profession Committee.

Melinda Jayson, of Melinda G. Jayson, P.C. in Dallas, was appointed by the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR) in New York to the Drafting Committee for Economical Litigation Agreements for Commercial Contracts as a Means of Reducing Civil Litigation Costs ("The Model Civil Litigation Prenup"). Jayson also authored the chapter on ADR practice for *24: Profiles of 24 Lawyers in 24 Hours*, to be published by West Services in early 2011.

Bill Lemons, an arbitrator/mediator and principal of William H. Lemons, P.C. in San Antonio, was elected a member of the College of Commercial Arbitrators.

Haynes and Boone, L.L.P. has become the first Texas law firm to be awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design® (LEED) Gold certification for commercial interior design by the U.S. Green Building Council. The Dallas office is one of only a handful of law firms nationally to achieve the Gold interior designation.

Texas-licensed **John Yanchunis**, a senior partner in James, Hoyer, Newcomer, Smiljanich & Yanchunis, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., received the 2010 Florida Bar Foundation's President's Award for Excellence for his role in securing a cy pres award of nearly $300,000 for the Foundation.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott recently named the following child support attorneys as Assistant Attorney Generals of the Year: **Robert Blankenship** of Fort Worth, **Brian Burton** of Dallas, **Anna Casillas** of Houston, **Jimmy Davis** of Lubbock, **Daryl Dumph** of Austin, **Michele Hanlon** of San Antonio, **Debbie Newlin** of Austin, **Claudia Ray** of Longview, **Robert Sanchez** of El Paso, and **Alma Villarreal** of Edinburg. ✪