



State Bar Board Meets in Lubbock

On April 29, the State Bar Board of Directors met in Lubbock for its quarterly meeting. Among the highlights of the meeting:

- President's Report** — State Bar President Terry Tottenham updated the Board on some of the major programs and initiatives of his year in office. On April 7, more than 80 lawyers from the Office of Attorney General took part in a free full-day trial skills program. *Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans* (TLTV) the State Bar's pro bono initiative to provide legal resources to veterans, continues to expand as more local bar associations commit to the program. Among the bars working on establishing clinics this year are Corpus Christi, The Woodlands, and Collin County. Since TLTV was launched in 2010, more than 30 local bar associations have organized clinics. Tottenham said he was pleased to report that the Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program has seen a significant increase in calls from lawyers and judges referencing the State Bar's wellness initiative. He attributed the increased awareness to the new DVD introduced this year, local bar visits, and presentations at more than 50 advanced CLE courses. To assist unemployed and underemployed lawyers, TexasBarCLE has been offering *Practice Tips in Good Times and in Bad*, a free monthly webcast on law practice management issues and basic skills.
- New Chair Elected** — The Board elected Beverly Godbey of Dallas to serve as chair of the Board of Directors in 2011–2012. (See profile, p. 502.)
- Committee Review Task Force** — The Board approved the recommendations of the Committee Review Task Force. The State Bar Act requires the Board to review standing and special committees on a biennial basis to see if there is continued need or unnecessary overlap. While the task force recommended the continuation of all standing and special committees, it suggested changing the name of one committee, changing the purpose clause of another committee, and monitoring three committees closely over the next two years.
- Strategic Plan** — The Board approved the State Bar's long-range strategic plan. As required by the State Bar Act, the Board develops performance measures based on the purposes and goals expressed in the strategic plan. The strategic plan and other governing documents are available on the State Bar website.



The Board of Directors voted unanimously to name the award presented to the outstanding member of each year's LeadershipSBOT class after Pedro "Pete" Serrano, a member of the inaugural leadership class, who died in 2009. Pictured, from left, are Mark White, a shareholder in Sprouse Shrader Smith in Amarillo, where Serrano was an associate; former State Bar President Harper Estes of Midland, who nominated Serrano for the leadership academy; Serrano's fiancée, Alysia Cordova of Mullin, Hoard & Brown in Amarillo; and Harley Caudle, an Amarillo lawyer and LeadershipSBOT graduate who proposed naming the award in honor of Serrano.

- Minority Director Appointed** — The Board approved the appointment of Judge Jo Ann Reyes to serve as a minority member of the State Bar Board of Directors. Reyes, a municipal court judge in Fort Worth, holds a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center and an MBA from Texas Woman's University. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Reyes practiced criminal, civil, family, and immigration law.
- Trailblazer Honored** — The Board passed a memorial resolution honoring Charlye O. Farris, the first African-American woman to practice law in Texas. The resolution commended the Wichita County Bar Association for its efforts to ensure that Farris is recognized for her dedication to the rule of law and her contributions to the judicial system and to her community.
- TYLA Update** — Texas Young Lawyers Association President Jennifer Evans Morris of Dallas updated the Board on TYLA's initiatives during her year in office, including *Office in a Flash*, *How to Get a Job After Law School: The Unclassified Story*, *Partnering for Pro Bono*, and *The Little Voice: Recognizing Child Abuse and Your Duty to Report It*.