

# 2020-2021 BAR YEAR AWARDS

## State Bar of Texas

PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
Robert Pelton, *Houston*

OUTSTANDING  
THIRD-YEAR DIRECTOR  
Emily Miller, *Brownwood*  
Stephen J. Naylor, *Fort Worth*

PUBLIC MEMBER AWARD  
Alan E. Sims, *Cedar Hill*

MICHAEL J. CROWLEY AWARD  
Robert D. Crain, *Dallas*

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION  
Chielsey Barber, *Austin*  
Lona Chastain, *Austin*  
Timothy D. Belton, *Bellaire*  
Betty Blackwell, *Austin*  
Amy Bresnen, *Austin*  
Paul Burks, *Austin*  
Pastor Richie Butler, *Dallas*  
Claude Ducloux, *Austin*  
Jennifer Dunham, *Austin*  
Charlene Edwards, *Dallas*  
Richard Elliott, *Dallas*  
Hon. Dennise Garcia, *Dallas*  
Rick Hagen, *Denton*  
August W. Harris III, *Austin*  
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Brad Johnson, *Austin*  
Vincent R. Johnson, *San Antonio*  
W. Carl Jordan, *Houston*  
M. Lewis Kinard, *Dallas*  
Karen J. Nicholson, *Austin*  
Ellen Pitluk, *San Antonio*  
Jennifer Reames, *Austin*  
James Wester, *Amarillo*

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT  
Roy Dayton Brantley, *College Station*  
James D. Granberry, *Corpus Christi*  
Joe K. Longley, *Austin*  
W. Troy McKinney, *Houston*  
Michael Mowla, *Dallas*  
Florentino A. Ramirez, *Dallas*  
J. Gary Trichter, *Houston*  
Connie Brown Williams, *Houston*

## Texas Center for Legal Ethics

CHIEF JUSTICE JACK POPE  
PROFESSIONALISM AWARD  
Retired Chief Justice Ann Crawford  
McClure, *El Paso*

## Legal Services to the Poor in Criminal Matters Committee Indigent Defense Awards

WARREN BURNETT AWARD  
Mark Stevens, *San Antonio*

MICHAEL K. MOORE AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH OR WRITING IN  
THE AREA OF INDIGENT CRIMINAL DEFENSE  
Claire Buetow, *Austin*

## Pro Bono Excellence

FRANK J. SCURLOCK AWARD  
Lynn Rodriguez, *Fort Worth*

J. CHRYS DOUGHERTY  
LEGAL SERVICES AWARD  
Dana Karni, *Houston*

JUDGE MERRILL HARTMAN  
PRO BONO JUDGE AWARD  
Hon. Gina Benavides, *Corpus Christi*

W. FRANK NEWTON AWARD  
SMU Dedman School of Law's  
COVID-19 Legal Helpline, *Dallas*

PRO BONO AWARD  
Lone Star Legal Aid, *Houston*

PRO BONO COORDINATOR AWARD  
Lena Engelage, *Conroe*

PRO BONO SUPPORT STAFF AWARD  
Shanna Mello, *Weatherford*

## Texas Access to Justice Commission

ATJ CORPORATE COUNSEL  
PRO BONO AWARD  
Alyssa Schindler, *Houston*  
Doug B. Neagli, *Irving*

JAMES B. SALES  
BOOTS ON THE GROUND AWARD  
Beth Mitchell, *Austin*  
Allison Eichenfeld Neal, *Austin*

HARRY M. REASONER  
JUSTICE FOR ALL AWARD  
R. Paul Yetter, *Houston*

EMILY C. JONES  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Fred J. Fuchs, *Austin*

Texas Bar Foundation  
SAMUEL PESSARRA  
OUTSTANDING JURIST AWARD  
Hon. Xavier Rodriguez, *San Antonio*

DAN RUGELEY PRICE  
MEMORIAL AWARD  
Billie J. Ellis Jr., *Dallas*

GREGORY S. COLEMAN OUTSTANDING  
APPELLATE LAWYER AWARD  
Marcy Hogan Greer, *Austin*

OUTSTANDING LAW REVIEW  
ARTICLE AWARD  
Kem Thompson Frost, *Houston*

TERRY LEE GRANTHAM MEMORIAL AWARD  
Terry Bentley Hill, *Dallas*

LOLA WRIGHT FOUNDATION AWARD  
Robert A. Black, *Houston*

RONALD D. SECREST  
OUTSTANDING TRIAL LAWYER AWARD  
Frank Branson, *Dallas*

OUTSTANDING 50 YEAR LAWYER AWARD  
Allan K. DuBois, *San Antonio*  
Kelly Frels, *Houston*  
Harriet Miers, *Dallas*  
Terry O. Tottenham, *Austin*

## TexasBarCLE

GENE CAVIN AWARD  
Scott Rothenberg, *Bellaire*

PAT NESTER

INNOVATION IN PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT AWARDHon. Xavier Rodriguez, *San Antonio*

## STANDING OVATION AWARD

Kirby B. Drake, *Dallas*Rhonda Hunter, *Dallas*Marc Markel, *Houston*Chris Ritter, *Austin*Mike Tolleson, *Austin*Mark C. Walker, *El Paso*Zach Wolfe, *The Woodlands***Texas Young Lawyers Association**

## OUTSTANDING DIRECTOR AWARD

Hisham A. Masri, *Dallas*

## OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYER OF TEXAS

Armin Salek, *Austin*

## LIBERTY BELL AWARD

Ellen Alexander, *Houston*

## OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD

Gerald R. Powell, *Waco*

## OUTSTANDING FIRST YEAR

## DIRECTOR AWARD

Chelsea Mikulencak, *San Antonio*

## KEITH L. KRUEGER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Julia Rubio, *Laredo*

## TYLA PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Cali M. Franks, *Dallas*

## EXCELLENCE IN TRIAL

## ADVOCACY AWARD

Tim Williams, *Amarillo*

## TRIAL AND APPELLATE ADVOCATE AWARD

Ashley Hymel, *Houston*Sara Anne Giddings, *Shiner*Kirk Cooper, *El Paso*

## TYLA PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF MERIT

Atina Stavropoulos, *Shalimar, Florida*A.J. Bellido de Luna, *San Antonio*Justin Bernstein, *Los Angeles, California*Elizabeth Duggan, *San Antonio*Johnathan Stone, *Austin*Jefferson Fisher, *Beaumont*Josué J. Galván, *San Antonio*Tiffany Sheppard, *San Angelo*David R. "Dave" Hagan, *Longview*Meagan T. Harding, *Humble*Eduardo Marquez Certucha, *Houston*Matthew Dorf, *Dallas*Ashley Pileika, *Dallas***Section Awards****Antitrust and Business Litigation**

## DISTINGUISHED COUNSELOR AWARD

Barry McNeil, *Dallas***African-American Law**

## DISTINGUISHED JURIST AWARD

Judge R. K. Sandill, *Houston*

## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Genora K. Boykins, *Houston*

## TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Leon Reed, *Fort Worth***Alternative Dispute Resolution**

## FRANK EVANS AWARD

Elaine Roberts, *The Woodlands***Asian Pacific Interest**

## JUSTICE

## DAVID WELLINGTON CHEW AWARD

Judge Ravi K. Sandill, *Houston*

## AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR

Dallas Asian American Bar Association,

*Dallas*

## OUTSTANDING MENTOR

Stacey Cho Hernandez, *Dallas*

## CHAMPION OF DIVERSITY

Punam Kaji, *Fort Worth*

## BEST LAWYERS UNDER 40

Cheuck Ang Yee, II, *Austin*Joshua D. Lee, *Houston*Jason Shyung, *Carrollton***Bankruptcy Law**

## ROBERT B. WILSON

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Judge Joshua P. Searcy, *Tyler*

## MICHELLE A. MENDEZ

## AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Elizabeth Smith, *San Antonio*

## BANCO ROTTO AWARD

Judge Ronald B. King, *San Antonio*

## JOHN C. AKARD

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Debbie Langehennig, *Austin*

## ROMINA L. MULLOY-BOSSIO

## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Amber Carson, *Dallas*

## PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

Sean Flynn, *Austin***Civil Liberties & Civil Rights**

## PATRICK WISEMAN AWARD

Thomas S. Leatherbury, *Dallas***Collaborative Law**

## DISTINGUISHED LAWYER AWARD

Ruth L. Rickard (posthumously),

*The Colony***Computer & Technology**

## CHAIR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Ronald Chichester, *Cushing*Lisa Angelo, *Houston***Consumer and Commercial**

## RICHARD ALDERMAN AWARD

## FOR CLE EXCELLENCE

Carlos Soltero, *Austin***Criminal Justice Section**

## PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Kenda Culpepper, *Rockwall*

## DEFENSE LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Clay Steadman, *Kerrville*Allen Place, Jr., *Gatesville***Family Law**

## KEN FULLER PRO BONO AWARD

Judge Delia Gonzales, *Farmers Branch*

## HALL OF LEGENDS AWARD

Richard Orsinger, *San Antonio*

## JOSEPH W. KNIGHT

## BEST FAMILY LAW CLE ARTICLE

Karl E. Hays/Chris K. Wrampelmeier,

*San Marcos/Amarillo*

**GAY G. COX**  
COLLABORATIVE LAW AWARD  
Honey A. Sheff, *Dallas*

**SPECIALIST'S SAM EMISON AWARD**  
Kathryn Murphy, *Allen*

**DAN PRICE AWARD**  
Judge Dean Rucker, *Midland*

**Government Law**  
OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT LAWYER  
Scott Durfee, *Pearland*

**Hispanic Issues**  
BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR  
Hispanic Bar Association of Houston,  
*Houston*

**CHAIR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**  
Carlos Soltero, *Austin*  
Christopher Pineda, *Brownsville*

**JAMES W. WRAY JR. AWARD**  
Judge Leslie Briones, *Houston*

**JUDGE OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
Chief Justice Rebeca Martinez, *San Antonio*  
Judge Ron Rangel, *San Antonio*

**LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
Rep. Rafael Anchia, *Dallas*

**PETE TORRES JR.**  
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD  
LULAC Council #650, *Austin*

**REYNALDO G. GARZA**  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Judge Leticia Hinojosa, *Edinburg*

**Insurance Law**  
LEGENDS OF TEXAS INSURANCE LAW  
Michael W. Huddleston, *Dallas*

**Intellectual Property Law**  
TOM ARNOLD  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Meg Boulware, *Houston*

**CHAIR'S AWARD**  
Mike Locklar, *Houston*

**TRADEMARK AWARD**  
Craig Stone, *Houston*

**Litigation**  
LUTHER H. SOULES AWARD  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN LITIGATION  
Justice Eva Guzman, *Cypress*

TEXAS LEGAL LEGEND INDUCTION(S)  
Chief Justice Ann McClure, *El Paso*

**Poverty Law**  
NOBLE AWARD  
Denise Moy, *Austin*

**IMPACT AWARD**  
Gabriel Sanchez, *Rio Grande Valley*  
Stephanie Champion, *Dallas*  
Ann Maldonado Heaps, *Austin*

John Hasley, *Fort Worth*  
Wayne Krause Yang, *Austin*

**Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law**  
DISTINGUISHED  
REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Sara Dysart, *San Antonio*

**DISTINGUISHED**  
TEXAS PROBATE ATTORNEY  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Michael Bourland, *Fort Worth*

**Tax Law**  
OUTSTANDING SERVICE  
AS COUNCIL MEMBER  
Laurel Stephenson, ?  
James V. Roberts, *Dallas*  
Ira A. Lipstet, *Austin*  
Renesha Fountain, *Houston*

**EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AWARD**  
Robert D. Probasco, *Fort Worth*  
Rachel E. Rubenstein, *San Antonio*

**Women and the Law**  
SARAH T. HUGHES AWARD  
Hilda C. Galvan, *Dallas*

**LOUISE B. RAGGIO AWARD**  
Kathryn Snapka, *Corpus Christi*

**HARRIET E. MIERS**  
WRITING COMPETITION AWARD  
Taylor Feldt, *Dallas*

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