Texas lawyers give and Texas lawyers care.

Your efforts on behalf of all Texans in 2019 helped veterans, the elderly, endangered children and families, and other low-income Texans avoid countless legal tragedies.

Thanks to you, vulnerable Texans averted homelessness, escaped abuse, successfully appealed medical and benefit denials, recovered child support required to feed and clothe their children, opposed discriminatory housing and employment practices, protected their identities and financial security from targeted scams, and rebounded from the devastating effects of natural disasters and community crises.

You and your colleagues contributed more than $1.3 million to the Justice for All Campaign by giving something extra when you paid your bar dues. Texas lawyers also provided more than 2 million pro bono hours to your neighbors in need and were recognized nationally for providing more pro bono hours to our veterans than any other state in the country. Many of you contributed both, embodying the commitment we strive for together—access to justice for all.

We are immensely proud of how you represent the best of our profession. Through your generosity, more than 150,000 families benefited from legal aid efforts. Each one matters, and the impact is real. Yet, the need continues to surpass the available resources, with over 5.5 million eligible Texans qualifying for legal aid or pro bono support.

The Texas Access to Justice Commission supports your efforts and works alongside you to reduce barriers to our justice system for low-income Texans. Through strategic reform of policies and procedures that disproportionately impact the economically disadvantaged, the Commission effects positive changes for thousands of low-income Texans every year.

To help fill the access-to-justice gap, please continue to show up as you did last year. Continue to be one of the tens of thousands of Texas lawyers who step up yearly to help our neighbors through legal aid and other access-to-justice efforts. Continue to promote fair access to the courts by doing pro bono work. And when you pay your annual dues, please consider making a $150 contribution to access to justice.
Together, let us continue to be the difference.

Cordially,

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice
Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice
James D. Blacklock, Justice
Paul W. Green, Justice
Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice
J. Brett Busby, Justice
Eva M. Guzman, Justice
John P. Devine, Justice
Jane N. Bland, Justice
For Rita, it was the clicking of heels outside a courtroom.

“I thought I would be alone in this... but the day I met my lawyer, I heard heels confidently clicking down the hallway. They stopped in front of me and I will never forget these words, ‘I'm here to represent you as your attorney, and we got this.’”

Rita’s spouse became abusive after their son was born. The last time her husband hurt her, he almost took her life. His family helped him with bail and a lawsuit for custody. Vulnerable, beaten down, and alone, Rita found herself where all of us find ourselves from time to time: in need of hope and real-world help.

Your donation fuels efforts to restore HOPE to more people like Rita and to effect change for all low-income Texans through systemic reform of policies that disproportionately impact them.

With your help, we’ve got this!

For Rita and the countless others affected by the coronavirus pandemic, HOPE starts with you.

Donate today.

Thank you,

Trish McAllister