Austin College Criminal Law Symposium

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals heard oral arguments, including those in one death penalty case, on Nov. 16 at Austin College in Sherman. Hundreds of students, faculty, and members of the community attended the arguments as part of the Austin College Criminal Law Symposium, coordinated through the efforts of State Bar President and Austin College alumnus and trustee **Buck Files**; the Pre-law Society of Austin College and faculty advisor Frank Rohmer; the "L" Law Association; and, the Grayson County Bar Association. After the arguments, members of the court answered questions from the audience about the makeup of the court, the day-to-day operation of the court, and the selection of judges. Pictured from left: State Bar Chair of the Board **Frank Stevenson**, President of Austin College and Texas Bar Foundation Trustee Dr. Marjorie Hass, Presiding Judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals **Sharon Keller**, and Buck Files.

Lawyers, Doctors Partner in Houston

Texas Children's Hospital and the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program have formed a medical-legal partnership to provide the hospital's low-income patients and their families legal assistance. The medical-legal partnership is a unique health-care delivery model uniting physicians and lawyers to tackle health issues with legal, rather than medical, solutions. A HVLP staff attorney will provide legal advice and representation with the help of outside pro bono lawyers. The program is funded in part through a donation from Wal-Mart.

(From left to right): **Brent Benoit**, president of the Houston Bar Association; Sarah Maytum, director of patient/family services, Texas Children's Hospital; **Lance Lightfoot**, general counsel, TCH; Randy Wright, executive vice president, chief operating officer, TCH; **Jeff Gearhart**, executive vice president and general counsel, Walmart; **Lori Chumbler**, associate general counsel and pro bono coordinator, Wal-Mart; Lori Armstrong, chief nursing officer, TCH; **Frankie Louie**, director of legal, TCH; Tabitha Rice, vice president, TCH; and Alissa Gomez, executive director, Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program.

Boyd Newest Supreme Court Justice

Jeffrey S. Boyd was sworn-in Dec. 3 as the newest justice of the Texas Supreme Court. Gov. Rick Perry appointed Boyd to fill the position vacated by Justice **Dale Wainwright**, who is returning to private practice. Boyd is Perry's former chief of staff and also has served as general counsel in the Governor's Office.

Steen Named Secretary of State

San Antonio attorney **John T. Steen Jr.** has been named Texas' 108th Secretary of State. Gov. Rick Perry appointed Steen in November to replace Esperanza "Hope" Andrade. Steen is a life fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, a fellow of the San Antonio Bar Foundation, an executive committee member of the University of Texas System Chancellor's Council, and a member of the Distinguished Leaders Council.

King Retires From State Bar

Kelley Jones King, deputy executive director of the State Bar of Texas, will retire Jan. 31, 2013, after 29 years of service. King joined the State Bar in 1984 as the assistant editor of the *Texas Bar Journal*. During her tenure, she also has served as managing editor of the *Texas Bar Journal*, director of the communications division, and deputy director of communications and presidential initiatives.