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## President's Message

It is not enough to be busy; so are the ants. The question is: What are we busy about?

As I was preparing to draft this month's column promoting the San Antonio Bar Association's Community Justice Program (CJP), this quote popped up on [Forbes.com](http://Forbes.com). It struck a chord with me. Slightly modified from the original Henry David Thoreau

quote—it is not enough to be industrious; so are the ants. What are you industrious about? The question elicited for me, what am I busy with and what should I be busy with? One thing I know I can make time for is volunteering for charitable organizations. One such organization that needs our help is the CJP!

The CJP has undergone some



big changes this year, and now operates as an independent program under the San Antonio Bar (con'd on p. 5)

## August Luncheon: Sheriff Susan L. Pamerleau, Ending the Cycle of Abuse

Please join us at noon on August 2, 2016 to welcome Bexar County Sheriff Susan L. Pamerleau. Sheriff Pamerleau will address the cycle of abuse many women find themselves trapped in and the practical ways we can work to end that cycle. CLE approval pending.

Sheriff Pamerleau was elected as Sheriff on November 6, 2012, becoming the first woman to be elected to the post. She began her 32-year career in the United States Air Force when fewer than one-percent of the Armed Forces were women, and rose to the rank of Major General. During her Air Force career, she re-

ceived numerous major awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit.

After retiring from the Air Force, she served as Senior Vice President at USAA. She serves on the board of directors for Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company.

**When:** August 2, 2016, 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** Club Giraud

**Cost:** \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$20 for students, payable at the door

**RSVP:** Club Giraud needs a headcount well in advance of the luncheon, so RSVP by Thursday, July 28. You can now register and pay online! Include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand schedules change, but we cannot guarantee a spot 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 Rachel Skinner ([rskinner@dykema.com](mailto:rskinner@dykema.com)) or Meagan McKeown ([mmckeown@dykema.com](mailto:mmckeown@dykema.com)). We hope to see you there!

# Member Spotlight: Courtenay E. Euton



**What's your current job?**

I am a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Courtenay E. Euton, PLLC. I practice in the following areas: Special Education Law, Wills, Probate and Guardianships, and Family Law.

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

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

I joined BCWB in May while signing up for the BCWB retreat. I have never been to the retreat before, but I am looking forward to it. Since I just joined, I do not really have any experiences to share. However, I am sure I will have plenty in the near future. I am really looking forward to being more active in this group

and meeting other members.

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

I recently had a baby, so my morning rituals have slightly changed. After getting up ready for work, I always make sure to have some time left over, so that I can just play with Naomi before the work day begins. We read books, play with her various toys, or just have fun making silly noises together. In the evenings, I meet my sister-in-law to go running around Olmos Basin. My daughter frequently tags along, but it is a bonus for us. Not only do I get to spend time with her, she gets to bond with her aunt and enjoy the outdoors.

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

I represent a lot of children with various disabilities against school districts regarding the child's individual education program (IEP) and related supports and services. I was participating in an Admission Review and Dismissal (ARD) meeting with the opposing counsel. At the time of this meeting, I had just gotten out of law school and found out I passed the July Bar, sworn in, etc. Opposing counsel knew all of that about me. I guess you could say, my favorite career moment was having the wisdom, knowledge and confidence to show opposing counsel

that I might be a "newbie" but this newbie knows Special Education Law. During this meeting Opposing Counsel quoted only a portion of the law in his argument. Of course the portion he quoted, was in favored his client, the school district. After he finished his argument, I proceeded with "Yes, but the law also states ...." The meeting ended very successfully. The child was provided with the supports and services his disability requires; and is doing very well in school.

I am very grateful that the other attorney, who I enjoy working with, challenged me that day. If it was not for him challenging me like that who knows if I would have gained the confidence I needed that day. This meeting showed me what I have always known to be true - prepare well and you shall succeed. This area of my practice is so rewarding and I enjoy (well I like to think I am) making a difference with these children every day through their education.

**What was your childhood dream job?**

I believe my first dream jobs included becoming a barrel racer for the rodeo. When I realized that was not going to happen (for plenty of reasons) I focused strictly on becoming an attorney.

(con'd on p. 4)

## Book Reviews



By Lisa Alcantar

*My Name is Lucy Barton.* As a general matter, I prefer prose to be stripped clean, bare and to the point. That's not to say that florid prose doesn't have its place; it just doesn't engage me in the same way as its plain spoken cousin. Elizabeth Strout is a master of saying more with less. I read *Olive Kitteridge* years before and enjoyed it, though I can't say the story stuck with me. But I have a feeling *My Name is Lucy Barton*

will be with me for a while. Most of Lucy's story is recalled from five days of a nine week stay in the hospital, during which time Lucy's mother kept Lucy company as she recovered from an appendectomy and later complications. Lucy is married with two daughters. This isn't the story of her marriage. While it is in many ways the story of her childhood - full of poverty and abuse - the reader is given only a glimpse of the rough edges of her childhood. At a mere 192 pages, this book was a quick afternoon read. It both broke my heart for the hurts we knowingly and unknowingly allow to pass to our children and also the sheer resiliency of spirit. In full disclosure, my aunt didn't like this one at all! I'd love to hear what you thought of it.

*Eligible.* I told you back in May that I intended to read *Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld, which is a reimaging of Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*. Why would Sittenfeld do this, you might ask yourself. She was invited to participate in the Austen Project, along with 3 other novelists revisiting Austen's other major works. This came through on my library waitlist and, it being a regular old Saturday night, I plunged into the book around 10 p.m. and did not stop until I finished it in the wee hours of the morning. I simply could not put this book down. Was it the best thing I have ever read? No, but Sittenfeld did an amazing job bringing the spirit of Austen's characters into the modern day. I won't bother with a plot synopsis; I'll just leave you with a strong recommendation for this book as a lovely way to lose yourself for a few hours!

OCT. 5 AND 6 AT THE EMPIRE - [ETHICSFOLLIES.COM](http://ETHICSFOLLIES.COM) FOR TICKETS

**ETHICS FOLLIES**

BCWBA MEMBERS! JOIN THE FUN BY PERFORMING IN ETHICS FOLLIES CHICAGO! REHEARSALS ARE A FEW EVENINGS IN SEPTEMBER AND THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3RD. DANCING AND SINGING PARTS ARE AVAILABLE. TO LEARN MORE, COME TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CAST/CREW ON AUG. 25 AT 6 P.M. AT DYKEMA, 18TH FLOOR. DINNER WILL BE SERVED.

2 HOURS ETHICS CLE, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND NETWORKING.

COME JOIN US! FIND OUT MORE FROM CAST MEMBERS KATHERINE NOLL AND MARISSA HELM.

Join BCWB members and participate in this year's Ethics Follies! This year's parody is based on Chicago, with opportunities to sing and dance available. There is still plenty of time to join us, and if dancing in fishnets isn't your thing, many other roles are available. This is a truly fun opportunity to get ethics credit and network while performing! If you have any questions, please email [marissa.helm@parallon.com](mailto:marissa.helm@parallon.com) or [knoll@dykema.com](mailto:knoll@dykema.com).

# Call for 2016 Autumn Affair Sponsors



By Marissa Helm,  
Preparations are in full swing for this year's Autumn Affair, to be hosted by the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in our new venue, the Pearl Stables. After having a sell-out crowd the past couple of years, we wanted to ensure there was plenty of space for our sponsored tables and all of our guests.

We are also shifting our focus this year to celebrate three pioneering women jurists from Bexar County—Carol Haberman Knight-Sheen, Rose Spector, and Carolyn Spears Petersen. This allows us to offer some amazing and exclusive benefits to top-level sponsors.

Please contact Marissa Helm ([marissa.helm@parallon.com](mailto:marissa.helm@parallon.com)) or Suzanne Patrick ([sbpatrick@ollusa.edu](mailto:sbpatrick@ollusa.edu)) for more information or to reserve your table today. We expect record demand for table sponsorships again this year!

**Legacy Sponsor: \$5,000**

Premier table for 10 with champagne service

Prominent recognition—including color logo—on all digital media, publications, and programs for the event

Name sponsorship of legacy video showcasing the first three women jurists in Bexar County

An honored guest featured in the video may be seated at your table, as available

**Trailblazer Sponsor: \$3,500**

Superior table for 10 with champagne service

Prominent recognition—including black and white logo—on all digital media, publications, and programs for the event

**Visionary Sponsor: \$2,500**

Preferred table for 10 with champagne service

Recognition on all digital media, publications, and programs for the event

**Catalyst Sponsor: \$1,500**

Reserved table for 10

Recognition on all digital media, publications, and programs for the event

**Individual Tickets: \$150**

## Member's Spotlight (con'd from p. 2)

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

I absolutely love coffee. I really cannot even understand why, because the caffeine has zero effect on me (probably means I drink way too much of it). My other vice, which I only turn to when I am stressed, is

Diet Dr. Pepper. Like I tell my husband, my guilty pleasures could be way worse.

**What's the best career advice you can offer to others?**

My only advice is to work in an area that you enjoy and love. Choose a career that

makes you want to get out of bed every morning and give 110%. Even though every morning is not like that for me (I am human), I would not change my career choice.

### Welcome New Members

Dana Gorelick

Marcy Hernandez

Kimberly Kayatta

Cynthia Orr

Tillie Ramirez

Sandrine Shelton-Denbow

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

Association and Foundation. Operating as a 501(c)(3) organization, the CJP's mission is to provide free legal services to indigent and low-income individuals who may not otherwise have access to the legal system. Services are generously provided by volunteer attorneys and staff at legal clinics held around the city of San Antonio. The CJP receives over 100 calls for help each day. Without volunteer attorney help, the CJP cannot operate.

The BCWB will participate in the CJP Wills Clinic on October 18, 2016, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's Center for Legal and Social Justice. We seek volunteers to come out and help. Please save the date on your calendar! The Wills Clinic is a great opportunity to volunteer for one evening only. As a volunteer, you will assist with the preparation of basic wills and powers of attorney for a client. The documents are all executed at the clinic so your work is finished at the end of the evening. The CJP provides easy-to-use template documents that you will explain to the client and complete based on client preferences. Estate planning experience is not needed to help. Experienced estate planning attorneys will be onsite to answer questions you or the clients may have.

If you are unable to join us at the Wills Clinic, the CJP also offers Family Law Clinics and Veterans Clinics. These clinics provide a great opportunity to engage in pro bono work within a comprehensive and efficient clinic setting. Through these clinics, San Antonio residents

receive the important legal help they need but cannot afford.

The Veterans Clinic provides an opportunity to help serve those who have served us! Veterans have a wide range of legal issues, so experienced attorneys in all practice areas are needed. This monthly clinic is held at the Audie L. Murphy Veterans Hospital at 7400 Merton Minter St. These clinics begin at 1:00 p.m. and usually end by 4:00 p.m. The clinics offer will preparation just like at the regular Wills Clinics, but mostly advice only on a wide variety of legal issues. Veterans and their spouses are eligible to receive services. The Veterans Clinics will be held on: August 19, September 16, October 21, and November 18.

The Family Law Clinic is offered quarterly, with upcoming clinics scheduled on August 9 and November 8. You do not need to be a family law attorney to volunteer. Before the clinic, the CJP prescreens each case to determine if it is uncontested. On the night of the clinic, the CJP provides you with sample documents that you may need and the assistance of experienced family law attorneys to help both during the clinic and as you complete the legal documents after the clinic. District clerks, judges, law students, paralegals, notaries, and other support staff are on hand to ensure cases are prepared and filed in an easy and smooth manner.

The CJP requests that all volunteers register ahead of time so the program staff can ensure the attorney to client ratio matches up. To sign up for any

of the CJP clinics, contact CJP Director Amanda Reimherr Buckert at [amandab@sabar.org](mailto:amandab@sabar.org). You can find a complete calendar at the CJP website [www.cjpsa.org](http://www.cjpsa.org).

In addition to helping those in need, clinic volunteers are eligible to receive up to a total of 5.5 hours in CLE credit, including 1.25 hours of ethics credit. All clinic volunteers will receive .5 hour (.25 is ethics) for the preliminary training session each clinic volunteer is provided prior to meeting with their assigned client. The program is offer up to 5 hours (1 hour ethics) of CLE credit to volunteers for any time they worked directly with a mentor. For more information on CLE details, contact Amanda via email or phone at (210) 227-8824.

Find some time in your busy schedule to support a CJP clinic and come join the BCWB on October 18, 2016 at the Wills Clinic.

If you are unable to volunteer at a clinic, you can still help! You can Just Give One! Donate the equivalent of one billable hour to ensure the CJP has the funding it needs to continue offering services to everyone in need! To donate today, simply click on the "donate" button on the CJP's website, [www.cjpsa.org](http://www.cjpsa.org).

### Around Town Lunch

Join BCWB board member Carmen Samaniego for Lunch!

Friday, August 19, noon

Paesanos, 3622  
Paesanos Parkway, San Antonio 78231

No need to RSVP. Just look for Carmen or ask for her table upon arrival.

# Judicial Spotlight: Judge Ron Rangel



By Arya Koneru & Jordan Cadenhead, interns, 150th District Court

*Judge Ron Rangel has presided over the 379th Criminal District Court since 2008. He also serves as the Local Administrative Judge, representing 27 Bexar County district courts. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Rangel worked as a child victim's advocate for Child Protective Services, a felony prosecutor, and a criminal defense attorney.*

**Why did you decide to become an attorney?**

Judge Rangel decided to become an attorney at age twelve because he was fascinated by Abraham Lincoln's life story. Lincoln

stressed the importance of reading and is quoted stating "Everything I've learned, I learned from books." Judge Rangel made this ideology one of his foundational principles. Judge Rangel attributes Lincoln for teaching him the importance of empathy, a skill he credits with helping him tremendously on the bench.

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

Homer Vasquez, who was once the first assistant district attorney at the Hidalgo County District Attorney's office, mentored Judge Rangel and taught him how to prepare and try cases. Judge Rangel's father was also a great influence in his career. Although his father was not an attorney, he instilled strong values in Judge Rangel that have helped him tremendously in his legal career.

**Why did you choose criminal law?**

Judge Rangel thrives on the drama of a jury trial dealing with liberty and life. He pulls inspiration from Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and views the idea of justice as nebulous and constantly evolving.

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

Judge Rangel is most proud of the personal stories he receives through letters describing citizens who have appeared before him and how he impacted their lives. The judge values his ability to impact people's lives in a positive way and always tries to do so.

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

Read! Judge Rangel is a believer in the power of books and suggests that all lawyers read, and read a lot. He emphasizes the importance of reading different perspectives of the same subject to learn all possible arguments. He states that it is vital for judges to understand that all people view situations differently, and that every single thing someone tells a judge is important. Judge Rangel firmly believes that only by understanding different viewpoints can a judge effectively uphold justice.

**How do you define justice?**

Justice is being even handed, honest, ethical, willing to listen and to understand. Justice only occurs when you are fair and kind to both parties.

# Texas Advanced Paralegal Seminar



September 28-30, 2016 | Three Day Multi-Track CLE  
Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk | Networking & Entertainment

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk, 111 E. Pecan Street, San Antonio.

The reservation deadline is August 28, 2016. Hotel reservations must be booked and cancelled through the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk. Guest room rate is \$139.00 for single/double. To reserve a room, either [register online](#), or call 1-866-764-8536 and specify group Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas (call in only).

Note: If the desired room you are reserving is not available online, please call.

## REGISTRATION OPTIONS

**Full registration** price includes three days of CLE, speaker materials, socials, and the Friday attendees' keynote luncheon. As an attendee you can attend any session during the three days of the seminar.

Pick and choose the classes YOU want to attend.

**One-day registration** price includes one day of CLE and seminar materials (socials and luncheon at an additional price).

As a one-day attendee, you can attend any session during the day you register to attend TAPS.

Pick and choose the classes YOU want to attend.

Register Early & Save!

Early registration ends August 15, 2016!

Scholarship opportunities available!

[www.txpd.org/taps](http://www.txpd.org/taps)