



*Texas City Attorneys Association*

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Austin

June 18, 2021

## **Agenda**

TCAA Board of Directors  
Friday, June 18, 2021  
Bojorquez Law Firm, Kingstones Office Building  
11675 Jollyville Road, Suite 300, Austin, TX  
11:00 a.m.

1. Status of TCAA Board of Directors in Transition: Seat held by Kevin Pagan
2. TCAA Board Meeting February 19, 2021: Consider Minutes
3. TCAA Board Meeting March 12, 2021: Consider Minutes
4. TCAA Board Meeting March 29, 2021: Consider Minutes
5. Adopt TCAA Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022
6. Legislative Briefing: Monty Wynn and Bill Longley
7. Staff report on the TCAA August 4-6, 2021, Summer Conference, including: attendee list, Galen Sparks Award (no nominations), Susan Rocha Award (no nominations), and Outstanding Mentor Award winner (Dottie Palumbo)
8. 2021 TCAA Fall Conference in Houston: Set Program
9. 2022 Riley Fletcher Seminar
10. 2025 TCAA Summer Conference: Status Report from Staff
11. TCAA Membership: Report by Alan Bojorquez
12. TCAA Affiliates: Report from Staff on Affiliate Activities
13. Statement on Racism and Equity: Committee Report & Recommendations
14. Law Clerks and Law Students: Committee Report & Recommendations
15. Confab: Presidents of TCAA, TCMA & TMCA: Report by Alan Bojorquez
16. Next board meeting
17. Other business
18. Adjourn

**TCAA**  
**Board of Directors**  
**2020-2021**

**President**

Alan Bojorquez  
Bojorquez Law Firm  
11675 Jollyville Road, Suite 300  
Austin, Texas 78759  
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**First Vice President**

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**Second Vice President**

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City Attorney  
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**Recorder**

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**Directors**

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**Past President**

Paige Mims  
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**TML Board Representative**

Charlie Zech  
Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.  
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TAB

1

TAB

2

**Minutes**  
TCAA Board of Directors  
Friday, February 19, 2021  
Via Zoom

Board President Alan Bojorquez called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Board members present:	Board members absent:
Ron Stutes	Kevin Pagan
Kuruvilla Oommen	Jennifer Richie
Slater Elza	
Julie Fort	
Sharae Reed	
Maleshia McGinnis	
Paige Mims	
Charlie Zech	

TML staff present:  
Christy Drake-Adams  
Evelyn Njuguna  
Heather Ford  
Lavern Gaines

1. Consider the minutes of the October 14, 2020, TCAA Board meeting

A motion to approve the October 14, 2020, board meeting minutes made by Ron Stutes was seconded by Slater Elza. Unanimously approved. Julie Fort was not present for the vote.

2. Legislative Update: Our Home, Our Decisions Campaign

A motion for TCAA to join TML's Our Home, Our Decisions campaign made by Kuruvilla Oommen was seconded by Ron Stutes. Unanimously approved. Julie Fort was not present for the vote. Staff was directed to include a related announcement in the March TCAA newsletter.

3. Summer Conference 2025

Staff was directed to work with Omni Barton Creek to reschedule the 2021 Summer Conference to 2025. If that's not feasible, the Board's first choice is to contract with Horseshoe Bay for the 2025 Summer Conference. The Board's second choice is the Fairmont.

4. Survey results of 2020 TCAA Fall Conference

No action taken.

5. Approve program for 2021 TCAA Summer Conference

The Board set the final program for the 2021 TCAA Summer Virtual Conference and directed staff to invite the proposed speakers. A motion to set the registration fee for TCAA members at \$100 and nonmembers at \$225 was made by Slater Elza and seconded by Julie Fort. Unanimously approved.

6. TCAA Affiliates

A motion by Kuruvilla Oommen to approve the TCAA affiliate application from the Rio Grande Valley City Attorneys Association was seconded by Julie Fort. Unanimously approved.

Kuruvilla Oommen made a motion to: (1) limit to 2 hours per year the amount of CLE TCAA will provide to each TCAA affiliate; and (2) prohibit TCAA affiliates from charging TCAA members who attend affiliate events for the CLE provided by TCAA. Sharae Reed seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

7. TCAA Listserv Update

No action taken.

8. TCAA Budget Update

No action taken.

9. Member Communications through Social Media (e.g., Facebook or LinkedIn)

No action taken.

10. TCAA Statement on Racism and Equity

A committee consisting of K.O., Maleshia, Ron, Sharae, and Charlie will study whether TCAA should issue a statement on racism and equity. The committee will present recommendations to the Board at the June 2021 Board meeting.

11. Law Clerks and Law Students

A committee consisting of Julie, Slater, and Charlie will study recruitment/involvement of law students in municipal law. The committee will present recommendations to the Board at the June 2021 Board meeting.

12. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be held virtually on June 16, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

13. Other business

14. Adjourn



TAB

3

**Minutes**  
TCAA Board of Directors  
Friday, March 12, 2021  
Via Zoom

Board President Alan Bojorquez called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Board members present:	Board members absent:
Ron Stutes	Kevin Pagan
Slater Elza	Jennifer Richie
Julie Fort	Kuruvilla Oommen
Sharae Reed	
Maleshia McGinnis	
Charlie Zech	
Paige Mims	

TML staff present:  
Christy Drake-Adams  
Heather Ford  
Lavern Gaines

Consider Format and Date Options for 2021 Summer Conference

Staff reported that the Omni Barton Creek refused to re-book the 2021 Summer Conference for 2025. The Board did not want to: (1) move forward with a June conference under the existing contact; or (2) have the TCAA Fall Conference at the Omni, as that would require splitting the event away from the TML Annual Conference.

The Board directed staff to investigate: (1) delaying the 2021 Summer Conference until late July or early August; and (2) prepare a cost and revenue estimate for an in-person, a hybrid, or a virtual event.

TAB

4

**Minutes**  
TCAA Board of Directors  
Friday, March 29, 2021  
Via Zoom

Board President Alan Bojorquez called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Board members present:	Board members absent:
Ron Stutes	Kevin Pagan
Kuruvilla Oommen	Paige Mims
Slater Elza	
Jennifer Richie	
Julie Fort	
Sharae Reed	
Maleshia McGinnis	
Charlie Zech	

TML staff present:  
Christy Drake-Adams  
Heather Ford  
Lavern Gaines

Consider Format and Date Options for 2021 Summer Conference

Staff reported that the Omni Barton Creek Resort offered three dates to hold the conference in late July or early August. Options for a virtual conference, a hybrid conference, and an in-person conference were discussed.

Ron Stutes made a motion to hold the 2021 TCAA Summer Conference in person on August 4-6 and to have TCAA buy down the \$25/day resort fee for attendees to offset an increase in the room price. The motion was seconded by Charlie Zech, and passed unanimously.

TAB

5

**Texas City Attorneys Association**  
Profit and Loss Statement  
For the Ten Months Ending April 30, 2021

	February	March	April	YTD	Budget	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
Membership Dues	\$231.60	\$518.64	\$308.92	\$34,771.65	\$29,470.00	\$5,301.65
Investment Income	225.55	259.09	266.89	2,491.74	2,000.00	491.74
Semi-Annual Meeting (Summer)		20.43			62,820.00	(62,820.00)
Semi-Annual Meeting (TML)				394.24		394.24
Sponsor Revenue	3,883.40	13,941.70		54,766.80	60,000.00	(5,233.20)
CML Revenue	250.00		387.80	687.80		687.80
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,590.55</b>	<b>14,739.86</b>	<b>963.61</b>	<b>93,112.23</b>	<b>154,290.00</b>	<b>(61,177.77)</b>
Professional Fees				1,100.00	1,100.00	
Telephone					75.00	75.00
Postage				188.80	300.00	111.20
Boards and Committees	117.00	117.00	117.00	1,170.00	4,000.00	2,830.00
Semi-Annual Meeting (TML)				12,057.48	11,200.00	(857.48)
Semi-Annual Meeting (Summer)	1,040.00	(6,636.97)			98,562.00	98,562.00
Riley Fletcher Seminar	175.00	175.00	175.00	1,750.00	2,306.00	556.00
Public Relations					300.00	300.00
IMLA Scholarships				26,600.00	8,000.00	(18,600.00)
IMLA Small Cities Membership Contributions				2,700.00	3,000.00	300.00
Printing and Reproduction					300.00	300.00
Dues and Publications				203.68		(203.68)
Newsletter	1,326.00	1,326.00	1,326.00	13,260.00	15,912.00	2,652.00
Awards & Recognition					1,300.00	1,300.00
Office Supplies					100.00	100.00
LisTCAA Listserve	52.00	52.00	52.00	520.00	624.00	104.00
Web Site Expenses	384.75	78.00	78.00	2,744.79	10,936.00	8,191.21
Miscellaneous	10.98			421.51	3,000.00	2,578.49
TCAA Affiliate Groups	179.62	113.42	42.14	380.68	2,000.00	1,619.32
Other Association Sponsorships				500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
Administrative Services	185.78	260.78	230.78	10,377.80	9,609.00	(768.80)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,471.13</b>	<b>(4,514.77)</b>	<b>2,020.92</b>	<b>73,974.74</b>	<b>174,124.00</b>	<b>100,149.26</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>1,119.42</b>	<b>19,254.63</b>	<b>(1,057.31)</b>	<b>19,137.49</b>	<b>(19,834.00)</b>	<b>38,971.49</b>
Beginning Net Assets				196,446.12		
Ending Net Assets				215,583.61		

**Texas City Attorneys Association**

**Budget Summary**

**FY 2021 - 2022**

**INCOME:**

Membership Dues	39,630
Investment Income	2,000
Two Summer Meetings	106,720
Riley Fletcher Seminar	19,000
Sponsor Revenue	<u>60,000</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$227,350</b>

**EXPENSES:**

Board Meetings	4,000
Semi-Annual Meeting (TML)	13,200
Two Summer Meetings	255,486
Riley Fletcher Seminar	13,406
Newsletter	15,912
Web site	10,936
Administrative Services	11,964
Miscellaneous	<u>21,075</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$345,979</b>

**2020 - 2021 BUDGETED DEFICIT:**

**\$118,629**

**TOTAL RESERVE FUNDS:**

**(Approximate) \$97,000.00**

**Texas City Attorneys Association**

**Budget Detail**  
**FY 2021 - 2022**

**INCOME**

**Membership Dues:**

229 City Attorneys (\$70.00)	16,030
313 Assistant City Attorneys (\$40.00)	12,520
134 Associate Members (\$80.00)	10,720
9 Paralegal (\$40.00)	<u>360</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$39,630</b>

**Investment Income:**

Current Rates	<b>\$2,000</b>
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**Summer Meetings:**

100 Registered (\$349.00) - Austin	
180 Registered (\$399.00) - Galveston	<b>\$106,720</b>

**Riley Fletcher Seminar:**

100 Registered (\$190)	<b>\$19,000</b>
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**Sponsor Revenue:**

**\$60,000**

**TOTAL INCOME: \$227,350**

**EXPENSES**

**Board Meetings:**

3 Board Meetings (\$1,404 services agreement), plus board gift and misc	3,000
Out of town Board Meeting staff travel	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>

**Semi-Annual Meeting (TML):**

MCLE	200
Refreshment Breaks	7,000
AV Charges	5,000
Miscellaneous (Including publicity)	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$13,200</b>

**Summer Meetings:**

Conference Gift for attendees	0
MCLE and Insurance	1,416
Attendee Resort Fee (Omni)	9,150
Refreshment Breaks/Reception	150,000
TML Services Contract	10,920
TML Staff Expenses	8,000



**Texas City Attorneys Association**

**Budget Detail**

**FY 2021 - 2022**

Conference Supplies	3,300
Postage	1,000
AV Charges	53,200
Galen Sparks/ Susan Rocha/ Mentor Awards	7,000
Speaker Expenses	2,000
Publicity	3,000
Miscellaneous	<u>6,500</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$255,486</b>

**Riley Fletcher Seminar:**

MCLE	200
Publicity	1,000
AV Charges	6,000
Refreshment Breaks and Luncheon	3,300
Staff Expenses	800
TML Services Contract	<u>2,106</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$13,406</b>

**Newsletter:**

12 issues (\$1,326 per issue)	<b>\$15,912</b>
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**Website:**

Annual Service Agreement	936
New Additions	2,000
Video Replay Posting and Admin Costs	<u>8,000</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$10,936</b>

**Administrative Services:**

685 Members (\$15.00)	10,275
Financial Charges	<u>1,689</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$11,964</b>

**Miscellaneous:**

TCAA Affiliate Groups	2,000
Printing and Reproduction	350
Awards and Recognition	1,300
Office Supplies	100
Public Relations	300
Professional Fee - Audit	1,100
Telephone	75
LisTCAA Listserv Service Fee	0
Postage	350
IMLA Small City Membership Contributions	3,000
Four IMLA Conference Scholarships	8,000
Other Association Sponsorships	1,500
Miscellaneous	<u>3,000</u>

**Texas City Attorneys Association**

**Budget Detail**

**FY 2021 - 2022**

Total: \$21,075

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$345,979**

TAB

6

# <https://www.tml.org/733/June-11-2021-Number-22>

## TML Legislative Update Number 22

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

- TML Legislative Update 22

- Eighty-Seventh Legislature Adjourns: Cities Retain Their Voice

A legislative session that got its start during two major disasters—the Coronavirus Pandemic and Winter Storm Uri—ended just as unusually, with House members leaving the building on the penultimate day to break a quorum on a bill they disliked.

In between, important legislation was passed, much of it beneficial for Texas cities. One bill that passed, H.B. 5, will speed the expansion of broadband to underserved communities by creating a new Broadband Development Office to be overseen by the comptroller. Assisting the expansion of broadband—as H.B. 5 does—was a TML priority.

Another TML priority was supporting legislation that hardens the electric grid in the wake of Uri. Several grid-related bills were passed, including S.B. 3, to try to prevent future electric disasters.

Good annexation legislation passed, as well. S.B. 374, corrects unintended consequences related to annexing roads that was caused by legislation passed in 2017 and 2019.

Many bills that would have harmed city authority either failed to pass or passed in negotiated form that cities can live with, including the following:

- A community censorship bill that would have prevented cities from hiring advocates or joining associations that advocate for their issues at the Capitol.
- A debt bill that, in its early form, would have prevented the issuance of most certificates of obligation for infrastructure projects by requiring they be paid from the maintenance and operations side of the property tax rate.
- A bill that would have harmfully expanded the application of calendar “shot clocks” in the building permitting and land development fields
- A “super preemption” bill that would have prevented many city regulations from applying to any state license holder.
- Legislation requiring paid sick and injury leave for first responders that was duplicative of already existing workers compensation laws.

- A bill that would have prevented cities from regulating backyard agricultural practices.

There were many more harmful bills that ended up on the “cutting room floor”, as it were, or were negotiated by the League and its cities into an acceptable format.

Not all restrictive bills were defeated, however, and all of the ones that passed will be summarized in detail later in this edition of the Update. Included among those that passed are a bill preventing police “defunding” in certain large cities, legislation waiving governmental immunity for development agreements, and a bill limiting the scope of the disaster exception under last session’s revenue cap bill.

On balance, it was a positive session for Texas cities as they emerge from two unprecedented disasters. City leaders had a “seat at the table” on important legislation and constructive communication between city officials and legislators was critical in fighting back some of the most problematic legislation. There will be a special session later in 2021 to address legislative redistricting, in addition to other unfinished business from the regular session, during which any of the harmful ideas mentioned above could be revived. We will be ready.

- City-Related Bills
  - Property Tax
  - Public Safety
  - Sales Tax
  - Community and Economic Development
  - Elections
  - Emergency Management
  - Municipal Courts
  - Open Government
  - Other Finance and Administration
  - Personnel
  - Purchasing
  - Transportation
  - Utilities and Environment

TAB

7

## **SPEAKER AGENDA**

***Texas City Attorneys Association  
Summer Conference – Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, Austin  
August 4-6, 2021***

*13.25 Hours MCLE Credit, Including 2.25 Ethics Hours*

### **Wednesday, August 4 (3 hours)**

- 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.      **Registration and Refreshments**
- 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.      **Procedure Is Everything, and Substance Is Nothing**, Thomas Gwosdz, City Attorney, City of Victoria (.5 hour)
- 1:30 - 2:00 p.m.      **Utility Rate Basics**, Heather Lockhart, Staff Attorney, New Braunfels Utilities, and Holly Heinrich, Assistant City Attorney, City of Austin (.5 hour)
- 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.      **COVID-19 and Takings**, Scott T. Doggett and Jordan A. Miller, Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs LLP, Plano (.5 hour)
- 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.      **Employee Speech**, Melissa Cranford, Senior Attorney, Messer Fort & McDonald, PLLC, Frisco (.5 hour)
- 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.      **Recent State Cases of Interest to Cities**, Laura Mueller, City Attorney, City of Dripping Springs (.5 hour)
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.      **How to Amend Your Home-Rule Charter**, Ryan Henry, Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC, San Antonio (.5 hour)
- 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.      **TCAA Board of Directors Meeting**
- 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.      **Welcome Reception hosted by Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP**, at Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, Hill Country Pavilion

### **Thursday, August 5 (6.5 hours)**

- 7:30 a.m.      **Registration and Breakfast, hosted by Russell Rodriguez Hyde & Bullock, LLP**
- 8:00 - 8:45 a.m.      **Opening Remarks**, Alan Bojorquez, TCAA President
- Welcome Remarks, Anne Morgan, City Attorney, City of Austin
- Awards Presentations**

- 8:45 - 9:15 a.m.      **Employee Health Issues in the Wake of COVID-19: How Has the Pandemic Changed the Workplace?** Katie Rutherford, Associate Attorney, Olson & Olson, LLP, Houston (.5 hour)
- 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.      **Update on Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Case Law,** Maris Chambers, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., Austin (.5 hour)
- 9:45 - 10:15 a.m.      **Cybersecurity Is A Risky Business,** Will Trevino, Legal Counsel, Texas Municipal League and Ryan Burns, Cyber Risk Services Manager, TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool, Austin (.5 hour)
- 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.      **Utility Update,** Alfred R Herrera, Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC, and Michael Tomsu, and Taylor Holcomb, Vinson and Elkins, LLP, Austin (.75 hour)
- 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.      **City Budget and Tax Rate Adoption Process,** Leela Fireside, Assistant City Attorney, City of Austin (.5 hour)
- 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.      **Lunch on Your Own**
- 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.      **Recent Federal Cases of Interest,** Randy Montgomery D. Randall Montgomery & Associates PLLC, Dallas (.5 hour)
- 1:30 - 2:00 p.m.      **Animal Issues,** Robyn Katz, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., Austin (.5 hour)
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m.      **Ethics,** Matthew Wade, Underwood Law Firm, P.C., Amarillo (.5 ethics hour)
- 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.      **Legislative Update,** Snapper Carr, Focused Advocacy, and JJ Rocha, Grassroots and Legislative Services Manager, Texas Municipal League, Austin (.75 hour)
- 3:15 – 3:30 p.m.      Break
- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.      **Code Enforcement,** Janet Spugnardi, Deputy City Attorney, City of Irving, and Michelle Voirin, Chief Prosecutor, City of Plano (1.0 hour)
- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.      **Fair Labor Standards Act,** Sheila Gladstone, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., Austin (.5 hour)
- 5:00 p.m.      **Adjourn**
- 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.      **Reception hosted by Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam,** at Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, Wildflower Atrium



**Friday, August 6 (3.75 hours)**

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.      **Registration**
- 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.      **Litigation under the Public Information Act**, Neal Falgoust, Assistant City Attorney, City of Austin (.5 hour)
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.      **Ethics, Obligations and Potential Liability Related To Legal Opinion Letters: What Exactly Are You Signing?**, Slater Elza, Underwood Law Firm, P.C., Amarillo (1.0 hour ethics)
- 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.      **Construction Law Contracts**, Jeff Chapman, The Chapman Firm PLLC, Austin (.75 hour)
- 10:45 – 11:00 a.m.      Break
- 11:00 - 11:45 a.m.      **General Contracts – A Litigator’s Perspective**, Steven Weller and Daniel Olds, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP, Austin (.75 hour)
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Ethics: Attorney Wellness**, Chris Ritter, Director, Texas Lawyers Assistance Program, Austin, and Victor Flores, Assistant City Attorney, City of Brownsville (.75 ethics hour)
- 12:30 p.m.              **Adjourn**

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Valeria M. Acevedo	New Braunfels	City Attorney	05/20/2021		131470.00	View registration
Patricia A. Adams	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131328.00	View registration
Liza Aguilar Wood	McKibben, Martinez, Jarvis & Wood, L.L.P		05/17/2021		131250.00	View registration
Samuel J. Aguirre	San Marcos	Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131502.00	View registration
Monte Akers	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.		05/17/2021		131333.00	View registration
Patty L. Akers	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131334.00	View registration
Steve Alcorn	Bojorquez Law Firm, PC		06/02/2021		131764.00	View registration
Carl R. Allred	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	Associate Attorney	05/17/2021		131259.00	View registration
Courtney Alvarez	Kingsville	City Attorney	05/20/2021		131510.00	View registration
Charles R. Anderson	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Of Counsel	05/17/2021		131227.00	View registration
Rebecca Andrews	Best Best & Krieger	Partner	05/20/2021		131455.00	View registration
Cindy Arce-Shaddix	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Deputy Claims Manager	05/10/2021		131045.00	View registration
Paige Bailey	League City	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131290.00	View registration
Baxter W.	Banowsky	Attorney	05/25/2021		131601.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Banowsky	& Levine, P.C.					registration
Kurt Banowsky	Garland	Sr. Assistant City Attorney	05/24/2021		131570.00	View registration
Brian J. Begle	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Managing Partner	05/20/2021		131494.00	View registration
Patrick C. Bernal	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Partner	05/18/2021		131394.00	View registration
Douglas W. Black	Fort Worth	Senior Assistant City Attorney	05/28/2021		131672.00	View registration
Alan J. Bojorquez	Bojorquez Law Firm, PC	Managing Attorney	05/20/2021		131519.00	View registration
Ruby N. Boone	Victoria		05/26/2021		131630.00	View registration
Barbara Boulware-Wells	The Knight Law Firm, LLP	Partner	06/02/2021		131721.00	View registration
Scott Bounds	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131289.00	View registration
Cary L. Bovey	Bovey & Cochran PLLC	Attorney	05/10/2021		131030.00	View registration
Matthew C.G. Boyle	Boyle & Lowry, L.L.P.		05/20/2021		131465.00	View registration
Grant Brenna	William W. Krueger III PC		05/20/2021		131509.00	View registration
Thomas L. Brocato	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.	Attorney	05/10/2021		131047.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Byron Brown	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	Associate Attorney	05/17/2021		131262.00	View registration
Nathan Brown	New Braunfels	Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131473.00	View registration
Emily Buchanan	TML Health Benefits Pool		05/17/2021		131325.00	View registration
Ryan Burns	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Cyber Risk Services Manager	04/23/2021		130698.00	View registration
Matthew Butler	Boyle & Lowry, L.L.P.		05/20/2021		131464.00	View registration
Snapper Carr	Focused Advocacy, LLC	Partner & General Counsel	04/23/2021		130685.00	View registration
Thomas P. Cate	Lytle	City Attorney	06/02/2021		131761.00	View registration
Maris Chambers	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.		04/23/2021		130696.00	View registration
Andrea Chan	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131270.00	View registration
Jeffrey S. Chapman	The Chapman Firm, PLLC	Attorney	04/23/2021		130704.00	View registration
William P. Chesser	Brownwood	City Attorney	05/27/2021		131653.00	View registration
Tad Cleaves	Texas Municipal League		04/23/2021		130677.00	View registration
Holli C. Clements	Killeen	Assistant City Attorney I	05/17/2021		131230.00	View registration
Luke Cochran	Bovey & Cochran PLLC	Attorney	05/10/2021		131031.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
William Conrad	Waco	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131298.00	View registration
Tyrone E. Cooper	Beaumont	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131388.00	View registration
Sol Cortez	El Paso Water Utilities	Deputy General Counsel	05/19/2021		131434.00	View registration
Michael J. Cosentino	San Marcos	City Attorney	05/20/2021		131520.00	View registration
James K. Crain, III	Cuero	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131219.00	View registration
Melissa H. Cranford	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Senior Attorney	04/23/2021		130694.00	View registration
Lauren Crawford	Lewisville	Assistant City Attorney	05/27/2021		131649.00	View registration
Roberta Cross	The Woodlands Township	Township Attorney	05/18/2021		131371.00	View registration
Jacqueline Cullom	San Marcos	Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131506.00	View registration
Kevin M. Curley	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Senior Attorney	05/18/2021		131354.00	View registration
Michelle D'Andrea	Plano	Deputy City Attorney	05/17/2021		131245.00	View registration
Lowell F. Denton	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Partner	05/18/2021		131399.00	View registration
Nghiem V. Doan	League City	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131364.00	View registration
Scott Doggett	Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs	Partner	04/23/2021		130691.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
	LLP					
Julie P. Doshier	Doshier Law, PLLC		05/17/2021		131242.00	View registration
Christy Drake-Adams	Texas Municipal League	Director of Legal Services	04/23/2021		130674.00	View registration
Thomas Duesler	Beaumont	Senior Assistant City Attorney	05/18/2021		131391.00	View registration
Christopher Duncan	Clute	City Attorney	05/19/2021		131421.00	View registration
Timothy Dunn	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Associate Attorney	05/18/2021		131355.00	View registration
Judith El Masri	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	Associate Attorney	05/17/2021		131263.00	View registration
Betsy Elam	Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam, L.L.P.	Founding Partner	05/10/2021		131049.00	View registration
Slater C. Elza	Underwood Law Firm, P.C.	Attorney	04/23/2021		130702.00	View registration
Amy Emerson	Allensworth & Porter, L.L.P.	Partner	05/17/2021		131308.00	View registration
Brian England	Garland	Deputy City Attorney	05/24/2021		131571.00	View registration
Neal Falgoust	Austin	Assistant City Attorney	04/23/2021		130703.00	View registration
Trevor Fanning	Baytown	Assistant City Attorney/Prosecutor	06/01/2021		131685.00	View registration
Eric Farrar	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131288.00	View registration
Ileana Nava	Plano	Assistant	05/17/2021		131244.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Fernandez		City Attorney				registration
Leela Fireside	Austin	Senior Asst City Attorney	04/23/2021		130697.00	View registration
Victor Flores	Brownsville	Assistant City Attorney	04/23/2021		130689.00	View registration
Brennan Foley	Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC		05/12/2021		131106.00	View registration
Joshua Galicia	Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC	Associate Attorney	05/20/2021		131463.00	View registration
Frank J. Garza	Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza, P.C.	Shareholder	05/10/2021		131032.00	View registration
Sheila Gladstone	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.	Chair	04/23/2021		130700.00	View registration
Joe Gorfida, Jr.	Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith	Partner	05/20/2021		131484.00	View registration
Bruce W. Green	Lufkin	City Manager	05/17/2021		131295.00	View registration
Susie Green	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Associate Director & Employment Counsel	05/10/2021		131039.00	View registration
Sarah Griffin	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Senior Associate	05/25/2021		131614.00	View registration
Audrey Guthrie	The Knight Law Firm	Attorney	06/02/2021		131739.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Bryan Guymon	Underwood Law Firm, P.C.	Attorney	05/10/2021		131035.00	View registration
Thomas Gwodz	Victoria	City Attorney	04/23/2021		130680.00	View registration
Joshua Haley	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Staff Attorney	05/10/2021		131040.00	View registration
Stephanie Harris	Paris	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131220.00	View registration
Leah Hayes		General Counsel	05/17/2021		131320.00	View registration
Michael C. Hayes	Kerrville	City Attorney	05/19/2021		131435.00	View registration
Eileen Hayman	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Partner	05/17/2021		131240.00	View registration
Holly Heinrich	Austin	Assistant City Attorney	04/26/2021		130728.00	View registration
Ryan S. Henry	Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC	Attorney	04/23/2021		130693.00	View registration
Alfred Herrera	Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC	Managing Partner	04/23/2021		130690.00	View registration
Sergio Herrera	Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC	Associate	05/12/2021		131107.00	View registration
Sonya Herrera	Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC	Associate Attorney	05/20/2021		131462.00	View registration
John J. Hightower	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Senior Counsel	05/17/2021		131280.00	View registration
Stephen Michael	Garland	Sr. Assistant City	05/24/2021		131574.00	View registration



<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Hines		Attorney				
Jill Hoffman	Cedar Park	Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131479.00	View registration
Taylor Holcomb	Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.	Counsel	04/26/2021		130730.00	View registration
Kristin Holmes	Baytown	Assistant City Attorney	06/01/2021		131682.00	View registration
Karen L. Horner	Baytown	First Assistant City Attorney	06/01/2021		131686.00	View registration
R. Clayton Hutchins			05/17/2021		131307.00	View registration
Victoria Huynh	Plano	Deputy City Attorney	05/17/2021		131243.00	View registration
Theresa Whitehead James	San Angelo	City Attorney	05/25/2021		131620.00	View registration
Lane K. Jarvis, Jr.	McKibben, Martinez, Jarvis & Wood, L.L.P	Attorney	05/10/2021		131034.00	View registration
Justin Johnson	Plano	Assistant City Attorney III	05/17/2021		131255.00	View registration
Bo Joseph	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Attorney	05/10/2021		131037.00	View registration
Marianella Joseph	Bojorquez Law Firm, PC	Associate Attorney	05/24/2021		131582.00	View registration
James Kachelmeyer	Georgetown	Assistant City Attorney	05/28/2021		131658.00	View registration
Leslie C. Kassahn	Kassahn & Ortiz, P.C	Shareholder/Owner	05/21/2021		131564.00	View registration
Robyn Katz	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle &	Associate Attorney	04/23/2021		130699.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
	Townsend, P.C.					
Megan Keimig	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	Associate Attorney	05/17/2021		131264.00	View registration
Karen Kennard	Greenberg Traurig	Shareholder	05/20/2021		131459.00	View registration
Cynthia Kirchoff	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.		05/19/2021		131416.00	View registration
Steven Kirkland	Nacogdoches	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131218.00	View registration
Jennifer A. Knox-Walker, Esq., CPM	Plano	Assistant City Attorney III	05/17/2021		131241.00	View registration
Savannah Koehler	New Braunfels	Paralegal	05/20/2021		131474.00	View registration
William W. Krueger, III	William W. Krueger III PC	Partner	05/20/2021		131501.00	View registration
Allison Lacey	Victoria	Assistant City Attorney	05/26/2021		131641.00	View registration
Meredith Ladd	Carrollton	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131347.00	View registration
Marianne Landers-Bank	Bojorquez Law Firm, PC		05/21/2021		131553.00	View registration
Jon Lawson	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Associate Attorney	05/18/2021		131358.00	View registration
Tiffany Leal	The Chapman Firm, PLLC		05/24/2021		131595.00	View registration
J. P. LeCompte	Cedar Park	City Attorney	05/20/2021		131478.00	View registration
Katie Leininger	Pearland	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131256.00	View registration
Scott Levine	Banowsky	Attorney	05/25/2021		131600.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
	& Levine, P.C.					registration
Heather Lockhart	New Braunfels Utilities	Staff Attorney	04/23/2021		130688.00	View registration
Matt Longoria	Denton, Navarro, Rocha, Bernal & Zech, P.C.		05/18/2021		131396.00	View registration
Jessie Lopez	Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza, P.C.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131327.00	View registration
Jerris P. Mapes	Baytown	Assistant City Attorney	06/01/2021		131684.00	View registration
Lauren Marfin	Cedar Park	Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131480.00	View registration
Michael Martin	Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P.	Attorney	05/20/2021		131457.00	View registration
Patrick Martinez	McKibben, Martinez, Jarvis & Wood, L.L.P		05/10/2021		131052.00	View registration
Carolyn A. Matthis	Irving	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131226.00	View registration
Jamie L. Mauldin	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.	Principal	05/10/2021		131046.00	View registration
Brenda McDonald	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Partner	05/18/2021		131353.00	View registration
Maleshia B. McGinnis	North Richland Hills	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131351.00	View registration
Amber	Texas	Assistant	04/23/2021		130678.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
McKeon-Mueller	Municipal League	General Counsel				registration
Jim F. McKibben, Jr.	McKibben, Martinez, Jarvis & Wood, L.L.P	Partner	05/17/2021		131249.00	View registration
Andy Messer	Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.	Partner	05/17/2021		131329.00	View registration
Brittani S. Miller	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Subrogation Attorney	05/10/2021		131044.00	View registration
Jordan Allen Miller	Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs LLP	Attorney	04/23/2021		130692.00	View registration
Paige Mims	Plano	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131345.00	View registration
Derrick M. Mitchell	Holland & Knight	Partner	05/20/2021		131460.00	View registration
Irene Montelongo	The Knight Law Firm, LLP		06/02/2021		131736.00	View registration
Randall Montgomery	D. Randall Montgomery & Associates, P.L.L.C	Partner	04/23/2021		130684.00	View registration
Brandon Morris	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	Attorney	05/17/2021		131261.00	View registration
Sylvia Motes	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Project Manager	05/17/2021		131283.00	View registration
Laura Mueller	Dripping Springs	City Attorney	04/23/2021		130681.00	View registration
Jerry Negrete	The Chapman Firm, PLLC	Attorney	05/24/2021		131586.00	View registration
Brad	Garland	City	05/24/2021		131579.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Neighbor		Attorney				registration
David Nix	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool		05/10/2021		131041.00	View registration
Evelyn Njuguna	Texas Municipal League	Assistant Director of Legal Services	04/23/2021		130676.00	View registration
Daniel Olds	Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP	Attorney	04/23/2021		130686.00	View registration
David William Olson	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Partner	05/17/2021		131278.00	View registration
Wayne K. Olson	Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam, L.L.P.	Founding Partner	05/10/2021		131048.00	View registration
J. Frank Onion, III	New Braunfels	First Assistant City Attorney	05/20/2021		131471.00	View registration
Casandra C. Ortiz	Kassahn & Ortiz, P.C	Partner	05/21/2021		131565.00	View registration
Jennifer O'Sullivan	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Staff Attorney	05/10/2021		131043.00	View registration
Jeremy Page	Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P.	Associate	05/20/2021		131475.00	View registration
Julianne Pak	Plano	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131246.00	View registration
Dorothy G. Palumbo	Bojorquez Law Firm, PC	Of Counsel	05/21/2021		131562.00	View registration
James F. Parker, III	Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.	Principal	05/18/2021		131350.00	View registration

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
John T. Patterson	Waco	Senior Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131297.00	View registration
Jordan Perez	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Staff Attorney	05/10/2021		131042.00	View registration
Arthur L. Pertile, III	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Partner	05/17/2021		131286.00	View registration
Ryan Pittman	Abernathy Roeder Boyd & Hullett P.C.	Director	05/17/2021		131269.00	View registration
Lizbeth Islas Plaster	Lewisville	City Attorney	05/18/2021		131349.00	View registration
Arvel Ponton, III	Pecos City	City Attorney	05/21/2021		131535.00	View registration
Lawrence Gene Provins	Pearland	Deputy City Attorney	05/17/2021		131257.00	View registration
Barbara L. Quirk	Boerne	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131252.00	View registration
Vanessa Ramirez	Odessa	Deputy Director of Public Works/Utilities	05/17/2021		131235.00	View registration
Jason Rammel	Law Office of Jason M. Rammel, P.C.		05/17/2021		131247.00	View registration
J. Grady Randle	Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131260.00	View registration
David W. Reagan	TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool	Director of Legal Services	05/10/2021		131036.00	View registration
Sharae Reed	Beaumont	First Assistant City Attorney	05/18/2021		131389.00	View registration
Amanda	Temple	Assistant	05/17/2021		131221.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Rice		City Attorney				registration
Jennifer Richie	Waco	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131296.00	View registration
Chris Ritter	Texas Lawyers Assistance Prgram	Director	04/26/2021		130731.00	View registration
Veronica Rivera	The Knight Law Firm, LLP	Attorney	06/01/2021		131694.00	View registration
JJ Rocha	Texas Municipal League	Legislative Liaison	04/23/2021		130672.00	View registration
Clarissa Rodriguez	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Partner	05/18/2021		131393.00	View registration
Shawn Roten	Garland	Sr Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131271.00	View registration
Adolfo Ruiz	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Senior Associate	05/18/2021		131395.00	View registration
Katie Rutherford	Olson & Olson, L.L.P.	Associate Attorney	04/23/2021		130695.00	View registration
Dan Santee	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Shareholder	05/18/2021		131398.00	View registration
Megan Santee	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Senior Associate	05/25/2021		131616.00	View registration
Robert G. Schleier, Jr.	Kilgore	Kilgore City Attorney	05/17/2021		131233.00	View registration
Leslie Spear	Amarillo	Senior	05/20/2021		131508.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Schmidt		Assistant City Attorney				registration
Kylie Shcherbakov	TML Health Benefits Pool	Associate General Counsel, Privacy Officer	05/17/2021		131332.00	View registration
Larry Sinclair			05/31/2021		131680.00	View registration
Gary W. Smith	Richmond	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131279.00	View registration
Jenni Smith	Forney	Assistant City Attorney	05/17/2021		131237.00	View registration
Jenny Smith	Lubbock Power & Light	General Counsel	05/17/2021		131265.00	View registration
Peter G. Smith	Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith	Managing Partner	05/20/2021		131482.00	View registration
Molly Solis	Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza, P.C.		05/10/2021		131033.00	View registration
Margaret Somereve	Texas Coalition for Affordable Power	Executive Director	05/25/2021		131610.00	View registration
Janet Spugnardi	Irving	Deputy City Attorney	04/23/2021		130682.00	View registration
Roxana Stevens	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Senior Associate Attorney	05/26/2021		131635.00	View registration
Austin Stevenson	McAllen	Assistant City Attorney	04/30/2021		130837.00	View registration
Caroline Stewart	Georgetown	Assistant City	06/01/2021		131695.00	View registration



<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
		Attorney				
William L. Tatsch	Kerrville	Assistant City Attorney	05/19/2021		131429.00	View registration
Jon Thatcher	Forney	City Attorney	05/17/2021		131236.00	View registration
Michael Tomsu	Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.	Partner-Energy Regulation	04/26/2021		130729.00	View registration
Cynthia Trevino	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Associate	05/18/2021		131397.00	View registration
Will Trevino	Texas Municipal League		04/23/2021		130671.00	View registration
Scott Tschirhart	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Partner	05/25/2021		131615.00	View registration
Michelle Lavon Villarreal, J.D.	League City	Deputy City Attorney	05/18/2021		131380.00	View registration
Michelle Voirin	Plano	Assistant City Attorney III	04/23/2021		130683.00	View registration
Matthew Wade	Underwood Law Firm, P.C.	Attorney	04/23/2021		130701.00	View registration
Nicholl Wade	Allensworth & Porter, L.L.P.	Attorney	05/17/2021		131317.00	View registration
Steven Weller	Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP	Partner	04/23/2021		130687.00	View registration
Diane Wetherbee			05/17/2021		131338.00	View registration
Charles	Olson &	Of Counsel	05/17/2021		131274.00	View

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date registered</b>	<b>Guest of</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>View registration</b>
Williams	Olson, L.L.P.					registration
Patrick Wilson	Grapevine	Assistant City Attorney	06/02/2021		131751.00	View registration
Jim W. Wright	Livingston	City Attorney / Public Information Officer	05/17/2021		131258.00	View registration
Charles E. Zech, J.D. MPA	Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.	Shareholder	05/26/2021		131636.00	View registration

TAB

8

**Texas City Attorneys Association**  
**Fall Conference in Conjunction with the Texas Municipal League Annual Conference**  
5 Hours of MCLE Credit (Including 1.00 Ethics Hour) – Course # \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, October 7, 2021 – Houston

- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 - 9:15 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks:** TCAA President, Alan Bojorquez
- 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. **City as Landlord: Leasing Considerations for Municipalities:** Allison A. Bastian-Rodriguez, Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C. (.5 hr)
- 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. **The Role of City Attorneys in Risk Management:** Scott Houston, Special Counsel, Texas Municipal League (.5 hr ethics)
- 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. **Defending Against the Expansion of Regulatory Taking Law:** John Hightower and Allison Killian, Olson & Olson, LLP (.5 hr)
- 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. **Disaster Procurement and Contracting Compliance,** Jordan Corbitt, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC (.5 hr)
- 11:30 - Noon **Dealing with County Government:** Hugh Coleman, City Attorney, City of Sanger (.5 hr)
- Noon - 2:00 p.m. TML Delegates Luncheon and Presentation (Separate Ticketed Event) or Lunch on Your Own
- 2:00 - 2:15 p.m. **Business Meeting:** Election of TCAA Officers and Passing of the Gavel
- 2:15 - 2:45 p.m. **Serving Those Who Serve: City Attorneys and First Responders:** Jonathan T. Koury, Assistant City Attorney, City of Bryan (.5 hr)
- 2:45 - 3:15 p.m. **The Home Team Advantage: Working With Your City's PID Team to Ensure PID Project Success:** Veronica Rivera, The Knight Law Firm, LLP and Gregory D. Miller, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP (.5 hr)
- 3:15 - 3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. **Ultra Vires, Platting and Shot Clock Certificate of Compliance:** \_\_\_\_\_, Messer, Fort and McDonald (.5 hr)
- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. **Flooding Liability for Texas Cities: When it Rains, it Floods (sometimes, always),** Victor Flores, City of Brownsville, Assistant City Attorney, Eric Flores, City of Palmview, City Attorney, and Kim Mickelson, City of Houston, Senior Assistant City Attorney (.5 hr)
- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. **The Ethics Commission and You:** Michael McCann, Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC (.5 hr ethics)
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

*To claim MCLE credit for today please see the instructions on the back of this page.*

## COMBINED SPEAKER SUBMISSIONS

### **INCLUDED IN DRAFT AGENDA:**

**City as Landlord: Leasing Considerations for Municipalities:** Allison A. Bastian-Rodriguez, Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.

**The Role of City Attorneys in Risk Management:** Scott Houston, Special Counsel, Texas Municipal League

This session will take segments/subjects from several prior TML IRP podcasts and speak to them from the perspective of a city attorney, including the Tex Disciplinary Rules relevant to each scenario. Example topics: employee handgun carry, sewage backups, procurement politics (coop v. local), law enforcement training, emergency management, etc.

**Defending Against the Expansion of Regulatory Taking Law:** John Hightower and Allison Killian, Olson & Olson, LLP, Houston

A discussion of recent cases where plaintiffs are trying to use taking law to overcome cities' immunity to property damage claims.

**Jordan Corbitt**, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Houston

I specialize in FEMA (and other Federal programs) Disaster Recovery, specifically compliance with procurement and contracting regulations so that State and local governments (and certain nonprofits) are able to obtain and keep FEMA funding after a disaster. This covers a broad range of topics, but potential presentation ideas include:

- Public Assistance Program Overview and Eligibility Requirements
- Procurement and Contracting Compliance (including common pitfalls to avoid)
- Arbitration/Appeal Process (this could be shorter and included in the Public Assistance Overview piece)

We could try and mix and match some of these topics based on the anticipated needs of members, but this is a preliminary list of topics I could cover. COVID-19, and procurement and contracting for goods/services in response to COVID-19, would likely be discussed in some capacity under all three of the above presentation ideas given its prevalence. My thought was to have another member of my law firm present with me, but she is from Orlando so if presenting is restricted to members only, I wonder if someone from the Texas Division of Emergency Management or a representative from a larger city who has endured disasters (the City of Houston comes to mind) could join me to show the issues they've personally seen in recovering from a disaster and how to avoid/mitigate the risks associated with those issues.

**Dealing with County Government:** Hugh Coleman, City Attorney, City of Sanger

Mr. Coleman is a former Assistant DA (civil) Assistant CA (Civil) and County Commissioner (12 years) for 24 years of total experience in county government.

**Serving Those Who Serve: City Attorneys and First Responders:** Jonathan T. Koury, Assistant City Attorney, City of Bryan

This will cover responding to subpoenas and Public Information Act requests for information from/about first responders.

**The Home Team Advantage - Working With Your City's PID Team to Ensure PID project success:** Veronica Rivera, The Knight Law Firm, LLP and Gregory D. Miller, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP

The use of Public Improvement Districts (PIDs) to finance city development is becoming more common in Texas cities. The speakers will draw on recent examples to explain the roles of the different members on the City's PID team, including consultants, and how to rely on them to anticipate, identify, and successfully address potential complications.

**Ultra Vires, Platting, and Shot Clock Certificate of Compliance:** \_\_\_\_\_, Messer Fort & McDonald

**Flooding Liability for Texas Cities: When it Rains, it Floods (sometimes, always),** Victor Flores, City of Brownsville, Assistant City Attorney, Eric Flores, City of Palmview, City Attorney, and Kim Mickelson, City of Houston, Senior Assistant City Attorney

**The Ethics Commission and You:** Michael McCann, Law Offices of Ryan Henry

### **NOT INCLUDED IN DRAFT AGENDA**

**Update on Excessive Force and Section 1983 Cases** Scott D. Levine, Banowsky & Levine, P.C.

There have been some interesting developments before the US Supreme Court and the Fifth circuit with respect to the excessive force and 1983 cases. I personally have about a half dozen cases and would be interested in speaking about the developments.

### **Messer Fort & McDonald**

- Law enforcement liability coverage increases to protect cities in these times; consequences of an underinsured city after a verdict
- Expanded use of Chapter 380 agreements and the impact on other statutory requirements

### **Ryan Henry, Law Offices of Ryan Henry**

- Problems with Outdated Sign Ordinances and How to Fix Them
- The Bermuda Triangle of Code Enforcement, Court, and Property Owner – How Not to Sink
- Don't Mess With City Secretary During an Election
- Why do Ordinances Have So Many Words? – Structure, Form, Substance, and Hidden Gems (really, it's more exciting than it sounds)
- The City Attorney's Crystal Ball – What Seems Helpful Now Can Hurt You in Litigation

### **Joshua Galicia, Law Offices of Ryan Henry**

- Dangerous Animals – What Your Ordinances Need
- ADA Compliance Update – It’s More than Just Sidewalks
- Charter and Ordinance Notices

### **Michael McCann, Law Offices of Ryan Henry**

- Internal and External HR Investigations

### **Chelsea Mikulencak, Law Offices of Ryan Henry**

- Tips and Tricks for Drafting Contracts with Vendors
- Open Records Impacts More than Simply the Release – How to Mitigate Unforeseen Consequences

### ***Ultra Vires* Claims**

Presenter: Philip B. Arnold, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

*Ultra Vires* claims is a suit that alleges that a government official acted without legal authority or failed to perform a purely ministerial act – it is a suit against an individual rather than the government and is an exception to governmental immunity.

In the case of a city, an example would be if a member of the city council took some action that he/she did not have the authority to do (e.g., enter into a contract which legally requires a vote and approval from the majority of the council). Someone can sue the council member personally, in his/her capacity as a member of the city council, and avoid a plea to the jurisdiction/governmental immunity defense. It is used as a back door to get around governmental immunity to have certain actions undone. Typically, it cannot be for monetary damages, but sometimes the effect of undoing the action can have monetary consequences. There is not a lot of new law on these types of claims (2009 is the seminal Texas Supreme Court case), but it seems to be a trend to sue for *ultra vires* to obtain a result when a plaintiff would normally be thrown out of court due to immunity.

### **ESG Disclosure Obligations for Municipalities**

Presenter: Gregory D. Miller, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

Environmental, Social, and Governance factors, or “ESG,” are a topic of increasing relevance, and familiarity with ESG concepts will become more important for city attorneys with the anticipated enactment of new infrastructure funding programs. The GFOA, over the last year, has recommended that municipalities address ESG topics in the documents that they use to offer their bonds for sale. How should Texas city attorneys advise their clients on this hot topic, particularly with respect to preparing for and participating in due diligence reviews? This presentation will help orient attorneys as they navigate this new aspect of municipal law and prepare their clients for success.

### **Governmental Immunity Under the Texas Tort Claims Act**

Presenter: Daniel J. Olds, Associate, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

This presentation will focus on governmental immunity under the Texas Tort Claims Act: when do governments have it, when do they lose it, and how to approach asserting governmental immunity procedurally in litigation.

**Statutory Interpretation**

Presenter: Daniel J. Olds, Associate, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

Today, statutes are everywhere. Being able to properly interpret and argue from statutes is an essential skill for any attorney. This presentation will cover the basics of statutory interpretation in Texas: how to go about reading statutes, key canons of construction to be aware of, and the competing theories of statutory interpretation that often cause disagreements among judges in statutory-interpretation cases. This presentation will also examine Texas Supreme Court cases to look at how the Texas Supreme Court approaches statutory interpretation.

**Snowpocalypse 2021: Why Texas Shivered in the Dark for Days**, Jordan A. Miller, Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs LLP

See attached



## **Snowpocalypse 2021**

### ***Why Texas Shivered in the Dark for Days***

**By Jordan A. Miller**

Willie Nelson said it best:

“Turn out the lights, the party’s over  
They say that ‘all good things must end’  
Let’s call it a night, the party’s over  
And tomorrow starts the same old thing again.”

Texas has been partying on its own since the 1930s, operating a power grid confined to its borders to avoid federal regulation authorized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the Federal Power Act of 1935 over electricity sales that cross state lines.

Texas has celebrated this independence for decades. But “all good things must end.” Is it time to call it a night? Is the party over? If you ask Texas (and me), federal oversight is certainly not the answer, but “The Times They Are A-Changin’,” and Texas must sift through the ashes (more like snow and ice), figure out what went wrong, and fix it with smart policy, not political gamesmanship and expediency.

For days that felt like weeks, millions across Texas started the same old thing again — no lights, no heat, no clean water, empty shelves at the grocery store, burst pipes, significant property damage and, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, the tragic loss of over 100 lives.

What started as snowflakes became a snowball, and soon, an avalanche was raging out of control.

What caused it?

“No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible.” — Voltaire

### ***A Perfect Storm***

There are plenty of snowflakes to blame for Snowpocalypse 2021 beyond the literal snow, ice and freezing temperatures.

Let’s start with the snowflake with the most fingers pointed its direction — the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT). As Kate Galbraith wrote in February 2021 for Houston Public Media, ERCOT was formed five years after a 1965 blackout shut down much of the northeast United States and was tasked with managing grid reliability in accordance with national standards established by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).

ERCOT acts as the air traffic controller for electricity to about 75 percent of the land area of Texas — covering more than 26 million Texans — and is responsible for balancing the load between demand and capacity. According to its website, ERCOT schedules power on a grid connecting 46,500 miles of transmission lines and 680+ generation units. As some electricity generators failed (i.e., wind turbines freezing), ERCOT arguably waited too long to respond. Power plants that rely on natural gas and coal tripped offline (just like a circuit breaker trips at your house) as the load began to overwhelm the grid, and ERCOT was forced to initiate “rolling blackouts.” It was too late for many plants.

Bill Magness, former president and chief executive officer of ERCOT, who was fired on March 3, 2021, reported in an online presentation to ERCOT’s board on February 24, 2021, that nearly half of the power generating units — approximately 48.6 percent — in the state shut down at the height of the outages. Even in good weather, these units take time to restart or come online. Dan Woodfin, ERCOT senior director of system operations, explained in a call to reporters on February 16, 2021, that many of those plants suffered sub-freezing-related damages as well — freezing pipelines and valves, freezing moisture in instrumentation lines, diversion of natural gas from power plants to homes, problems with trucked-in deliveries and even icy water, which briefly took a nuclear plant in south Texas offline. Magness acknowledged in his presentation on February 24, 2021, that Texas was four minutes and 37 seconds away from a blackout that could have lasted months.

Another responsible snowflake is the Public Utility Commission (PUC), which oversees ERCOT and regulates the Texas electricity, telecommunication, water and sewer utilities. The PUC’s three members are appointed by the governor of Texas. As its website explains, “the PUC’s mission and focus have shifted from regulation of rates and services to oversight of competitive markets and compliance enforcement of statutes and rules for the electric and telecommunication industries.” The PUC enforces the statutes passed by the Texas legislature as well as its own rules and regulations, but there are no Texas statutes or rules establishing mandatory winterization requirements for power plants or related infrastructure. Whether winterization is the main culprit is an issue that will surely be debated over the coming months.

That brings us to the next snowflake — the Texas legislative and executive branches. While fingers have been firmly pointed at ERCOT, the PUC and even the Texas Railroad Commission (RRC), it is Texas’s legislature and executives that can directly address the issues that caused the Snowpocalypse, be it poor planning and operation by ERCOT and/or others, insufficient winterization of facilities, inadequate generation during the winter months, etc. Whether Texas is subjected to another avalanche or keeps the lights on and the party going will largely be determined by its elected leaders.

### ***Ignoring the Forecast***

If legislators decide that additional winterization of facilities is the answer, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and NERC provided a clear roadmap in 2011. After the February 2011 winter storm swept the southwestern region of the United States, FERC and NAERC issued a 357-page report available on FERC’s website which set forth the task force’s key findings as well as 26 recommendations for the electric industry and 6 recommendations for

the natural gas industry that the task force believed, if implemented, “could significantly contribute to preventing a recurrence of the rolling blackouts and natural gas curtailments experience in the Southwest during the February 2011 cold weather event.”

In short, the task force recommended that ERCOT “consider preparation for the winter season as critical as preparation for the summer peak season” and that Texas and New Mexico lawmakers should determine whether natural gas production shortages during extreme cold weather events “can be effectively and economically mitigated through the adoption of minimum, uniform standards for the winterization of natural gas production and processing facilities.” The “Key Findings and Recommendations” provided in pages 195-217 of this report will sound eerily familiar.

Magness, the former ERCOT executive, described during a February 18, 2021, press conference how the system was supposed to work: high peak prices provide the incentive for producers to keep operating in all weather. Generators that can’t produce power when it is most-needed risk missing out on windfalls. Magness explained,

“[T]he way the ERCOT market works, the failure to supply when you have committed can have very serious financial consequences when our scarcity pricing mechanism is in effect. So there’s a very strong financial incentive, and to the extent that generators are not able to deliver on their commitments, they’ll face financial consequences in the marketplace, as well as any potential regulatory.”

So, companies were never required to winterize to ensure they could continue operations during extreme cold and therefore, didn’t break any rules. They just missed out on the profits that were supposed to incentivize safeguarding their equipment from severe winter weather.

### ***Weathering the Storm***

The Texas Railroad Commission (RRC), which regulates the oil and gas industry, got swept up by the avalanche as well when it began (necessary) natural gas curtailments. On February 12, 2021, the RRC issued an emergency order amending Rule 2 of Order 489, prioritizing natural gas disposition to (A) “residences, hospitals, schools, churches and other human needs customers,” (B) electric generation facilities, (C) small industrials and regular commercial loads, (D) large users of gas for fuel or as raw materials where an alternate cannot be use and operation and plant production would be curtailed or shut down completely when gas is curtailed, (E) large users of gas for boiler fuel or other fuel users where alternate fuels can be used and (F) natural gas sales that the seller has discretion under contract to interrupt or curtail. Without this step, many more Texans would have been shivering in their homes.

Note that providing electric power for oil field operations is not classified as a “human need,” and as power was lost in the field, the ability to produce, process and compress gas was diminished. Texas Governor Greg Abbott acknowledged as much when he announced a ban on natural gas exports out of Texas between February 17-21 during a news conference in Austin on February 17, 2021. In response, RRC Commissioner Jim Wright publicly questioned whether the RRC had authority to prevent companies from exporting natural gas because they have contracts

to honor. “I’m not sure we have authority to mess with that, nor do I really want to,” Wright added in a February 18, 2021, interview with Reuters. These types of reactionary measures are what Texas and the right of way industry should work to avoid in the future. Solutions must be proactive, not reactive.

Even with this diminished capacity, natural gas was substantially responsible for heating homes and generating large volumes of electric power. Former state senator and current head of the Texas Oil & Gas Association Todd Staples explained on February 26, 2021, in testimony before the joint hearing of the Committees on State Affairs and Energy Resources that natural gas provided “more than two-thirds of the energy mix” at the height of the arctic blast, despite accounting for only about 19 percent of the electricity produced for Texas’s grid right before the storm. Staples and Grant Rueckle, Energy Transfer Partners’ vice president for Government Affairs, explained that pipelines are naturally insulated as they rest in the ground and that companies use special equipment and techniques to warm what’s flowing. “Our (Energy Transfer) pipelines never stopped operating during the winter storm as of last week,” said Rueckle at the February 26, 2021, committee hearing. Essentially, the natural gas industry already utilizes effective winterization methods to protect its infrastructure, as is apparent in the graph provided below depicting power generation by energy source from February 7, 2021, to February 17, 2021.

### ***Throwing Caution to the Wind***

This leads us to the next snowflake in February’s avalanche — the growing insistence and reliance on renewable energy. These forms of energy are substantially weather dependent. Without wind moving turbines, sunlight fueling solar panels, etc., those energy sources often provide little help in severe winter weather. While wind, solar and other renewable energy certainly have their place, Texas’s growing dependence on these forms of energy come with risks, especially when contingencies in place to address these shortcomings are inadequate or nonexistent during weather extremes. The Snowpocalypse demonstrated that natural gas, coal power plants and other “conventional” power generation sources are reliable and predictable and may very well be the answer to preventing future avalanches.

The last, and perhaps most controversial, of the snowflakes that contributed to the Snowpocalypse disaster are those who oppose new projects and infrastructure necessary for a growing Texas. According to U.S. Census Bureau data provided on its website, approximately 1,000 people move to Texas every day. The demand for not only electricity and gas, but also water and other utilities will only grow larger. Cities, developers, landowners and other stakeholders need to support these efforts, not celebrate when they snuff them out as, for example, the City of Allen, Texas, did in 2018 when it successfully convinced the PUC to deny Brazos Electric Power Cooperative Inc.’s effort to build a substation and transmission line within the City. Of course, those whose land is taken for new public projects are constitutionally guaranteed just compensation, and we all respect private property rights, but the anti-infrastructure mindset exemplified by the Allen-Brazos dispute that many have must change if Texas is to keep up with the basic human necessities of its growing population. Right of way professionals have the ability to change the way people view infrastructure projects. For

example, IRWA Course 225 — Social Ecology teaches the skills necessary to improve community engagement.

It is worth noting that Brazos, Texas's largest and oldest generation and transmission cooperative and the wholesale energy provider for its 16 member-owner distribution cooperatives and one municipal system serving more than 1.5 million Texans across 68 counties, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy (reorganization) on March 1, 2021, after receiving an approximately \$1.8 billion bill from ERCOT. As Brazos explained in its March 1, 2021, news release, "As a cooperative whose costs are passed through to its members, and which are ultimately borne by Texas retail consumers served by its [m]ember cooperatives, Brazos Electric determined that it cannot and will not foist this catastrophic financial event on its members and those consumers."

### *A Snowball's Chance*

There are many other snowflakes that contributed in their own special way to February's avalanche, but "[e]very snowflake is special, until you need to make a snowball." — T.R. Darling, *Quite Pine Trees*. The snowballs are flying, and if Texas has a snowball's chance at avoiding another avalanche of power outages and natural gas curtailments, its leaders and energy industry must prepare for winter as they do for summer.

So far, the Texas legislature is off to a good start. As of mid March — two months into the 87th Texas Legislative Session — almost 200 bills have been filed in response to this winter weather disaster. These bills address increased government oversight, winterization of facilities, rates, natural gas and electric generating capacity, excluding certain facilities from load-shedding participation, reliability standards, alert systems, energy storage, the adequacy of reserve power to prevent blackout conditions and other measures to avoid another December 1989, February 2011, and February 2021. Power generators, transmitters, distributors and other industry players will be tasked with safeguarding against future catastrophic, weather-related failures during the winter months.

Texas can keep the lights on and the party going, and right of way professionals can and must play an integral role. At the root of this issue is one thing — infrastructure. IRWA members and other industry professionals will play a key role in advising, planning, communicating, facilitating and executing these fixes as existing facilities and rights of way undergo necessary maintenance and improvements and new facilities and rights of way face heightened scrutiny to ensure they can do the job twelve months a year. The snowflakes will keep on falling, even in Texas, and right of way professionals will play a key role in preventing future avalanches.

*The views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in this article belong solely to the author — Jordan A. Miller— and not necessarily to the author's law firm or its clients, or any organization, committee or other group of which the author is a member.*

#### *Author Bio:*

Jordan A. Miller is an Equity Partner with the Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs LLP law firm in Plano, Texas, and is licensed in Texas and Oklahoma. Jordan has been selected as a Texas Super Lawyers® Rising Star from 2018 to 2021, is a CLIMB Certified IRWA Instructor and has

represented condemning authorities and landowners in all facets of right of way acquisitions, from initial negotiations through litigation and appeal, in the acquisition of hundreds of tracts of land for electric transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines, roadways and related facilities, hike and bike trails, water and wastewater pipelines as well as other public projects.

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9

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11

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### TCAA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**TO:** TCAA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jessica Grosek, Legal Assistant  
**DATE:** June 17, 2021

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- (1) Total membership: 717
- (2) Total members that are attorneys? 704
- (3) Total members that are paralegals? 8
- (4) Total members that are administrators? 5
- (5) Total members with law firms? 241
- (6) How many are with cities? 385
- (7) How many are with other local governments (not cities)? 8
- (8) How many are with other organizations? 83
- (9) Firms that are members and sponsors? 21
  1. Underwood Law Firm, P.C.
  2. The Chapman Firm, PLLC
  3. Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam, L.L.P.
  4. Russell Rodriguez Hyde & Bullock, LLP
  5. Olson & Olson, L.L.P.
  6. Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith
  7. Messer, Fort & McDonald, P.L.L.C.
  8. McKibben, Martinez, Jarvis & Wood, L.L.P
  9. Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.
  10. Law Offices of Ryan Henry, PLLC
  11. Kassahn & Ortiz, P.C
  12. Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC
  13. Greenberg Traurig
  14. Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.
  15. Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza, P.C.
  16. Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P.
  17. Boyle & Lowry, L.L.P.

18. Bovey & Cochran PLLC
19. Bojorquez Law Firm, PC
20. Banowsky i
21. Allensworth & Porter, L.L.P.

(10) Total firms represented as members but are **NOT** sponsors? 57

(11) Firms that are members but not sponsors:

1. Abernathy Roeder Boyd & Hullett P.C.
2. Akerman LLP
3. Amber Slayton, Attorney-at-Law
4. Anderson Tobin, PLLC
5. Baker Donelson
6. Baker Moran Doggett Ma & Dobbs LLP
7. Banowsky & Levine, P.C.
8. Blank Rome LLP
9. Branum PLLC
10. Brown Fox PLLC
11. Cotton Bledsoe Tighe & Dawson
12. D. Randall Montgomery & Associates, P.L.L.C
13. Denny Lessman Law Office
14. Doshier Law, PLLC
15. Fanning, Harper, Martinson, Brandt & Kutchin, P.C.
16. Fielder & Davis
17. Fletcher Farley Shipman & Salinas, L.L.P.
18. Flowers Davis, P.L.L.C.
19. Focused Advocacy, LLC
20. Guerra & Sabo, PLLC
21. Guevara Law, P.C.
22. Haley Olson, PC
23. Husch Blackwell LLP
24. Johnson Petrov LLP
25. Kaufman & Associates, Inc.
26. Kirwin Law Firm, PLLC
27. Langley & Banack, Inc.
28. Law Office of Patricia Erlinger Carls
29. Law Office of Randall B. Strong
30. Law Offices of JC Brown, PC
31. Liles Parker PLLC
32. Lynn Law, PLLC
33. Maldonado Law Group, PLLC
34. Martin, Showers, Smith & McDonald
35. Mayfield Law Firm
36. McCall, Parkhurst & Horton LLP

37. Offices of Jim Jeffrey
38. Palacios Garza & Thompson PC
39. Palmer & Manuel LLP
40. Peckar & Abramson, P.C.
41. Randle Law Office Ltd., LLP
42. Richards Rodriguez & Skeith
43. Ross | Gannaway, PLLC
44. Schulman, Lopez & Hoffer, LLP
45. Sheets & Crossfield
46. Shepherd Law Firm
47. Shotts, Trevino & Guevara, LLP
48. Sylvia Borunda Firth PLLC
49. The Carlton Law Firm, P.L.L.C.
50. The Chapman Firm, PLLC
51. The Knight Law Firm, LLP
52. The Law Office of Peter Gruning, PLLC
53. The Law Office of David Frishman
54. Tiemann Shahady & Hamala, P.C.
55. West, Webb, Allbritton & Gentry
56. Wilson, Robertson & Cornelius
57. Wood Boykin & Wolter

CC: Christy Drake Adams, TML

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12

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13

## TCAA STATEMENT ON RACISM AND EQUITY

As legal advisers to public servants and leaders in Texas local government, we understand and support the need for equality, equity, and justice. We further recognize that racism can be ingrained into the fabric of our institutions and our lives, and we commit to raising awareness of systemic racism wherever we find it.

To that end, as professional members of the Texas City Attorney's Association:

### We Stand Against:

- Systemic racism and any form of discrimination in our communities
- The use of excessive, unlawful force in any instance or form
- Any inequality and oppression that exists in our organizations and communities

### We Stand With:

- Those who protest in peace and take a stand for positive change
- People of color, minority groups, and other individuals who are marginalized
- Our public safety staff in providing equitable services

### We Will:

- Engage in professional dialogues within our membership and within our communities
- Continue to embrace new ideas, methods, and skills in support of equity and social justice and recognize the challenge of biases
- Continue to maintain the highest ideals of just and effective local government
- Actively embrace ideas of inclusion and work to build cultures of inclusion through improved training, recruitment, and other methods

As members of the TCAA, we are committed to being forces for good within the communities we represent, to avoid actions or statements which might be – or be perceived as – continuation of systemic racism, and to assist others in avoiding those same detrimental actions.

Where there is inequality, we must work for equality. Where there is injustice, we must work for justice. Where there is racism, we must work to end it.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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14





To: Alan Bojorquez, President, and TCAA Board Members  
CC: Christy Drake-Adams, TML  
From: Julie Fort, Slater Elza and Charlie Zech, Committee Members  
Date: June 3, 2021  
Re: Report of Board Committee on Recruitment/Involvement of Law Students in Municipal Law

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The Committee was charged with exploring how law students could be exposed to the area of municipal law in hopes of drawing young attorneys into to practice area. The Committee held several conference calls to discuss options. We are pleased to present the below recommendations to the Board for consideration and discussion.

1. Provide scholarships (meaning waive registration fee) for law students to attend Riley Fletcher and TCAA fall conference.
  - a. The Committee felt that the summer conference was too long and that the shorter conferences would better serve the purpose of the scholarship. However, the shorter conferences occur during the school year when applicants may not be able to miss class.
  - b. Scholarship would not include travel costs.
2. Publicize the availability of the scholarship to the career offices at each law school in Texas. Also ask the career offices to also provide the scholarship information to professors teaching local government classes.
  - a. Options for getting the scholarship information to the law schools could be accomplished by volunteers (i.e., a recent graduate in Julie's office volunteered) and/ or by asking affiliate groups to work with law schools within their geographic areas.
  - b. Promote the scholarship as a way to meet potential future employers. We know they all want jobs!
  - c. Develop a short application for career offices to distribute to students with deadline and instructions for returning.
  - d. Perhaps be more active in getting students to apply at the law schools that are closest to the particular conference location since travel is not included.
  - e. The Committee does not see a need to cap the number of scholarships awarded for a conference at this time. We will be happy to get anyone!
3. Getting the law student to the conference is just the first step in recruitment. The Committee believes that ensuring the law students feel welcomed and included is essential to success and recruitment.

- a. Each law student would be assigned to at least one TCAA member (not limited to TCAA Board members or affiliate group officers—anyone can volunteer--Perhaps involve those who apply for Board membership but are not nominated). TCAA member would volunteer to take the law student to lunch and to introduce the law student to other members during breakfast, breaks, etc. Ideally, several members participate in taking the law student to lunch and educating them about careers in municipal law.
- b. List scholarship recipients on TCAA website so that cities and law firms can contact the students for clerking and other opportunities that become available in their offices. (Application would need to include consent for email address to be public).
  - i. If students actually start receiving interviews for positions, the students and career offices will naturally spread the word that this can lead to employment and maybe generate even more interest?

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15



# CONFAB

Friday, May 28, 2021 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Aimee Nemer (TMCA), Brad Stafford (TCMA), Alan Bojorquez (TCAA)  
Bojorquez Law Firm – Conference Room – Kingstones office building  
11675 Jollyville Road, Suite 300, Austin, TX

*Lunch will be ordered for delivery*

1. **What's going on with your group?** Sharing what's occurring within each organization regarding matters such as training, membership engagement, etc.
2. **Training:** Opportunities for sessions featuring speakers from other organizations (e.g., City Secretary and City Manager at a City Attorney seminar).
3. **Status of Municipal Clerks:** Elevating the respect, role, and reward for City Secretaries.
4. **Strong Mayor:** National efforts to erode the City Manager form of government.
5. **Home Rule:** National legislative preemption efforts to weaken home rule authority.
6. **Perception of Government:** General challenges with the image of government.
7. **87<sup>th</sup> Legislation:** What did TCAA, TCMA, TMCA do? What was different (if anything)?
8. **What Else?**

## con·fab

INFORMAL *noun*  
/'känfab,kən'fab/

-an informal private conversation or discussion

-*North American:* a meeting or conference of members of a particular group

-a discussion involving the exchange of ideas or views. Conversation that is casual or informal. A meeting of people face to face, especially for consultation

"they wandered off to the woods for a private confab"

*verb*

/'känfab,kən'fab/

-engage in informal private conversation.

"Peter was confabbing with a curly-haired guy"



## CONFAB

Minutes for meeting held Friday, May 28, 2021 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Attendance: Aimee Nemer (TMCA), Brad Stafford (TCMA), Alan Bojorquez (TCAA)  
Location: Bojorquez Law Firm, Austin, TX

1. **What's going on with your group?**
  - a. Muni Clerks provided a handout (attached).
  - b. Cty Mgrs have their "City Managers of Tomorrow" program through which students can join TCMA for free and attend conferences for \$25. Profile interns on social media. They have "City Managers in Residence" for members volunteering to liaison with specific nearby graduate schools to speak to classes, encourage muni gov't as a career.
  - c. Both TCMA and TMCA have regional affiliates and multiple committees.
  - d. This year TCAA started a regional affiliate program with some success.
2. **Training:** There was a shared desire to occasionally invite speakers from these groups to serve on a panel for the other groups' seminars/ conferences (e.g., have a city manager and muni clerk speak at a TCAA seminar about customer service from the client's perspective). The Muni Clerks routinely have managers, attorneys and mayors speak at their events.
3. **Status of Municipal Clerks:** We discussed the ongoing effort to establish City Secretaries as a more professional position with increased status and compensation. Some cities have renamed/ rebranded the position in an effort to move beyond the perception that it's purely secretarial / clerical in nature (e.g., in Irving it's the City Secretary & Chief Compliance Officer, in North Richland Hills it's City Secretary / Chief Governance Officer).
4. **Strong Mayor:** We didn't get around to discussing the national efforts to erode the City Manager form of government.
5. **Home Rule:** We had a short discussion of the national legislative preemption efforts to weaken home rule authority.
6. **Perception of Government:** We discussed the challenges with the image of government (i.e., bad PR). There was discussion of our shared opposition to making muni elections partisan. We mentioned improving the youth perception of local government.
7. **87<sup>th</sup> Legislation:** We addressed what TCAA, TCMA, TMCA did differently. All 3 had weekly Zoom meeting with TML staff and thought that was worthwhile. TCMA hired a PR firm to craft video tutorials on dealing with the legislature. There was support for TML to work with these groups to help train city council members during the interim to have closer, active relationships with their delegations all year long.
8. **What Else?** Everyone thought the Confab was worthwhile and would encourage our successors to continue the practice (but it should occur earlier in the year).