THE TEXAS BAR JOURNAL

Editorial Submission Guidelines

The Texas Bar Journal is published monthly (except for a combined July/August issue) and is distributed to every member of the State Bar of Texas. Articles pertaining to Texas law and other topics significant to Texas practitioners are welcomed. Legal article submissions are reviewed by the Bar Journal Board of Editors, which is composed of representatives from around the state, including three members of the State Bar Board of Directors. Acceptance of legal article submissions is at the discretion of the board of editors and the editorial staff. Other features and columns are submitted to and reviewed by Bar Journal staff members.

All communication concerning article submission, review, and publication should be directed to Bar Journal staff members who act as liaisons between authors and the editorial board.

Submissions must conform to the following guidelines:

LEGAL ARTICLES

Thoughtful and well-researched legal articles may focus on a range of subjects, including Supreme Court decisions, case overviews, or emerging issues in the law.

- **Length**: Legal articles must be 1,500 words or less, excluding endnotes.
- **Endnotes**: Endnotes should be limited, concise, and placed at the end of the article.
- **Form**: Only completed articles will be considered (no abstracts, outlines, or ideas). Each submission must be accompanied by a summary paragraph and an author form, which can be downloaded at texasbar.com/submissions. Submit articles (as a Word document; no PDfs) and forms to tbj@texasbar.com.
- **Content**: The Texas Bar Journal adheres to an objectivity policy for content. While fair commentary on published opinions by a court may be made in a professional manner, no article criticizing sitting members of the judiciary by name will be published in the Texas Bar Journal. Not acceptable are articles from authors regarding their pending litigation.
- **Publication timeframe**: Due to the large number of legal articles submitted to the Bar Journal, the board of editors generally takes 90 to 120 days to offer its judgment on each legal article. After an article has been approved, it is usually published in the Bar Journal within six to nine months. Authors will be made aware of acceptance or rejection. If an article is not published within a year after acceptance, the author should submit the article to another publication.

OTHER ARTICLES

Regular columns are devoted to shorter, results-oriented articles, such as technology reviews, small-firm tips, and client-focused pieces. Other non-legal features typically discuss news or general practice topics.

- **Length**: Reviews and columns should be no more than 600 words. Other non-legal features should be between 1,000 and 1,500 words.
- **Form**: Completed articles are preferred, though abstracts, outlines, or ideas will be considered. Submit by email (as a Word document; no PDfs) to tbj@texasbar.com.
- **Publication timeframe**: Features and columns reviewed by Bar Journal staff members will typically take 30 days to review. Authors will be made aware of acceptance or rejection. If an article is approved, it is usually published in the Bar Journal within six to nine months.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor are limited to 250 words. Letters may be edited for clarity and length and become the property of the magazine, which owns all rights to their use. Editorial staff may limit the number of letters published on a single topic, choosing letters that provide differing perspectives. The Texas Bar Journal gives priority to letters written in response to material previously published in the Texas Bar Journal. For other comments about the State Bar of Texas, please email the State Bar Board of Directors at boardofdirectors@texasbar.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Texas Bar Blog**: Some articles may be accepted for publication on the Texas Bar Blog (blog.texasbar.com). These may be more narrowly focused or longer than those approved for publication in the print journal. Submit by email (as a Word document; no PDfs) to tbj@texasbar.com.
- **Previously published articles**: Exceptional articles printed in other forums will be considered. The author is responsible for providing the name and date of previous publication and contact information for the original publisher.
- **Compensation**: No compensation is offered for any article.
- **Biographical information**: Each author of an accepted article will be asked to supply a brief one- to two-sentence bio and photograph.
- **Updates**: Authors of accepted articles are notified of the scheduled publication date by a Bar Journal staff member and are provided an opportunity to update the article as necessary. Authors may include additional information that may be considered for a sidebar.
- **Copyright**: The author of an article submitted to the Bar Journal retains the individual copyright to the article; the State Bar owns a copyright to the collected work in which the material appears. Submission of an article grants the State Bar a non-exclusive license for the bar’s benefit to reproduce, sell, and otherwise distribute all or portions of the article under the author’s name, individually or as part of collective and derivative works, through any media now known or that might be created.

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UPCOMING SEMINARS

January

28th Annual Advanced Employment Law Course*
Live Houston Jan 9-10 JW Marriott by The Galleria

Oil and Gas Disputes
Live Houston Jan 9-10 Hilton Houston Westchase

Prosecuting & Defending Truck and Auto Collision Cases
Video Dallas Jan 9-10 Cityplace Events

14th Annual Fiduciary Litigation Course
Video Dallas Jan 16-17 Cityplace Events

Updates for Solo Practitioners and Small Firms 2020
Live Houston Jan 22 Four Seasons Hotel Houston

Handling Your First (or Next) Consumer or Small Business Bankruptcy Case
Live Austin Jan 23 Texas Law Center
Also Webcast Jan 23 8:55 am to 4:30 pm CT on TexasBarCLE.com

Innovations: Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation
Live Houston Jan 23-24 JW Marriott by The Galleria

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Live Austin Jan 24 Texas Law Center
Also Webcast Jan 24 8:55 am to 4:45 pm CT on TexasBarCLE.com

Advanced Family Law Drafting
Video Houston Jan 30-31 Hilton Houston Westchase

36th Annual Litigation Update Institute
Live Austin Jan 30-31 Stephen F. Austin InterContinental Hotel

21st Annual Building Blocks of Wills, Estates and Probate Course
Webcast Jan 31 9:00 am to 4:45 pm CT on TexasBarCLE.com

February

Women in IP Law Breakfast 2020: A Look into Diversity & Inventorship
Live Houston Feb 6 The Whitehall Hotel

33rd Annual Advanced Intellectual Property Law Course*
Live Houston Feb 6-7 The Whitehall Hotel

12th Annual Damages in Civil Litigation Course
Live Houston Feb 6-7 Hilton Houston Westchase

9th Annual Advanced Trial Strategies Course
Live New Orleans, LA Feb 6-7 Omni Royal Orleans Hotel

28th Annual Advanced Employment Law Course
Video Dallas Feb 13-14 Cityplace Events

18th Annual Advanced Immigration Law Course*
Live Houston Feb 13-14 JW Marriott Galleria

21st Annual Changing Face of Water Law Course*
Live San Antonio Feb 20-21 Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort & Spa

28th Annual Advanced Employment Law Course*
Video Austin Feb 20-21 Norris Conference Center

21st Annual Building Blocks of Wills, Estates and Probate Course
Webcast Replay Feb 28 9:00 am to 4:00 pm CT on TexasBarCLE.com

* Arrive a day early to attend a "Law 101," "Boot Camp," or other related program prior to this course. Separate registration required.