



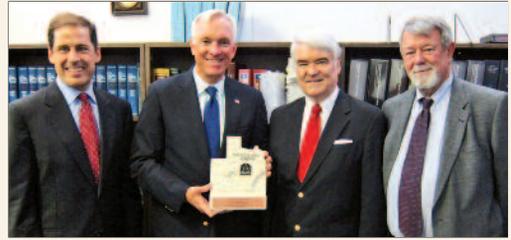
## WILLING TO HELP TEXAS VETS



On Sept. 11 and 12, the Austin and Houston bar associations participated in wills clinics for U.S. Marines. On Sept. 11, 22 members of the Austin Bar Association Estate and Probate Planning Section met with U.S. Marines deploying to Afghanistan this month. The attorneys helped the Marines with wills, powers of attorney, designations of guardianship, and designations of persons authorized to direct the disposition of their remains. On Sept. 12, almost 50 Houston attorneys from 15 law firms and corporate legal departments volunteered to prepare wills and estate planning documents for nearly 90 Marines preparing for deployment. Pictured is Houston Bar Association President **Mark Kelly**, as he executes a will for a Marine Reservist at Ellington Field.

### ATTORNEY INCOME REPORTS AVAILABLE

The State Bar Research and Analysis Department has released its most recent reports on attorney compensation and hourly rates. According to the survey, the median hourly rate for private practitioners in Texas is \$234. The “2009 Hourly Rate Fact Sheet” breaks down hourly rates by region, practice area, and years of experience. The median annual compensation for private practitioners in Texas is \$120,324; the median income for corporate/in-house counsel is \$156,839; the median income for government attorneys is \$83,631; and the median income for attorneys in the nonprofit sector is \$83,000. The attorney compensation report is also broken down by region, practice area, and years of experience. To see how your city and practice area stack up, visit [texasbar.com](http://texasbar.com). Click on “News and Publications,” then “Research and Analysis.”



### LEGISLATIVE HERO AWARD

The Texas Access to Justice Commission and Texas Access to Justice Foundation honored Sen. Steve Ogden, of Bryan, with a Texas Access to Justice Legislative Hero Award for his contributions to access to justice efforts in Texas. Through his leadership efforts, Ogden helped improve access to justice for poor and low-income Texans, including a general appropriation of more than \$20 million for civil legal services last session. Pictured are, from left, **Andrew L. Strong**, general counsel to the Texas A&M University System in College Station; Ogden; Texas Supreme Court Justice **Nathan L. Hecht**; and **Paul E. Furrh, Jr.**, CEO of Lone Star Legal Aid in Houston.

### 2011-12 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Interested in helping lead the Texas legal profession into the future? Consider serving on a State Bar of Texas committee. The State Bar is accepting requests through Dec. 3 for committee positions for the upcoming bar year. Committee appointment terms commence after the 2011 State Bar Annual Meeting, at which State Bar President-elect Bob Black becomes president of the State Bar. Participation is important and failure to contribute to the work of the committee may result in removal from the committee. For more information about State Bar committees, visit [www.texasbar.com/committees](http://www.texasbar.com/committees).

### VOLUNTEER & STAFF GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

The *State Bar 2010-11 Volunteer and Staff Guide* is available. The guide contains contact information for State Bar and Texas Young Lawyers Association board members, section and committee leaders, staff, and other bar-related organizations. An online version is available at [texasbar.com](http://texasbar.com), in the “News and Publications” section. To receive a hard copy, email [tbj@texasbar.com](mailto:tbj@texasbar.com).

