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## President's Message

Bear with me for a bit, as I come off a major high from what may be the best June since I became a lawyer! It started off with an amazing CLE retreat at the Purple Sage Ranch in Bandera, Texas. Leslie Hyman, Judge Renee Yanta, and their committee put together another awesome program with meaningful CLE, good wine and food, and plenty of time to socialize and connect with other women lawyers. My

favorite part was a spirited, interactive discussion with Linda Bray Chanow, Executive Director of the Center for Women in Law, regarding grit and growth mindset. Be on the lookout for a survey about retreat so we can make it even better next year!

The following week, I attended the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting at the San Antonio convention center, where I was impressed by the magnitude and quality of



programming available to our lawyers through the State Bar and the ability to share ideas with lawyers from across our state. Plus, I was able to represent the Bexar County Women's Bar Association in accepting our (con'd on p. 7)

## July Luncheon: Dan Lear - Being Smart with Social Media

Please join us on July 7 to welcome Dan Lear. Mr. Lear is the Director of Industry Relations for Avvo. He is cofounder of Seattle Legal Technology and Innovation MeetUp, a self-styled "legal hacking" group that meets regularly to explore, identify, and implement unconventional solutions to law's problems. Mr. Lear has blogged and written extensively about the legal profession and its evolution on his blog *Right Brain Law* and for other online and print publications.

Mr. Lear will discuss the interplay between the First Amendment and attorney

advertising rules, proper use of social media to avoid ethical concerns, trends in social media and legal marketing, effective ways to use social media to develop business, the misuse of social media, the difference between inbound and outbound marketing, and the need for professionalism in a world of easy, ubiquitous communication. 1 hour of CLE approved!

**When:** Tuesday, July 7, 2015

**Time:** Noon to 1:00 p.m.

**Where:** Club Giraud

**Cost:** \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$20 for

students, payable at the door

**RSVP:** RSVP by July 2, 2015 to [Events@bexarcountywomensbar.org](mailto:Events@bexarcountywomensbar.org). Include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand schedules change, but we cannot guarantee seats to individuals who do not RSVP by the date above. Walk-ins will be charged \$35 to cover the additional demands on Club Giraud's staff and no-shows will be billed. For more information, contact Lindsay Riley ([liriley@dykema.com](mailto:liriley@dykema.com)) or Rachel Skinner ([rskinner@dykema.com](mailto:rskinner@dykema.com)). We hope to see you there!

# Autumn Affair



By Hella Scheuerman

The 2015 Autumn Affair will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2015, starting at 6:00 pm, at The Veranda. Our Sponsorship Committee has begun working on table sales for this year's Autumn Affair Event, benefitting the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas. The Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas was founded on May 20, 1997, as a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization. CBCST was established to help children and families grieving the death of a loved one. The goal of CBCST is to help children, adolescents and their caregivers understand

the depth of their grief, stabilize and preserve family relationships, and develop health coping skills after the death of a loved one. Your generous donation will be used by The Children's Bereavement Center to provide counseling services to affected children and families at no cost or a reduced cost.

The Sponsor levels this year are the following:

**PLATINUM (\$2,000)**

Includes premier seating, ten complimentary tickets to the event, sponsor acknowledgment in pre-event advertising and champagne for your table.

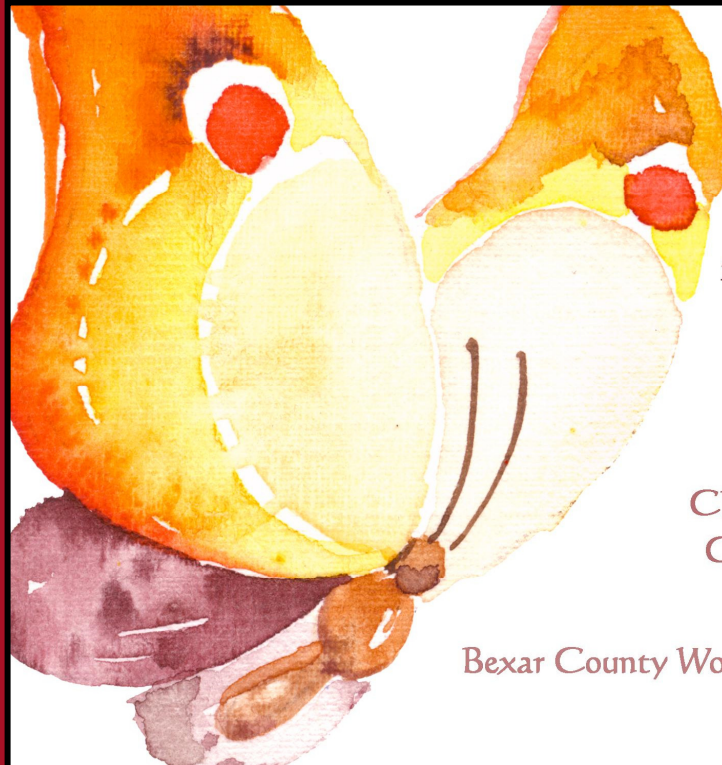
**GOLD (\$1,500)**

Includes premier seating, ten complimentary tickets to the event, sponsor acknowledgment in pre-event advertising and at the event itself.

**SILVER (\$1,200)**

Includes ten complimentary tickets to the event and sponsor acknowledgment in pre-event advertising and at the event itself.

If you are interested in sponsoring a table, please contact Hella Scheuerman at [hella@dilleylawfirm.com](mailto:hella@dilleylawfirm.com) or Suzanne Patrick at [spatrick@stmarytx.edu](mailto:spatrick@stmarytx.edu).



Save the Date  
October 22, 2015

2015 Autumn Affair

The Veranda  
6:00 p.m.

*benefiting*  
Children's Bereavement  
Center of South Texas

*hosted by*  
Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

# Fitness Column: Feel the Burn!



By Lindsey Riley & Lauren Horne

## Texas Too Hot 15K/5K/1K

**When:** Sunday, July 12, 2015

**Where:** One City Lake Road, Boerne City Lake, Boerne, Texas, approximately 1 mile NW of Boerne off of Upper Cibolo Creek Rd.

**Registration:** <http://www.iruntexas.net/Races/TooHot/toohotinfo.htm>

15K starts at 7:30 am:

\$40 registration (through 7/3 at 11:59 pm)

\$45 late registration (7/3 at 11:59 pm through 7/11 at 2:00 pm)

5K starts at 7:30 am:

\$35 registration (through 7/3 at 11:59 pm)

\$40 late registration (7/3 at 11:59 pm through 7/11 at 2:00 pm)

1K Fun Run starts at 7:00 am:

\$10.00 registration (through 7/3 at 11:59 pm)

\$15.00 late registration (7/3 at 11:59 pm through 7/11 at 2:00 pm)

## Brew-Ha Roundup Half Marathon 5K & Kids Run

Benefitting our 2015 Autumn Affair Beneficiary, the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas

This is an inaugural run! Costumes (non-spooky) encouraged. Participants will also get to enjoy live music, food and beer!

**When:** Saturday, October 24, 2015

**Where:** Tejas Rodeo, 401 Obst Rd., Bulverde, TX 78163

**Registration:** <http://www.brewharoundup.com/>

Half Marathon starts at 8:30 am

\$65 through June 30

\$75 July 1 - August 31

\$85 September 1 - October 10

\$95 October 11 - October 22 at 11:59 pm

\$100 Race Day Registration- 5K starts at 8:30 am



\$30 through August 31

\$40 September 1 - October 10

\$50 October 11 - October 22 at 11:59 pm

\$55 Race Day Registration

· Kids Run starts at 8:00 am

\$20 through October 22 at 11:59 pm

\$25 Race Day Registration

**On the Horizon:** We hope you'll join BCWB for a River City Run on a date to be determined this fall! River City Run is a 5K running tour through the heart of San Antonio that passes by many of the key sites that the downtown/River Walk area has to offer. There are 15 stops with 18 landmarks to observe and learn about through entertaining history and trivia compiled by your tour guides.

### July Around Town Lunch

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, July 22, 2015, at noon, for the Around Town Lunch at La Frite Belgian Bistro in Southtown San Antonio. La Frite Belgian Bistro serves San Antonio's best and most authentic Belgian cuisine and is located at 728 S. Alamo St., San Antonio, TX 78205. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Member Spotlight: Kathleen Church



**What's your current job?**

I am vice president of Church and Church PLLC, a law firm I started with my father. I deal mainly with Probate and Wills, Guardianship cases, real estate transactions, and I also do mediation for the Bexar County Dispute Resolution Center when I can.

**How long have you been a member of the BCWB?**

**What's your best experience thus far?**

I have been a member of the BCWB since 2013. The best experience by far has been working on the committee for the Autumn Affairs. I love working with the other members and

putting together an event that can and has benefited so many well deserving organizations.

**Tell us about your morning ritual or daily routine.**

My morning routine is quite short actually; I credit that to not being a coffee drinker so I can bypass that morning rush for caffeine. One activity I try not to miss every morning is spending a few minutes with our office cats. We acquired three cats who were left in our parking lot and we've taken upon ourselves to care for when we couldn't adopt them out. It's a nice relaxing way to start the day, make sure they are tended to and stop for some pets and head scratches before starting the workday. Of course the lent brush to remove whatever fur they have left on pant legs or sweaters is usually the first thing I do when I get to my desk! Even though almost everyone has all their emails funneled to their phones, checking emails is next. Somehow over the years, as new platforms pop up, I've acquired quite a few email addresses ranging from personal to work related so it can take some time. Then it truly simply depends on the schedule for the day as to what happens next. Sometimes I have a mediation to get to outside the office, or client appointments I need

to prepare for (which almost always includes the ritual of me glaring at my finicky printer to go faster!), or documents that need completing to be sent out and reviewed by the client.

**What's your favorite moment of your career so far?**

I have many moments where you can see how much your work has helped a client, and those are always my favorite. My most recent favorite moment was last year working on a guardianship case for an elderly woman who had been essentially held hostage and abused at the hands of her son. Her daughter was applying for guardianship and I was there to represent the elderly woman. It was a joy to see her self worth and her enjoyment of life coming back. Knowing she would now be safe with a daughter, and a son in law, and a granddaughter who were banding together to take care of her, was a precious moment to witness. The family's relief at the guardianship hearing felt like my own relief. When a case ends with happy tears and hugs, you know you've done your job.

**What was your childhood dream job?**

My first childhood dream job was (con'd on p. 5)



## Member Spotlight (con'd from p. 4)

being an ice cream taster, I saw no downsides to that profession at all! To be honest, I remember always telling people when I was younger I would be attorney and I would write up ridiculous contracts in hopes people would sign. When your parents promise you a toy you need that in writing!!

**Guilty Pleasure: What can you not live without?**

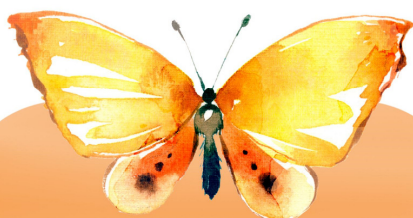
Cupcakes! I always tell people I live in a constant state of want-

ing a cupcake.

**What's the best career advice you've offered?**

The one piece of advice I've heard since the day I entered law school that turned out to be completely true, find a mentor or two. Finding a more experienced attorney, even if they are not in your preferred field of law, is key. It's always beneficial to have someone you can trust and someone to help you when you're just starting out.

Law school does not necessarily teach you the practical side of being an attorney, and a mentor can help fill those sometimes daunting gaps between school and real life. It's nice to find someone in your work, perhaps a colleague, and someone outside your work to give another perspective. As the saying goes, it takes a village, and many times starting out you need all the help you can get!



Please join us for the  
Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation's

### Autumn Affair Kick-Off Party

Wednesday, September 16  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Kendra Scott - Quarry Village  
310 E. Basse Rd. Ste 101

Bring a bottle of wine valued at \$15 or more and enjoy bubbles and bites while you shop. Kendra Scott will donate 10% of all sales to The Children's Bereavement Center. Attendees will receive 10% off purchase price and access to the Kendra Scott Color Bar™.

*For more information contact:*

Connie Arambula (carambula@lyndworld.com)  
Carmen Samaniego (attorneycarmen@me.com)

#### Save the Date!

Justice Jason Pulliam  
of the Fourth Court of  
Appeals will present at  
the August 4 Luncheon.

# Judicial Spotlight: Judge Crystal Chandler



*On January 1, 2015, Crystal Chandler was sworn in as Presiding Judge of County Court of Law No. 13, a Bexar County court handling family violence misdemeanor cases.*

### **Why did you decide to become a lawyer?**

While attending college, two professors I deeply admire, Dr. Larry Hufford and Dr. Robert “Bob” Lamb, suggested that I go to law school. They understood that I felt my life was a blessing and I wanted to devote it to helping others. As I began to focus my studies on law and international relations, the more fascinated I became and real-

ized they were precisely right - a law degree would afford me the opportunity to serve others and effectuate positive change in people’s lives.

### **Who are the people who have had the greatest influence upon your legal career?**

Throughout the years the Lord has put countless incredible people in my life to help guide and encourage me during my professional journey. My friend and study partner in law school, Regina Stone-Harris whose valor and resolve continues to inspire me; St. Mary’s Law School Professor Laura Burney who gave me the opportunity to help her write law review articles, appellate briefs and CLE material as her research assistant; my instructors Mark and Stephanie Stevens at the Center for Legal and Social Justice who taught me the beauty of the Constitution and the joy of serving as the voice for people in need; Chief Justice Phil Hardberger who taught me the power of the pen and a smile as his judicial intern; Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Justice Sue Holland who gave me the opportunity to work on legal matters that impacted the entire state as her briefing attorney and encouraged me to continue public service by working as

an Assistant DA; several former colleagues at the Bexar County Criminal District Attorney’s Office who helped me hone my trial and appellate skills, including Catherine Babbitt, Ed Guzman, Kirsta Melton, Judge Lori Valenzuela and Judge Kevin Yeary.

During my career, I practiced before many judges who had a profound influence on me including Chief Justices Catherine Stone and Sandee Bryan Marion, Justice Marilyn Barnard, Judge Juanita Vasquez-Gardner, Judge Mary Roman, and Judge Sarah Garahan. There are many others whose names are not included but for whom I am grateful to know and call my friends.

### **What are you most proud of so far in your legal career?**

I am most proud of the fact that I have devoted my entire legal career to public service. For over 15 years, I proudly served as a Bexar County Assistant Criminal District Attorney. I found my passion for helping families in crisis situations as a felony prosecutor in the Family Justice Division while handling crimes relating to the physical and sexual abuse of children, sex crimes against adults, and family violence ranging from felony assault to murder. (con’d on p. 7)

## Judicial Spotlight (con'd from p. 6)

**Is there a community activity that is important to you outside of the practice of law?**

It is important to me to raise the awareness regarding the reality of domestic human trafficking and bring healing and restoration to survivors. In 2007, I helped cofound Chapter 61 ministries, a nonprofit organization engaged in the fight against human trafficking. For several years, I traveled throughout the state educating and raising awareness of domestic human trafficking. During the campaign for judge, I met many like-minded people trying to make a difference in their own way.

Through networking, I have helped bring many of these people together. I continue to be an active participant in educating the public on this important issue and how family violence in the home puts children at greater risk of being trafficked.

**What tips can you give other lawyers interested in becoming a judge?**

Know the law and be committed to equal justice under it. Have jury trial experience. Maintain a strong work ethic. Be open-minded, compassionate, courteous, and patient. Find your passion. Walk in faith.

**What are you looking forward to the most during your time on the bench?**

Because County Court at Law No. 13 handles criminal family violence cases with less serious injury, there is the opportunity to change behavior before it escalates to a more serious injury. I look forward to hopefully changing someone's life for the better by implementing safety protocols for victims of abuse. And for those guilty of family violence, ordering education, counseling or punishment, as appropriate, to change this behavior.

## President's Column (con'd from p. 1)

award for the best overall newsletter. BCWB Director Carmen Samaniego correctly pointed out that we were the only "specialty" bar to be awarded one of the Stars of Texas Bars awards. I couldn't have been more proud of our organization. I felt so privileged to walk up and accept the award from outgoing bar president Trey Apffel. That Thursday was capped off with a festive happy hour co-sponsored by the State Bar Women in Law committee and the Bexar County Women's Bar.

And then just last week, the Supreme Court handed down an

historic opinion that has garnered the most traditional and social media attention that I can recall any judicial decision receiving! It has been so fun to see all the colorful posts on Facebook and across the internet in response to our "lawyer celebrities" (the Supreme Court Justices) doing what they do. It has also been a catalyst into some interesting conversations with friends and family members who have been disappointed by the decision. I haven't actually talked to anyone about "checks and balances" since law school.

Let's keep up the momentum and the excitement as the summer heats up! Please join us for our monthly CLE luncheon on July 7, our family-friendly Minions movie event with Moms-in-Law San Antonio on July 11th, and our around-town lunch on July 22. We'd love to see you there! And please take some time to lift up other women attorneys by nominating them for our Belva Lockwood awards to be presented at Autumn Affair on October 22. In the meantime, have a safe and festive Fourth of July weekend!

# Help Your Kids Learn Lawyer Skills at the DoSeum, San Antonio's New Children's Museum



By Inga Munsinger Cotton

The DoSeum, San Antonio's new museum for children, opened on June 6. It's a dramatic change from the downtown location. Now located near Brackenridge Park, the DoSeum is much larger, in an innovative green building with free parking, outdoor play areas, and new exhibits. Some old favorites are back, too, including Molly Trolley and a redesigned airplane, in Little Town, and Powerball Hall, now upstairs with an engineering-based exhibit called Innovation Station.



Imagine It! is dedicated to reading. There is a dramatic play area and a reading nook. Reading is fundamental to so many disciplines and careers, including law. Storytelling is an essential skill for lawyers is storytelling, whether you are a trial lawyer making an opening statement, "This case is a story about ...", or you are putting a set of documents in order to explain how a problem developed.

A station in Imagine It! invites children to storyboard, using dry-erase markers and stickers. The young author has to organize her thoughts, put things in order, and explain how you get from one step to the next. Not that different from a lawyer with her marker and flip chart, right?

Spy Academy is one of several exhibits that focuses on STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Young would-be spies tackle number puzzles, 3D shapes, and pattern recognition,

while wearing sneaky disguises.

Spy Academy includes games that depend on deductive reasoning. Lawyers don't get enough credit for this, but our profession does depend on the use of logic and reasoning to find the truth. If you can eliminate suspects, Sherlock Holmes-style, then you can find out who did it.

Spy Academy is an example of a new exhibit that appeals to older children. Even if your children had outgrown the old downtown location, the DoSeum might be worth another look.

The two main outdoor areas are the west yard, with big climbing equipment and water tables, and the quieter east yard, with a meandering stream and a treehouse. As lawyers, we have demanding careers and work on complex issues, but it's important to take time out to go outside and relax with the people we love. (con'd on p. 9)

Kids have fun at the DoSeum, and tend to be unaware of how much learning happens at the same time. The exhibits invite them to play by presenting an opportunity to solve a problem or make something original, and kids rise to the challenge.

Two exhibits, Imagine It! and Spy Academy, offer skill-building that lawyers can especially appreciate.





## Help Your Kids Learn ... at the DoSeum (con'd from p. 8)

Here's some information for planning your visit:

\* Admission is \$11 per person for ages 1+. Members get in free; join at <http://www.thedoseum.org/join>.

\* Summer hours are 9 am to 6 pm Monday-Saturday, and 12 pm to 6 pm Sunday. Members-only hour is 11 am to 12 pm Sunday.

\* Parking is free.

\* The DoSeum cafe is coming soon.

\* In September, the DoSeum will begin offering free nights twice a month.

\* The DoSeum offers summer camps and an early childhood program, the Little Doers. You can also host birthday parties

and events at the DoSeum.

\* The DoSeum store is one of the coolest toy stores in town.

I hope you and your families have a great time learning at the DoSeum.



## Women's Law Association Update

By Leah Wise

The Women's Law Association (WLA) will hold its annual silent auction on November 5, 2015 at the St. Mary's School of Law Alumni Room. This year, the will benefit The Healy Foundation, a local charity aimed at assisting San Antonio youth such as teen moms and their children. Dona-

tion items for the auction or money donations are welcomed and appreciated. To help with the auction or to donate, please email WLA President Leah Wise at [leahmariewise@gmail.com](mailto:leahmariewise@gmail.com). The WLA is very grateful for your help with this endeavor and hopes to see you there!"

## Case Watch: *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans*



By Leslie Hyman

On June 18, 2015, the Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans*, addressing a state's right to limit the issuance of specialty license plates. In Texas, specialty plates may be requested by the state legislature, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Board, a state-designated private vendor (working on behalf of individuals or groups), or non-profit groups. Non-Profit groups working outside the private vendor process that want the state to issue a particular specialty plate must propose a plate design to the DMV Board, which has the authority to approve or reject the application. Under the Texas Transportation Code, the DMV Board may reject a proposed design if, among other things, it "might be offensive to any member of the public."

Non-profit entity Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans proposed a specialty plate featuring a Confederate battle flag and the DMV Board rejected the design after a public comment period. The Sons of Confederate Veterans sued, arguing that the rejection violated their rights under the Free Speech Clause of the U.S. Constitution and seeking

an injunction requiring the DMV Board to approve the proposed plate. The trial court entered judgment for the DMV Board, but the Fifth Circuit reversed, holding that Texas's specialty license plate designs are private speech and that the DMV Board engaged in viewpoint discrimination when it refused to approve the design.

In a 5-4 ruling authored by Justice Breyer,\* the Supreme Court held that license plates constitute government speech, not private speech. The Court relied upon its recent decision in *Pleasant Grove City v. Summum*, 555 U. S. 460 (2009), for the proposition that when the government has traditionally used a medium to convey government speech, the medium is closely identified in the public mind with the government, and the government controls the selection of possible speech, such speech is deemed government speech. The Court concluded that the Texas license plate scheme meets these criteria. The state clearly maintains control over the messages on its specialty plates. The Court reviewed the history of images and slogans on license plates, including Texas's inclusion, in 1968, of the phrase "Hemisfair 68," and concluded that the government had traditionally (at least until the relatively recent explosion of specialty plates) used license plates to convey government speech. Finally, the Court held that Texas license plates are closely identified in the public mind with the state as the plates are issued by the state and required by state law. Indeed, the Court observed that if a non-profit group did not want to suggest governmental approval of its slogan, it could simply create bumper stickers



with its message, which could be in bigger type than that on a license plate.

The Court rejected the argument that license plates are a forum for private speech, holding that license plates do not meet any of the criteria used to identify such forums as the state retains both final authority over the approved designs and ownership of approved designs and as the license plates are primarily used as a form of government identification. The Court concluded, therefore, "[b]ecause the State is speaking on its own behalf, the First Amendment strictures that attend the various types of government-established forums do not apply."

As government speech, the Free Speech Clause does not apply because the government has the freedom to select the messages it seeks to convey. The Court recognized that "as a general matter, when the government speaks it is entitled to promote a program, to espouse a policy, or to take a position."

\*The ruling was not the typical 5-4 ruling. In this case, Justice Thomas joined Justices Breyer, Ginsburg, Sotomayor, and Kagan in the majority, while Justice Kennedy joined Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Alito and Scalia in dissent.