

A PURPOSE-DRIVEN CAREER



TYLA and the State Bar have provided me with avenues and projects aimed at helping others—opportunities that have allowed me to get a better perspective on my profession.

THERE WAS ONCE A MAN WHO PASSED A CONSTRUCTION SITE WHERE THREE MEN WERE LAYING BRICKS. The man asked the first bricklayer, “What are you doing?” The first man said, “Can’t you see? I am laying bricks!” When the second bricklayer was asked the same question, he said, “I’m earning a living.” The third bricklayer said proudly, “I’m building a cathedral!” These three men were doing the same work on the outside, but their motivation and their perspective of their tasks made all the difference in how they perceived their jobs. The same can be said of our legal careers. Why did you become a lawyer? To give legal advice? To earn a living? Or was it because you wanted to make a difference?

Like the bricklayers, we easily get bogged down in the everyday tasks of our job and forget why we are doing what we do. It is when this happens that we get burned out, depressed, or abuse alcohol or drugs.

Service can redirect that downward spiral. TYLA and the State Bar have provided me with avenues and projects aimed at helping others—opportunities that have allowed me to get a better perspective on my profession and have imparted on me a sense of satisfaction and purpose. If you are not already involved with the State Bar or any of its projects, I encourage you to do so. TYLA offers myriad ways to help others, and it has created several new programs this year, which include:

Free CLE Courses—TYLA plans to put on free statewide CLEs on “How to Do a Pro Bono Divorce” in partnership with the Family Law Section and legal aid organizations across Texas. You can help by speaking at one of the CLE events, attending one of the CLEs and taking a pro bono case, or by helping TYLA expand its reach by spearheading this CLE in your area.

Generation Generosity—Started by the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers in 2012, Generation Generosity aims to reset the conversation about lawyers by encouraging simple acts of generosity via a one-day community service project each month. TYLA plans to take this project statewide this year, and you can help by coordinating a service event in your area.

If you would like to get involved with these TYLA projects or any others, please contact me at kristyblanchardlaw@gmail.com. I hope you get inspired to create a purpose in your legal career. Lawyers who leave a legacy do meaningful acts that impact someone else’s life. I invite you to join TYLA in our efforts to serve others.

KRISTY BLANCHARD

President, *Texas Young Lawyers Association*