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The College Bulletin

News for Members of the Texas Bar College • Summer 2017



Moody Gardens, site of the Summer School course

*From
the
Chair*



Patsy Micale

As the College's Summer School CLE course approaches, I cannot help but reflect on this past bar year. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to have served as your Chair of the Texas Bar College and to work with an amazing group of attorneys who make up the Texas Bar College Board of Directors. We continued to provide excellent CLE, including the Webcast "Compelling Cybersecurity: Safeguarding Your Clients' Data and Your Law License" in February and an outstanding line-up of topics and speakers for our upcoming annual Summer School in July. Furthermore, members remain eligible for a discount on all live or video programs of TexasBarCLE, the state bar's award-winning CLE department.

One of our most important endeavors this year was developing the succession plan for the retirements of our Executive Director, Pat Nester, and our Managing Director, Merianne Gaston, both of whom are instrumental in ensuring the Texas Bar College thrives as an honor society that supports the professional growth and recognition of our outstanding membership. Upon Pat's retirement on May 31st, the duties of Executive Director are in the very capable hands of Merianne, who will serve as both Executive and Managing Director until her anticipated retirement on December 31, 2017. Successors for these positions after Merianne's retirement are in the works and will be announced once finalized. On behalf of the College, I cannot thank Pat and Merianne enough for their tireless efforts to maintain and improve our organization! Their innumerable contributions to the Texas Bar College will be remembered for years to come.

Likewise, members can leave a lasting imprint on the Texas Bar College through our Endowment Fund. In 2004, the Endowment Fund was established by the College to underwrite projects and services that contribute to promoting professionalism. Through this endowment, the Texas Bar College pledged \$30,000 in funding for the Patrick Sheeran & Michael J. Crowley Memorial Trust, an independent entity which assists Texas attorneys and their families affected by substance dependence or mental disorders by ensuring proper treatment.

The Scholars, Friends and Donors of the Endowment Fund are recognized in this edition of The Bulletin. We greatly appreciate their support and encourage more members to join!





Brief Writing: Make Yourself Useful as Well as Ornamental.¹

By Steven K. Hayes and Brittani Wilmore Rollen,
with suggestions from
Justice Sue Walker, Dabney Bassel, and Constance K. Hall

*A slightly different version of this article was previously published in the Litigation Section's Fall 2016 issue of THE ADVOCATE.
76 THE ADVOCATE 27, Fall 2016 (State Bar of Texas Litigation Section).*

Your appellate brief should argue your client's position to the court of appeals² in a way the court finds useful, as well as persuasive. Your facts should be so accurate, persuasive, and well sourced, and your legal analysis so persuasive and supported by such good authority, that the court can copy and paste entire portions of your brief into its opinion. The following suggestions will help you accomplish that.

Include all the items required by TRAP 38.

TRAP 38.1 lists the items your brief must include, and the order in which they should appear. Use them to construct the template for your brief before drafting anything substantive.

Know your audience.

Your audience is typically a three-judge panel and their staff attorneys. These folks usually had significant experience in a law practice, and have significant experience handling an appellate docket. They face a never-ending avalanche of cases.³ Time is the enemy,⁴ with each justice's office issuing the equivalent of a term paper a week. The courts of appeals were [surveyed](#) in 2009, and half the justices felt that most briefs were too long; a [2012 Survey](#) of the justices revealed the same sentiment.⁵ These dynamics mean that you need to shorten, clarify, and simplify your brief.

Write in the active voice.

To make it as easy as possible for the court to follow your argument and rule for your client, write in the active voice. This shortens your brief and makes it more persuasive.

Write for your audience, not for yourself.

Write for the court, not for yourself. You already believe your case—you need to make experienced jurists, who do not care which side wins, believe it as well. So get a second set of eyes to mercilessly critique your argument. Also have them critique your grammar, style, content *and especially the "appropriate citations to authorities and the record"* required by TRAP 38(i). The court will mercilessly examine your citations to the record and authority, and you will lose credibility if you miscite either.

Do not just tell your story in the Facts and Argument—tell it in the Issues, the Table of Contents, and the Summary of the Argument.

Your brief, working as an integrated whole, should tell your story in each of these five TRAP 38 requirements: the Table of Contents; the Issues Presented; the Statement of Facts; the Summary of the Argument; and the Argument. Here's how.

Use headings and subheadings to divide your Statement of Facts and your Argument. Those visually divide the brief into bite-sized portions for the court, and help you ensure the logical progression of your brief. As more than half the Justices recommend, each major heading in your brief should either consist of an Issue, or expressly say which Issue(s) it deals with, so that your Issues and Argument dovetail.⁶

In addition to reinforcing the Issues and making the brief manageable, those headings and subheadings will populate the Table of Contents with your central facts and arguments. Seventy percent of justices find the Table of Contents helpful, and another twenty-five percent emphasize that it should repeat headings from the Statement of Facts and Argument.⁷ You can then draw your Summary of the Argument from the Table of Contents. No matter where the Justices go first in your brief, they see your story repeated.

You should also bookmark the headings and subheadings in the pdf of your brief, allowing the court to go straight to a particular issue or argument (a useful tool you can enhance by appropriately hyperlinking sections of your brief to each other).⁸

Also, don't overlook the importance of the standard of review, on which you should build your argument. If the court can decide an issue as a matter of law—such as duty or causation—it has much more leeway than an abuse of discretion standard provides.

Make all your Issues indisputable statements—and limit their number.

More than ninety percent of justices expect a wise advocate to present them with five or fewer issues in an appeal of moderate complexity—and around half of those justices feel that four or fewer issues is appropriate.⁹ Over seventy percent of justices prefer the issues be presented as positive statements—you might even consider stating them as “The trial court erred [or abused its discretion] in”¹⁰ To the extent possible, make your Issues indisputable, and succinct. Ideally, they should be easily embraced talking points.

Remove yourself from the dispute.

If you tried the case, it may be difficult to write a succinct Statement of Facts. You may find it helpful to write the Argument first. You can then populate your Statement of Facts with facts important to your Argument.

End with a Conclusion, and then a Prayer which gives the Court a roadmap.

Nearly sixty percent of justices preferred the brief end with a conclusion and a prayer.¹¹ One justice requested that attorneys “state in your prayer the exact judgment you seek,”¹² a sentiment we have heard expressed by many justices.

Even though you e-file, keep your Appendix as short as possible.

TRAP 38.1(k)(1) tells you what items *must* be in your Appendix, and 38.1(k)(2) tells you what *can* be in your Appendix. Even with e-filing, keep your Appendix as short as the rules allow. A pdf brief containing 200+ pages of Appendix unnecessarily sends the wrong message. If only a few sentences or words of the contract/document governs, put just those in your Appendix—not the whole document. Many, if not most, justices use two computer screens, one open to the brief, the other open to the record and Westlaw/Lexis. It is less distracting for the Justices to use your brief citations to search the record or Westlaw/Lexis on another screen than to jump down and up from brief to Appendix. Furthermore, automatic hyperlinking to Texas and Fifth Circuit authority created by the e-filing portal means you do not need to attach copies of Texas or Fifth Circuit cases or Texas or federal statutes. You can, and should, highlight the important words in cases and statutes by quoting them in your brief, which has the happy coincidence of underscoring your argument.

Having said that, a succinctly done Appendix can really help the Court. You cannot use it “to attempt to avoid the page [now word] limits of the brief” (TRAP 38.1(k)(2)) nor to sneak in facts not in the record, but you can use it for timelines which track your story, or diagrams which guide the court through the issues (i.e., if you rule against Appellant on X, you do not need to deal with Y and Z, etc.), or to highlight specific pertinent language from a document. For appropriate materials from the internet your brief cites, remember—some internet links expire. If you have the pdf in your Appendix, it is always available.

A few other tips.

A picture is worth a thousand words, and does not count against your word limit.

Over two thirds of justices find “graphs, charts, and pictures in the body of the brief” helpful.¹³ The late Bob Burleson, a really great trial lawyer for whom Steve clerked, used to tell him to have fun with a brief—and in the pre-computer days of Liquid Paper® and Xerox® machines, would interlace his briefs with appropriate Peanuts® cartoons. Robert DuBose recent paper has many excellent examples of this tool.¹⁴

Quote authority from the Texas Supreme Court and the Court in which you file your brief.

Eighty-five percent of justices prefer you cite authority from the Texas Supreme Court and authority from their court.¹⁵ If you show them they have followed controlling Supreme Court precedent, they will do so, again, for you.

Don't personally attack the trial court or opposing counsel—ever.

Judicial panels perennially give this advice. One justice even said such personal attacks are so distracting that, when she encounters one, she puts the brief down, clears her mind, and restarts the brief at the next issue. So not only do you not make your point, you have shut down your input on the issue.

After the Ball Is Over.¹⁶

With appropriate leave of court, a *short* one paragraph or one-page post argument letter can be very useful—to respond to a question that stumped you at oral argument, or to inform the court of new authority. Do not use these letters to just rehash old stuff, or, like the aging uncle in the song, you will rue the day you misused this opportunity. When facing another party's mandamus, you might consider sending the court a one-page letter which expressly reserves your right to fully respond, should the court desire—while pointing to the particularly glaring reason the mandamus should fail.

Other Resources

Lengthier papers abound concerning brief writing—the SBOT Appellate Section makes literally dozens of such papers available to its members.¹⁷ New papers surface regularly at CLE Courses run by the State Bar of Texas (e.g., Advanced Civil Appellate Seminar, Appellate Law 101 Seminar, Handling Your First (or Next) Appeal) and the University of Texas (e.g., Conference on State and Federal Appeals). You should also review the Surveys of the courts of appeals which this paper has referenced.

Hopefully, the foregoing will get you going on your brief in a way that makes you useful—to the courts and your clients—as well as ornamental.

STEVEN K. HAYES is a solo appellate practitioner in Fort Worth, Texas, Chair-Elect of the SBOT Appellate Section, and Council Member of the SBOT Litigation Section.

BRITTANI WILMORE ROLLEN practices at McDonald Sanders in Fort Worth, Texas, where she focuses on commercial litigation and appeals.

JUSTICE SUE WALKER is a Justice on the Second Court of Appeals in Fort Worth, Texas, and is Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law.

DABNEY BASSEL is a solo appellate practitioner in Fort Worth, Texas, and is Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law.

CONSTANCE K. HALL is an Arlington, Texas, attorney handling Business, Estate Planning & Probate, and Appeals, and is a former Briefing Clerk to the Second Court of Appeals in Fort Worth, Texas.



Front row (seated), left to right—Brittani Rollen, Justice Sue Walker, Constance Hall;
Back row—Steve Hayes, Dabney Bassel.

(Endnotes)

- ¹ Jane Hayes, the Mother of one of the authors, was fond of this general admonition, which applies to brief writing.
- ² We focus here on writing briefs in Texas courts of appeals. If writing for a different court, then adjust the advice given here to accommodate for different pertinent rules, and your audience.
- ³ Comments of Scott Brister, former Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, at State Bar of Texas CLE PRACTICE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT 2009, *Suggestions About Oral Argument*.
- ⁴ Stacey Stanley, Staff Attorney, Sixth Court of Appeals, Texarkana; p. 24, *Rehearing Practice in the Courts of Appeals*, SBOT 24th Annual Advanced Civil Appellate Seminar (2010).
- ⁵ P. 1, [Results of the 2009 Judicial Survey](#), SBOT Appellate Section; A subsequent Judicial Survey was performed in 2012; as of the writing of this paper, that Survey was only available through UT Law CLE, and we do not link to it here. See P. 2, Rothenberg, Scott, Rutter, Kent, and Storey, JoAnn, [Results of the 2015 Judicial Survey](#), 25th Annual Conference on State and Federal Appeals (2015).
- ⁶ P. 3, [2009 Survey](#).
- ⁷ P. 2, [2009 Survey](#).
- ⁸ Bookmarking is surprisingly easy. See pp. 20-25, [Guide to](#)

[Creating Electronic Briefs](#), by Blake A. Hawthorne, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas, found on the Supreme Court's website.

- ⁹ P. 2, [2009 Survey](#); P. 2, [2015 Survey](#).
- ¹⁰ Pp. 2-3, [2009 Survey](#); P. 2, [2015 Survey](#).
- ¹¹ *Id.*; in 2015, nearly 70% felt this way. P. 4, [2015 Survey](#).
- ¹² *Id.*
- ¹³ *Id.*; in 2015, nearly 83% felt this way. P. 4, [2015 Survey](#).
- ¹⁴ Dubose, Robert, *Briefing Visually*, 26th Annual UT Conference on State and Federal Appeals (2016).
- ¹⁵ P. 2, [2009 Survey](#).
- ¹⁶ Jane Hayes would sometimes sing the refrain to this song to her children when they were young, and not so young.
- ¹⁷ For some recent papers, see: Baruch, Chad, *Legal Writing: Lessons from the Bestseller List*, and Dubose, Robert B., *Brief Structure, Format, and Design*, SBOT Handling Your First (or Next) Civil Appeal (2016); Dove, Christopher, *Selecting and Framing Issues on Appeals*, SBOT Civil Appellate Practice 101 (2015); Brister, Scott, and Gray, Kendall, *Extreme Brief Makeover*, UT Conference on State and Federal Appeals (2014); Hawthorne, Blake, and Cruse, Don, *Electronic Briefs Nuts and Bolts*, UT Conference on State and Federal Appeals (2011). ■



Great CLE Articles from TexasBarCLE.com's Online Library

FREE access to these and many more is included with your College membership. Check 'em out!

Forks? Spoons? Law? Thinking through strategic decisions to help with the speed bumps in the road to justice. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186655&t=PDF&e=15236&p=1>

Living in Dharma means living one's true purpose and personality, and expressing it to the world. Let us help you find your Dharma. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186641&t=PDF&e=15236&p=1>

You're the best thing, that ever happened to me.... Isn't there a song that goes like that? A look at how attorneys collaborating can benefit your clients. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186635&t=PDF&e=15236&p=1>

King Arthur wasn't the only one with a round table. ADR discusses the steps and tips for a successful family law mediation. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186730&t=PDF&e=15099&p=1>

The Legislature? Boy do we have bills. A discussion about how Senate Bills 1876 and 1369 will impact the business of mediation. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186150&t=PDF&e=15099&p=1>

Why, oh why did my mediation fail? <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=186140&t=PDF&e=15099&p=1>

Your mission, should you choose to accept it...is to have adequate cybersecurity defenses. A discussion regarding data security and data encryption. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=188104&t=PDF&e=15203&p=1>

My patent isn't just tired, it is EXHAUSTED! <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=187258&t=PDF&e=15118&p=1>

Tech startups: trademarks and branding. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=187182&t=PDF&e=15119&p=1>

I SAID...that's attorney / client privileged. What is attorney / client privilege in general and how does it apply to U.S. patent law? <http://www.texasbarcle.com/cle/OLViewArticle.asp?a=187764&t=PDF&e=15118&p=1> ■

Happy Trails to You

By Pat Nester



In my sixteen years as executive director of the College, I've had the chance to talk to a number of other CLE and bar execs from around the English speaking world. When I describe the Texas Bar College to them, most of them just don't get it.

"Let's see," they say, "the lawyers take a boatload of CLE, they pay you some money, and then they get to say they're a member of a college?"

"Yes, that's pretty much it," I say.

"Well, that just doesn't make any sense," they say.

This surprises me, because CLE leaders should understand that lawyers, more than ordinary human beings, have had to work hard to get where they are. Among lawyers, hard work and the enthusiasm to get it done are regarded as singular badges of honor. Getting enough CLE for the College lawyer is literally twice as hard as getting enough CLE credit for an ordinary lawyer. Therefore, membership in the College is a public symbol of hard work.

By the nature of our adversarial lives, lawyers also know that hard work usually gives them some advantage as they churn through the dilemmas of their clients. The opponent who "mails it in" gets to be on the losing side more often than not. Therefore, membership in the College has become a public symbol of professional success.

Given that most of us were the smart kids in class, some of us see the big advantage of staying as intellectually sharp as possible, as up-to-date as possible on changes in law, procedure, and practice. It's disruptive to attempt such an elevated condition, because this stuff pours out of the courts, legislatures, and agencies like water from a fire hose. It's very hard to keep up with, and you *never* completely master it. Therefore membership in the College is a symbol of ongoing, lifelong commitment to a higher standard of intellectual attainment.

It is important to many of us that the call for peak performance in our profession comes from our profession's highest authority. The Supreme Court of Texas has twice established the College—first in 1981 and again in 2001—as a standard bearer for lawyers of distinction. We don't have to agree with everything the Court does—we wouldn't be lawyers if we did. But we respect the Court's call for, as the College motto puts it, "professionalism through education." Therefore, membership in the College symbolizes our response to a call to arms from our supreme authority, a demand for ever better performance in service to our fellow Texans.

Some of us have the character and will to keep a single flame alive in the vast darkness. But most of us want the inspiration

of compatible company. When you see another lawyer carrying the College portfolio into court, or notice the College logo on her dignified ad in a local newspaper, or hang out with the throng of College celebrants at the hamburger and hot dog social at the annual Summer School course, we know we are not alone in our aspirations. Membership in the College symbolizes a ground force of lawyers who want to stand up publicly for the best in our profession.

But so far, I haven't persuaded any of my CLE buddies to try to replicate the College in their assorted jurisdictions. They remain befuddled.

Ergo, we remain unique. Undoubtedly this is entirely fitting for a band of Texas lawyers. We didn't get to where we are today in Texas by timidity but by seizing the day, taking the lead, and setting the example. No brag, just fact.

As I retire as executive director at the end of May, I have and will cherish the fondest memories of College leaders and fellow members over the years—way too many to try to name here. All of us share the sense that something about what we're up to in the College has pointed us a little higher. We're not fussy about it or judgmental of others, but our sense of persistent extra effort has become our own glowing omnipresence in the sky. Thank you all for that and for your comradeship, hard work, and great humor.

And thanks most of all to my excellent colleague Merianne Gaston who, for a time, will be replacing me as executive director. Those of you who know Merianne realize what a truly remarkable person she is and how lucky we have been to have her as managing director, the travelling and online face of the College, who apparently never turns off her cell phone because one of us might need help with something on Wednesday night or Saturday morning. The College wouldn't be close to what it has become without Merianne's intelligence and diligence.

Look for me at Summer Schools to come. Hint: I won't be wearing the usual coat and tie.

Pat



Texas Bar College Annual Awards

Each year, the College presents awards to persons who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to education or professionalism.

Jim D. Bowmer Professionalism Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Profession

Given annually since 1994, the award is named for Jim D. Bowmer of Temple, the originator of the idea of the State Bar College and a co-founding father of the College. A plaque is given to the recipient and an award of \$1,000 in the recipient's name to the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation or the law school of the recipient's choice.

For 2016 the award goes to **Coyt "Randy" Johnston**. Author of the book *Robbed at Pen Point*, Randy practices law with the firm of Johnston Tobey Baruch PC in Dallas. He graduated with Honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1974. His practice concentrates on legal malpractice, professional liability and fiduciary litigation. Board certified in Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, he is a member of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the American Board of Trial Advocates, and the Texas and Dallas Trial Lawyers Associations. He is a former President of the Dallas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates and a former President of the Dallas Trial Lawyer's Association and is currently an adjunct professor of law at the UNT School of Law where he teaches Professional Responsibility. He received a "Standing Ovation Award" from the staff of the State Bar's CLE program, TexasBarCLE, in 2010. In 2012 he was one of five to receive a Texas Trial Legends Award from the Dallas Bar Association's Tort & Insurance Practice Section. In 2016 he was recognized as "Trial Lawyer of the Year" by the Dallas Bar Association and received the "Champion of Justice Award" from Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas.



Franklin Jones, Jr. CLE Article Award for Outstanding Achievement in Continuing Legal Education

The award is named for Franklin Jones, Jr., a co-founding father of the College. A plaque is awarded to an author of an outstanding CLE article presented during the year.

For 2016 the award goes to **Shelly L. Skeen**

for her article, "State of Rights Post-*Obergefel*." Shelly is with BFS Law Group in Richardson, Texas, concentrating on complex commercial litigation and representing businesses across the country in disputes in state and federal trial courts, appellate courts and in arbitrations. After graduating *magna cum*

laude from law school, she began her law practice as a Briefing Attorney for a Texas State Appellate Court of Appeals. A certified mediator since 2001, she earned a Diploma in International Arbitration, and achieved a "Fellow" designation from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in London (CIArb), making her one of less than 475 lawyers in the U.S. holding the Fellow designation. Shelly also handles probate and estate planning for individuals and families, including LGBT individuals and families, and cases involving online free speech, business disparagement and defamation. She employs a practical, problem-solving approach to her practice, believing that her client's priorities come first, and that her first job is to listen to her clients and then provide cost-effective legal advice to resolve their disputes quickly and efficiently.



Shelly has appeared before the United States Supreme Court, appeared and argued successfully before the Texas Supreme Court, appeared and argued before the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in Louisiana, appeared before the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Ohio, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Illinois, United States District Courts in Texas, Michigan and Illinois, and several Texas State Appellate Courts. She has served a Council Member, Vice President, and Chair of a LGBT Law Section for the State Bar of Texas, is the President of the Dallas LGBT Bar Association, and



Texas Bar College Annual Awards

is a member and board member of nonprofits, including the Coalition for Aging, LGBT. She was appointed by the President of the State Bar of Texas to serve a three (3) year term on the State Bar of Texas' CLE Committee. Shelly is also frequent speaker and author and is adjunct faculty for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy where she teaches trial skills to lawyers.

Shelly is active in the local community where she performs volunteer work, has taught as an adjunct instructor, mentors and serves as an assistant city prosecutor. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, hiking, reading and playing golf and tennis.

Steve Condos Award for Outstanding New Member to the College

The award is named for Steve Condos, an influential and hardworking member of the first College Board for a brief period before his untimely death. For 2016 the award goes to **Constance Filley Johnson**.

Born and raised in Victoria, Texas, Constance graduated from the University of Houston-Victoria in 1993 with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She was a classroom teacher in Victoria before joining the staff of the Region III Education Service Center, where she coordinated Safe and Drug Free Schools programs in forty school districts throughout South Texas.



Constance returned to law school in 2003 and graduated first in her class from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law in December 2005. Upon returning home to Victoria, she quickly established herself as a leader in the local legal community. Constance practices law with her father, George J. Filley, and was the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Victoria from 2012 to 2016. She has served as President of the Victoria County Bar Association, on the District 11 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, on the Victoria College Police Academy Advisory Board, and was a founding member of the Victoria County DWI Court. In addition, she is currently an adjunct instructor at the Victoria College. Constance has been active in numerous volunteer capacities such as the Victoria Main Street Program, the Wood Hi 4-H Club, and numerous booster clubs and organizations in Victoria ISD. Constance

has been married for 24 years to George Johnson, and is the proud mother of two children—Jordan (18) and Mason (16).

Patrick Nester Outstanding Achievement in CLE Award

The award is named in honor of **Patrick A. Nester**, of Driftwood, Texas, the distinguished long-serving Director of State Bar of Texas Professional Development Program (the name changed to TexasBarCLE in the early 2000's) from 1986 to 2000 and again from 2005 to 2016.

The award is to honor a Texas attorney who has made an outstanding contribution to CLE as a course director, speaker, author, creator of a new course, or in this case, dedicating an entire career to enhancing the legal education for lawyers on a state and national level the way Pat Nester has demonstrated for over three decades.



Pat worked in CLE at the State Bar since 1978, and most recently served as Deputy Executive Director. He became the part-time Executive Director of the Texas Bar College in 2001 and of the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society in 2013. He received his law degree from the University of Texas in 1975, a masters in journalism from the University of Illinois in 1972, and a BA in English from Principia College in 1968. He served in Vietnam with the U.S. Army in 1969 and 1970. Pat considers his working life to be "an invigorating collaboration with hundreds of friends."

Please join us in congratulating our award winners!



IN 2004, THE ENDOWMENT FUND FOR PROFESSIONALISM was established by the College to underwrite projects and services that contribute to promoting professionalism. Through this endowment, the Texas Bar College pledged funding for the Patrick Sheeran & Michael J. Crowley Memorial Trust, an independent entity which assists Texas attorneys and their families affected by substance dependence or mental disorders by ensuring proper treatment. The fund also provides annual scholarships for Legal Aid attorneys to attend the College-cosponsored Summer School Course.

Membership in the Fund is by invitation of the Texas Bar College. After five continuous years of College membership, a lawyer becomes eligible to join the Fund. Levels of membership vary according to the lawyer's financial commitment. Choose your membership level:

Endowment Fund Scholar

The Scholar commits to at least a \$1,000 contribution which may be paid out at \$200 per year.

Honored Endowment Fund Scholar

The Scholar has reached the \$1,000 contribution level.

Sustaining Endowment Fund Scholar

The Honored Scholar continues to make annual contributions of at least \$200 per year.

Friends of the Endowment Fund for Professionalism

Non-qualifying Texas Bar College members or non-College members may contribute to the Fund.

Members of the Fund and Friends of the Endowment Fund will be acknowledged by the College. Remember, the Fund will achieve its goals with your commitment. Consider joining the Fund today!



The Endowment Fund for Professionalism

Texas Bar College P. O. Box 12487 Austin, Texas 78711-2487

As a member of the Texas Bar College for five consecutive years, I hereby accept my invitation to join The Endowment Fund for Professionalism. Enclosed is my **tax-deductible** contribution of \$1,000 to fulfill my commitment as an Honored Endowment Fund Scholar or my minimum initial contribution of \$200 as an Endowment Fund Scholar (exact amount indicated below). I recognize that my gift supports professionalism of lawyers through education and contributes to the betterment of the legal profession in Texas.

Please make my **tax-deductible** contribution in ☐ honor of or ☐ memory of _____.

Amount of contribution: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other \$ _____

Payment by enclosed ☐ check payable to The Endowment Fund for Professionalism of the Texas Bar College.

Please charge my credit card ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$200 now, and annually \$200 for the next four years ☐ Other \$ _____

Credit Card No. _____ ☐ American Express ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Signature Authorizing Payment _____ Date _____

If paying by credit card, you may fax this form to 512-463-1498 or scan and email it to mgaston@texasbar.com, or you may pay online at <https://texasbarcollege.com/merchandise/endowment-fund>.

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