

STATE BAR *of* TEXAS
2017–2018 VOLUNTEER AND STAFF GUIDE

TYLA
COMMITTEES

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

AS OF JULY 1, 2017

TYLA committees conduct much of the work of the Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA). Committees of the TYLA are divided into two categories: service and standing. Standing committee members are appointed for one year. Service Committee members are recruited annually. Young lawyers across Texas have donated their time and effort in furtherance of TYLA programs through their volunteer work on committees.

If you are interested in joining a TYLA committee, please visit our website at www.tyla.org, or call the TYLA office at (800) 204-2222, ext. 1529.

ABA YLD LIAISONS

Purpose: Elected Position. The elected representatives for the ABA YLD in Texas serve as liaisons to the TYLA board and coordinate with FEMA for relief efforts in the event of a declared natural disaster. Texas has two ABA YLD District Representatives: District 25 (South/Central Region) and District 26 (North/West Region). District Representatives serve staggered two-year terms and are elected by the local bar organizations in Texas that are affiliated with the ABA YLD in the appropriate region. Nominations are open to any eligible attorney in Texas meeting the requirements set out in the ABA YLD bylaws.

Jay Forester, Co-Chair

ANNUAL MEETING

Purpose: Appointed Position. Volunteers help the TYLA President with the planning and organization of TYLA's annual meeting activities: fundraising, recruiting volunteers to serve as Sergeant At Arms for the State Bar Resolution Committee, and venue selection for annual meeting banquet.

Baili B. Rhodes, Chair

BYLAWS & POLICY MANUAL

Purpose: Appointed Position. Regularly conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including a review of the current election procedures for all TYLA officers and directors; recommends and drafts any needed or proposed revisions to the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including any approved redistricting plans; provides interpretations as needed to fairly implement all matters in compliance with the TYLA Bylaws and Policy Manual.

Aaron J. Burke, Chair

COMPETITIONS

Purpose: Plans, coordinates, and conducts TYLA's annual national mock trial competition. NTC is co-sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers and is designed to increase the trial advocacy skills of the future members of our profession. The next NTC finals will take place in the spring of 2018. Additionally, this committee plans, coordinates, and conducts TYLA's annual State Moot Court competition for law schools in Texas for the purpose of increasing proficiency in the advocacy skills for person entering the legal profession.

National Trial Competition

Courtney Barksdale Perez, Co-Chair

Tim Williams, Co-Chair

Joel T. Towner, Co-Chair

Kimberley C. Clark

Victor A. Flores

Rusty O' Kane

Lauren Renee Sepulveda

Ricky Shelton

Jenny Smith

Steven Traeger

Louis Williams

Jonathan Zendel Del

State Moot Court Competition

M. Kaylan Dunn, Chair

Matthew L. Czimskey

Jonathan Garcia

Brittany Ringel Walton

Sally Pretorius, ECA

EXECUTIVE

Purpose: Elected Position. Officers are elected by the TYLA board, and the President-elect and succeeding officers are elected by the general membership of TYLA. The TYLA Executive Committee monitors board activities and makes administrative and policy recommendations to the board as necessary.

Baili B. Rhodes, President

John W. Shaw, Chair

Raymond J. Baeza, Vice President

Nick Guinn, Secretary

Amanda A. Abraham, Treasurer

Sally Pretorius, President-elect

Aaron J. Burke, Chair-elect

Sam Houston, Immediate Past President

IMPLEMENTATION & PAMPHLETS

Purpose: This committee will be in charge of reviewing existing TYLA projects to make sure that the projects are “well packaged” for use and distribution. This committee will also be tasked with updating existing TYLA guides as necessary to reflect changes made during the 2017 Legislative Session.

Britney Harrison Dieng, Co-Chair
Matthew L. Harris, Co-Chair
M. Kaylan Dunn
Rachel L. Grove
Timothy Newman
Jenny Smith
Veronica S. Wolfe
Sam Houston, ECA

JOSEPH PRITCHARD INN

Purpose: Membership Limited to Present/Past TYLA Board. Annual membership dues support the activities of the Inn. The Joseph Pritchard Inn conducts the following activities each year: (1) recognizes one second-year law student as recipient of the annual Joseph Pritchard Inn scholarship; (2) sponsors the meeting of the “Joseph M. Pritchard Inn of Former Officers and Directors of the Texas Young Lawyers Association”; and (3) prepares a directory of Current Members of the Inn. The Outstanding Director of TYLA is named in honor of the Inn.

John W. Shaw, Chair

LAW FOCUSED EDUCATION

Purpose: Develops and implements law-focused educational programs for the public, generally designed for both the attorney-public interaction and for classroom use in Texas Schools, and prepares and updates legal information pamphlets for the public to help them understand basic law matters.

Donald Delgado, Co-Chair
Sara Anne Giddings, Co-Chair
Lindsay Forbes Billups
Arthur L. Bryan, II
Kimberly C. Clark
Erin R. Clegg
Matthew L. Czimskey
Britney Harrison Dieng
Nicolas D. Mosser
J. Barrett Shipp
Susan F. Smith
Louis Williams
Aaron J. Burke, ECA

LIBERTY BELL AND OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARDS

Purpose: Appointed Position. Plans, coordinates, judges, and presents the annual statewide Liberty Bell Award. The Liberty Bell Award recognizes an outstanding non-lawyer who has made the most selfless contribution to his or her community that strengthens the effectiveness of the American system of justice. The Outstanding Mentor Award recognizes one attorney who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to mentoring young lawyers in his or her legal community.

Rebekah Steely Brooker, Co-Chair
Kristy Blanchard, Co-Chair

LOCAL AFFILIATES

Purpose: Develops and implements programs that promote networking and idea-sharing; assists affiliates with local programs that further TYLA’s purposes; and recognizes affiliates for their public and member service efforts. This committee conducts three key programs annually: TYLA activities at Bar Leaders Conference, the Local Affiliate Grant Program, and the Awards of Achievement Competition.

Arthur L. Bryan, II, Co-Chair
Brittany Ringel Walton, Co-Chair
Louis Williams, Co-Chair
Victor A. Flores
Jay Forester
Meagan T. Harding
Christopher E. Stoy
Baili B. Rhodes, ECA

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Purpose: Appointed Position. Monitors, reviews, and updates TYLA’s Long Range and Strategic Plan. This includes a periodic review and evaluation of TYLA’s district composition and recommendations for redistricting changes as outlined in Article V, Section 5, of the TYLA Bylaws. Also works with the TYLA Bylaws/Policy Manual Committee to prepare proposed changes for approval at the TYLA annual meeting. Redistricting review mandated every five years.

Sally Pretorius, Chair

MEMBER OUTREACH/SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Purpose: Oversees, develops, and coordinates TYLA seminars, especially those focused on young lawyers and Texas law students. This includes collecting and disseminating the organization’s work and mission to generate interest in TYLA projects.

Victor A. Flores, Co-Chair
Timothy Newman, Co-Chair
Nicole Soussan Caplan
John Ellis
Jay Forester
Andy Jones
Rebecca Patterson Linehan
Rusty O’ Kane
Courtney Barksdale Perez
Lauren Sepulveda
Ricky Shelton
Christopher E. Stoy
Amanda N. Torres
Joel T. Towner
Steven Traeger
Brittany Ringel Walton
Raymond J. Baeza, ECA

NOMINATIONS

Purpose: Appointed Position. Interviews prospective nominees and presents the slate of officer candidates to the TYLA board of directors. Coordinates with the Bylaws/Policy Manual Committee to propose guidelines for the statewide president-elect campaign and election.

Sam Houston, Chair

ONLINE MEMBER SERVICES/TECHNOLOGY & MARKETING

Purpose: Supports TYLA's online programs and activities: *eNews*, *Ten Minute Mentor*, and *Ten Minute Mentor Goes to Law School*, and the Judicial Directory. *eNews* editors draft stories and approve the monthly newsletter for distribution. Ten Minute Mentor coordinators schedule speakers to tape new segments. Assists each TYLA committees in publicizing its impact on the bar and the public. The committee also coordinates the design, creation, and publication of the Annual Report. Plans and coordinates the technology initiatives of TYLA, primarily focusing on the design, functionality, and information for TYLA's website.

M. Kaylan Dunn, Co-Chair
Tim Williams, Co-Chair
Erin R. Clegg
Matthew L. Harris
Andy Jones
Rusty O' Kane
Joanthan Zende Del
John W. Shaw, ECA

OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYER

Purpose: Appointed Position. Plans, coordinates, judges, and presents the annual Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award, which recognizes one young lawyer who best demonstrates professional proficiency, service to the profession, and service to the community. Nomination applications may be submitted by any TYLA local affiliate or local bar association, under rules prescribed by this committee.

C. Barrett Thomas, Chair

POLICY MANUAL REVISION

Purpose: Appointed Position. Regularly conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including a review of the current election procedures for all TYLA officers and directors; recommends and drafts any needed or proposed revisions to the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including any approved redistricting plans; and provides interpretations as needed to fairly implement all matters in compliance with the TYLA Bylaws and Policy Manual.

Aaron J. Burke, Chair

PUBLIC SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

Purpose: Conducts activities supporting legal education activities in the area of family law, including children's rights and child advocacy projects, and designs and implements seminars and other activities to educate senior citizens about their legal affairs. In addition, this committee develops and implements programs that help low-income Texans through education, direct services, or other access to justice initiatives of the State Bar of Texas.

John W. Ellis, Co-Chair
Jenny Smith, Co-Chair
Kimberly C. Clark
Donald Delgado
Britney Harrison Dieng
Sara Anne Giddings
Rachel L. Grove
Meagan T. Harding
Courtney Barksdale Perez
Susan F. Smith
Tim Williams
Nick Guinn, ECA

SERVING THE UNDERSERVED

Purpose: This committee will evaluate opportunities to coordinator optional "done in a day" service projects with our board meetings. This committee will also work to publicize affiliate service projects and attempt to secure TYLA presence at local events.

Nicole Soussan Caplan, Co-Chair
Rachel L. Grove, Co-Chair
Amanda N. Torres, Co-Chair
Jay Forester
Jonathan Garcia
Rebecca Patterson Linehan
Veronica S. Wolfe
Amanda A. Abraham, ECA