

# THE EQUAL TIMES

Bexar County Women's Bar Association

# BCWCB

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

January 2018

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## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Happy New Year! 2018 begins a new year for Bexar County Women's Bar Association and Foundation and I am thrilled to lead you fabulous women this year! BCWB has a rich history of service to the community, and I'm hopeful that 2018 will be no exception. I'd like to highlight a few opportunities for you to give back to our community this year, starting with the Wills Clinic on January 23. As many of you remember, the Wills Clinic was created by BCWB in 1994. BCWB has since been adopted by the San Antonio Bar Foundation's Community Justice Program, where it continues to help low-income individuals with end of life documents. I hope you will join us on the 23rd. See the call for volunteers on page 3.

The mentor-mentee committee pairs attorneys and members of the St. Mary's University School of Law's Women's Law Association to facilitate the exchange of guidance and advice. I hope you'll consider making a new connection and help a law student navigate those

# January Around Town Lunch



Join Serina Rivela at Bok Choy on January 26, 2018 at 11:30 am. The address is 5130 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209. This new restaurant features delicious vegetarian and vegan Pan-Asian dishes and fabulous [lunch specials](#). More information about the restaurant can be found in this [article](#)!



**No Need to RSVP - Just Look for Serina**

# **Start 2018 Off Right by** **Volunteering at the** **January CJP Wills Clinic!**

**January 23, 2018**

**5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**St. Mary's Center for Legal and Social Justice**

**2507 NW 36th**

**San Antonio, Texas 78228**

BCWB is partnering with the Community Justice Program this month to coordinate volunteers for its Wills Clinic. The Wills Clinic is held quarterly at St. Mary's Center for Legal and Social Justice. This quarter the Wills Clinic will take place on January 23, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Volunteer attorneys and legal professionals assist in drafting wills and other end of life documents for qualifying individuals. If you are interested in getting a head start on volunteering this year, please contact Shari Mao at [smao@jw.com](mailto:smao@jw.com) or Rachel Skinner Fernandez at [rskinner@dykema.com](mailto:rskinner@dykema.com).

We hope to see you there!



**COMMUNITY  
JUSTICE PROGRAM**  
THE PRO BONO PROJECT OF SABA



## January CLE Luncheon

Co-hosted by St. Mary's **Women's Law Association**  
featuring Fourth Court of Appeals Justice Irene Rios



Tuesday, January 23rd at noon

St. Mary's School of Law

Sarita Kennedy East Law Alumni Room

RSVP by **Monday, January 22nd** by clicking [here](#).

\$25 BCWB Members, \$30 Non-members

We understand that schedules may change, but we cannot guarantee seating for those who do not RSVP.

*Walk-ins will be charged \$35 to cover the additional demands on our caterers and no-shows will be billed.*

# It's Time to Renew Your Membership

By Nicole Jackson  
Membership Chair



Once again, it is time for the annual renewal of dues for the 2018 Bexar County Women's Bar Association. The Bexar County Women's Bar Association and Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation have many exciting events planned for 2018 that you will not want to miss. Just a few of the gatherings include the CLE retreat in Boerne, monthly CLE luncheons, mentor/mentee outings, community service programs, socials, and the always popular Autumn Affair.

As you know, the highlight of our year is the Autumn Affair where, in the past, we have honored women judges in Texas and women lawyers in Bexar

County, who have served the law and our community. This gala has also helped us raise hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past 30 years for local charities. In 2017, we donated \$40,000 to THRU Project, which helps San Antonio youth overcome the challenges of growing up in the foster care system by providing guidance, support, and advocacy in order to prepare them for life after foster care. Be a part of our membership and join a committee so that, together, we can make a real difference in our community.

No matter whether you are female or male, a judge, lawyer, paralegal, legal assistant, student, or "friend," I invite you to join! And ask a friend to join too! By now you should have received a renewal reminder by email. You may complete the renewal process by logging into the BCWB [website](#).

Your membership renewal will entitle you to the following:

- Monthly electronic copy of our award-winning newsletter, *Equal*

*Times;*

- BCWB monthly luncheons with .75 hrs of CLE credit at a discounted rate;
- Online Membership Directory;
- E-mail announcements of upcoming events and activities of interest;
- Discounted tickets to legal community functions (e.g., Peacemakers Gala, SABA Installation Dinner, SABA Law Day Luncheon), subject to availability;
- Profile on Bexar County Women's Bar Membership website;
- Access to membership information and community postings on the Bexar County Women's Bar Membership website;
- Invitations to exclusive BCWB functions, many of which are complimentary; and
- Networking opportunities with some of the most powerful, amazing women in the state.

Thank you for your continued participation and support! I look forward to receiving your application and sharing more details with you about the upcoming year!

## **CALL FOR AUTUMN AFFAIR** **BENEFICIARY NOMINATIONS**

We need your help!

The Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is soliciting nominations for this year's Autumn Affair beneficiary. If you know of a deserving local organization serving women or children that would like to apply to be this year's beneficiary, please send the name and contact information to Rachel Skinner Fernandez at [RSkinner@dykema.com](mailto:RSkinner@dykema.com) by February 16th.

# New Year: Better You

by: Kathleen Church



It's officially 2018 and the slogan "New Year, New You" is everywhere! After the holiday season, the wallet might be lighter but the body might be heavier which means January is always the month for resolutions involving diets and exercise, vows to break bad habits and save money, and researching ways to better one's self. The San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department can help you keep those exercise resolutions, save that money, and put you on a path to perhaps not a "new you" but a better you by helping the community and nature surrounding you.



The weather recently has certainly been frightful, but us San Antonians know that won't last long and a little dose of nature, before those temperatures start climbing again; could be just what is needed to energize the New Year. Fortunately for our city, we boast a number of parks, green belts, and preserved natural areas, but all those beautifully green sceneries need volunteers to keep them clean and healthy. This is where you, your family and friends, or potentially your law firm as a group, swoop in to help. Our parks especially need quite a bit of upkeep, from removing graffiti to picking up litter to planting trees and weeding; there is a plethora of things to choose from for volunteering. Individual volunteers are always welcome but if your law firm is looking for a great project that not only promotes team work but also beautifies the community, the Adopt A Park program could be perfect. All essential tools are provided; all you need to provide are

the people ready to enjoy the outdoors! For more information and an application to adopt, please visit, [here](#).

For those of us already enjoying a regular exercise regime or looking to start one, the numerous public trails the city offers have probably been researched and memorized; and those trails need volunteers to keep them clean but to also offer assistance to the people using them. Trail Watch Volunteers is a program where volunteers provide information about the trails to the patrons as well as help ensure their safety. An orientation is required but after that; only four hours a month is the requested investment from volunteers. Learn more about the trails you love, soak up sunshine and fresh air, and help others; it's a win for all involved! For more information about the Trail Watch Volunteer program, please visit [here](#).

Cleaning up Brackenridge Park has been one of the main projects of the San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department for the past

year or so. As it's such a large area with several issues, the task has been and continues to be immense. One of the biggest issues the Brackenridge Park Conservancy faces is the number of abandoned domestic and feral cats currently inhabiting the park, and this is where the animal lover in all of us can help. The Brackenridge Park Community Cat Program is always looking for volunteers! Don't worry, no one is asking volunteers to help catch the cats, but they are asking help in feeding them. After a short orientation and training, volunteers are asked to help feed on Tuesday's and Friday's. All supplies and food are provided, the Brackenridge Park Conservancy just asks you to bring yourself. For more information on volunteering to help the cats, please

email, [Kristy@brackenridgepark.org](mailto:Kristy@brackenridgepark.org) or call 210-826-1412. For more information about the program itself, please visit [here](#). Helping the local cats is not the only way Brackenridge Park needs assistance. Almost every month of the year has a volunteer



opportunity, for those announcements please check back on this [page](#). Some of us are not one with nature, but would still like to volunteer and the San Antonio Public Library System has got you covered! If you are technologically inclined, help is wanted updating and maintaining the library links and websites. If group activities is more your thing, then assistance in setting up exhibits and putting on children's activities could be for you. If maintaining order and organization is your passion, the libraries always need help keeping their materials in order and shelving books properly.

For all volunteer opportunities in the library system, please visit [here](#) or email

[veronica.anderson@sanantonio.gov](mailto:veronica.anderson@sanantonio.gov).

Also don't forget the Book Cellar located in the basement of the Central Library for any donations of books you might have. For more information about the Book Cellar, please visit [here](#).

Hopefully there's an opportunity here for everyone to jump start their new year, better you attitude for 2018. Happy New Year to all the members, now let's get helping!

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Jacqueline C. Ramon
  - Kelly Preston
  - Lara DeLeon
- Stephanie Chandler
- Lauren Ciminello
  - Erin Moses
- Sandra Chidi-Nwagwu
  - Laura Castro
  - Jessica Gonzalez
  - Holly Voth
  - Karina Cantu
  - Alicia Perez

## SAVE THE DATE

Bexar County Women's Bar Annual Retreat

June 7-8, 2018

Boerne, Texas

Interested in helping plan the retreat?  
Contact Judge Renee Yanta or Nicole Jackson



BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION  
**LEAD ACADEMY**  
LEAD. EMPOWER. ADVANCE. DEVELOP.

Ladies LEADing their way into the new year!

On January 11, 2018, the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation LEAD Academy Steering Committee, Advisory Board, and BCWB Board of Directors welcomed the newest members of the 2018 LEAD Academy Class with a kick-off at Rosario's North.



Sarah Donahue, Molly Neck, Colleen Mulholland, Rachel Skinner Fernandez, Leslie Hyman, Robin Thorner, Deborah Williamson, Melanie Fry, and Natalie Wilson



Tiffanie Clausewitz, Katherine Noll, and Elena V. Sullivan.



# Member Spotlight:

## Justice Phylis Speedlin



### **What's your current job?**

Currently, I practice alternative dispute resolution—mediation, arbitration, and private judging— at the law-firm Dykema Cox Smith.

### **How long have you been a member of the BCWB? What's your best experience thus far?**

I think I have been a member since the Women's Bar Association was first formed. I remember being a baby lawyer and attending a meeting with a handful of women enthusiastically attempting to create the women's Bar

Association. As to my favorite experience, there are too many to pick one. Overall, my most fulfilling moments have come from mentoring new attorneys.

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

My morning ritual includes getting up early, choosing an appropriate outfit for the day, putting on a enough makeup to hide my wrinkles, walking my puppy, making an energy smoothie, and rushing out the door after kissing my husband goodbye.

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

The favorite moment of my legal career were the thousands of moments during the 10 years I spent on the Fourth Court of Appeals with incredible justices, staff attorneys, law clerks, and staff. I often describe it now as a "Camelot experience." People liking and respecting each other and working closely together to reach a just and right

decision for the residents of our Judicial District and for the rule of law of our State. I feel blessed to have had the incredible experience and opportunity.

**What was your childhood dream job?**

I don't think I had a childhood dream job. I was one of those individuals that could never make up her mind about what I wanted to be when I grew up. I guess that explains why I have been a nurse, hospital administrator, trial attorney, Judge, Justice, mediator, arbitrator, and even an author. I wonder what I will do next?

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

I must confess that I love bread, cookies, and strawberry shortcake. Put any of those things in front of me and I struggle to maintain some semblance of control.

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

My best career advice would be "never give up." When I started my journey I had no money to attend college. It seemed like leaving my small town in Ohio would be absolutely impossible. However, I never gave up. I continued to find opportunities to educate and train myself even when that required working two jobs while attending school. I never gave up when I decided to be one of the first female trial attorneys in San Antonio even when I was dismissed, yelled at, or treated like a secretary by other male attorneys and judges. I never gave up when I lost reelection in 2012. Instead, I made a new opportunity for myself with the best law firm in San Antonio. I could cite other examples but they would all come down to the same thing – never give up.



## FOURTH COURT OF APPEALS

San Antonio, Texas

### JOB VACANCY NOTICE

**State Job Title: Attorney V**  
**Annual Salary: \$87,000 - \$97,527**

**Closing Date: Open Until Filled**  
**Location: San Antonio, Texas**

#### **GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION:**

The Court is in need of a Staff Attorney who will work under the supervision of Chief Justice Sandee Bryan Marion. The person hired is required to produce highly advanced appellate work requiring in-depth analysis and preparation of legal memoranda, extensive research of applicable law, and provision of legal advice and counsel. Works under the direction of Chief Justice Marion with opportunity to use initiative and independent judgment.

#### **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

Conducts manual and computer-assisted legal research; analyzes statutes, judicial decisions, and other legal sources. Prepares memoranda and proposed orders and opinions in civil and criminal appeals. Participates in pre- and post-submission conferences. Performs related work as assigned.

#### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must possess a license to practice law in the State of Texas for no less than 5 years; knowledge of legal principles in civil and criminal law; excellent legal research and writing skills and knowledge of Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure, *The Bluebook*, *A Uniform System of Citation*, and *The Greenbook, Texas Rules of Form*. Ability to identify, analyze, and present issues, both orally and in writing. Proficient in computer research and word processing skills. Ability to prepare, plan, and organize work to communicate clearly and effectively.

#### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Previous appellate court experience as an appellate attorney, a briefing attorney, or a staff attorney. Top 20% of graduating class; law review, law journal experience; moot court and/or mock trial experience.

Note: The following Military Occupation Specialty Codes are generally applicable to this position: Air Force: 92J0; 51J1; 51J3; 51J4; Army: 27A, 27B, Marine Corps: 4402. Applicants must fully complete the summary of experience to determine if minimum qualifications are met. Supporting VA disability documentation and/or DD214 must be submitted with the completed State of Texas Application in order to receive preference. Additional Military Crosswalk information can be accessed at: <https://www.onetonline.org/crosswalk/MOC/>

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURES:**

Applicant must submit (1) State Job Application form (see <http://www.twc.state.tx.us>), (2) a writing sample, and (3) a list of three references via hand delivery or USPS to:

Keith E. Hottle  
Clerk of the Court  
Fourth Court of Appeals  
300 Dolorosa, Suite 3200  
San Antonio, TX 78205-3037

In addition to the State Job Application, a cover letter and résumé may also be submitted.

The Fourth Court of Appeals is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or provision of services. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, any requests for reasonable accommodation needed during the application process should be communicated by the applicant to the Clerk of the Court.

**TITLE:**Staff Attorney

**REPORTS TO:**SA Managing Attorney

**TYPE OF POSITION:**Full-time

**OFFICE LOCATION:**San Antonio, Texas

**FLSA STATUS:**Exempt



**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:**

The Staff Attorney provides high quality legal orientations, workshops, and other services to eligible immigrants at the Karnes Family Detention Center, the Dilley Family Detention Center, and the South Texas Detention Complex. Further, the Staff Attorney participates in and provides high quality general information sessions, individual information sessions and pro se workshops under the Immigration Court Helpdesk program at the San Antonio Immigration Court. Additional responsibilities include representing immigrants who qualify for VAWA, U visas, T visas, representation and consultations for potential asylum seekers, Family Based clients, those detained by ICE, and other immigrants who may qualify for immigration relief under the direct supervision of the SA Managing Attorney. Staff attorneys are also required to maintain programs statistics, client databases and files, and provide reports as required. Education and outreach to the immigrant community on various legal issues is also required as a staff attorney.

**MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Conducts general orientations, individual orientations, and pro se workshops with detainees at the detention centers
- Conducts general information sessions, individual information sessions and pro se workshops with respondents in removal proceedings at the San Antonio Immigration Court
- Consultations for clients including: VAWA, U visa, T visa, asylum, detention and removal, and any other applicable relief
- Screen immigrants in detention for eligibility for services provided by AG

- Represent eligible immigrants before USCIS, and in bond and removal hearings and before the Immigration Court
- Mentor pro bono attorneys representing clients
- Participate in community education and outreach activities as needed
- Maintain client databases and caseload, as determined by the SA Managing Attorney
- Provide monthly statistical reports of caseload and program activities
- Other duties as needed

#### **REQUIRED WORK EXPERIENCE/SKILLS:**

- Dedication to and experience in serving low income populations
- Experience working with the immigrant community
- At least two years of legal experience in immigration law, or in a non-profit organization serving low-income persons
- Bilingual in Spanish and English
- Excellent communication and writing skills
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail

#### **REQUIRED**

#### **EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS:**

- JD from accredited university
- Bar Admission in any US state (Texas preferred)

#### **PREFERRED EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:**

- Proficiency in any other language
- Criminal Law background
- Immigration clinic experience
- Court Experience

#### **HOW TO APPLY:**

All interested applicants, please send a cover letter, resume, references (at least 3) and short writing sample (no more than 5 pages) to [toamericangateways@gmail.com](mailto:toamericangateways@gmail.com). Applications will be reviewed up until the position is filled.

#### **BENEFITS:**

Health insurance; partial dental & opt-in vision; short/long term disability; life insurance; generous vacation plan. American Gateways is a unionized organization and all benefits are negotiated within the collective bargaining agreement.

More information about this application is here.



# President's Column: Continued

trying three years and beyond. Reach out to Robin Thorner or Durime Fahim, who are working with St. Mary's student director Lauren McCollum, and let them know you'd like to be a mentor. Our first mentor-mentee mixer will be held in March.

BCWB is looking to implement a new community service program in conjunction with the National Association of Women Judges. The Storybook Project helps incarcerated mothers maintain contact with their children. Mothers are recorded reading a story to their child, who is mailed both the book and the audio recording, enabling the parent to sustain a relationship and strengthen the bond with the child. The Bexar County Sheriff's Office is excited about the program, and we need volunteers to help us get it off the ground. If you are interested, please contact me at [president@bexarcountywomensbar.org](mailto:president@bexarcountywomensbar.org).

This is your Women's Bar Association! If you have suggestions, ideas, comments, or complaints, please reach out to me. I hope to see you in 2018!



# Texas Women Lawyers

2018 ANNUAL CLE AND ANNUAL MEETING

INSPIRE IMPACT. *Be Fierce.*

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018**  
**SPEAKERS' RECEPTION 5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM**  
Honored Guest Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman  
Circa 1963 (roof top) | Hotel Indigo, 325 N. Kansas Street, El Paso, Texas

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO**  
CLE Credit 6hrs | Pending Approval.

REGISTER ONLINE: [HTTPS://TXWOMENLAWYERS2018CLE.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://txwomenlawyers2018cle.eventbrite.com)



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

*Professor Margaret Montoya*

## *Morning Schedule*

- 8:00-8:45 REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING BREAKFAST**
- 8:45-9:00 WELCOMING REMARKS**  
Lisa Hasday | President of TWL  
Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy | President, National Association of Women Judges and  
New York State Supreme Court Justice (New York County)
- 9:00-9:30 "YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY"**  
A conversation with former Texas Supreme Court Justice Ruby Sondock  
(First Woman to Serve During Regular Session of the Texas Supreme Court)
- 9:30-10:15 FIERCE NEGOTIATIONS INCLUDING NEGOTIATING FOR YOURSELF**  
Laura V. Yeager, J.D., LL.M | Your Legal Counsel | Yeager Law, PLLC
- 10:15-10:30 DR. DIANA NATALICIO**  
President of The University of Texas at El Paso
- 10:30-10:45 NETWORKING BREAK**
- 10:45-11:15 INSPIRING IMPACT IN THE LAW AND BEYOND THROUGH NON-PROFITS**  
Amber Allred | General Counsel Executive Vice President at  
Wounded Warrior Project, Inc.
- 11:15-11:45 BEING FINANCIALLY FIERCE**  
Top 10 Financial Challenges Facing Women Today  
Roxane Rose CFP® | The Rose/Cates Group
- 11:45-12:15 FROM THE FRONTLINES OF THE PAY EQUITY BATTLE**  
Lori Andrus | Andrus Anderson LLP  
Class Action Counsel in Pay Equity Suit Against Farmers Insurance

BRENDA TSO RISING  
YOUNG LAWYER  
RECIPIENT

*Erin Nowell*



PATHFINDER AWARD  
RECIPIENT

*Chief Justice Ann McClure*

## *Afternoon Schedule*

### **12:15-1:15 LUNCH AND AWARDS**

2018 Pathfinder Chief Justice of the Texas Eighth Court of Appeals Ann McClure and Brenda Tso Rising Young Lawyer Recipient Erin Nowell

### **1:15-2:00 KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

#### **WOMEN INSPIRING CHANGE: PROFESSOR MARGARET MONTOYA**

An Interactive Discussion with Professor Montoya, featured in the ABA's *Pioneering Women Lawyers* publication.

### **2:00-2:15 NETWORKING BREAK**

### **2:15-3:00 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE PANEL**

Gloria Leal | Moderator  
Hon. Senfronia Thompson (Tent.)  
Hon. Victoria Neave  
Hon. Ina Minjarez  
Hon. Lina Ortega

### **3:00-3:30 IMPACTING LAW THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA COLLABORATION**

Susan Carns Curtiss | Founder of Girl Attorney, LLC

### **3:30-3:45 NETWORKING BREAK**

### **3:45-3:55 ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS**

### **3:55-5:00 CONVERSATION WITH THE JUDICIARY**

Texas Supreme Court Justice Debra Lehrmann | Moderator  
United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas Kathleen Cardone  
The Thirteenth Court of Appeals Justice Gina M. Benavides  
Dallas County Court at Law No. 1 Judge D'Metria Benson

### **5:00-6:00 NETWORKING RECEPTION**

# Registration Information

## REGISTER ONLINE AT

<https://txwomenlawyers2018cle.eventbrite.com>

## REGISTER BY MAIL

By submitting the form below

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

**\$195 TEXAS WOMEN LAWYERS INDIVIDUAL**

Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

**\$150 GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC INTEREST, AND ACADEMIC LAWYERS**

Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

**\$100 NEWLY LICENSED ATTORNEYS**

(Licensed Attorney for 1 year or less)

Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

**\$100 HALF DAY ATTENDANCE**

Cost includes either morning or afternoon session only

**FREE LAW STUDENT**

Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL (Based on space availability)

**\$3000 CHAMPION SPONSORSHIP**

Included in marketing materials as underwriter of event – Exclusive advertising and time to speak to the attendees – Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Special recognition with company logo in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

**\$2000 ADVOCATE SPONSORSHIP**

Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Entitles sponsors to briefly welcome attendees – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Special recognition with company logo in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

**\$1500 COUNSELOR SPONSORSHIP**

Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

**\$1000 MENTOR SPONSORSHIP**

Four complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

**\$500 ADVISOR SPONSORSHIP**

Two complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

**\$250 PEER SPONSORSHIP**

One complimentary admission to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

I CANNOT ATTEND THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE, but I have enclosed a donation in the amount of \$  in support of Texas Women Lawyers.

Remember that for \$250, you can be included in the Sponsorship Listing!

NAME:

FIRM:

TITLE:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

ST:

ZIP:

TELEPHONE NO.:

STATE BAR NO.:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PRIMARY PRACTICE AREA:

For sponsors, please email the names and email addresses of participants using complimentary tickets to: [texas.women.lawyers.email@gmail.com](mailto:texas.women.lawyers.email@gmail.com).

Checks payable to: Texas Women Lawyers, Send to: Jackson Walker LLP, c/o Jennifer F. Wertz, 100 Congress Avenue, Suite 1100, Austin, Texas 78701

**TEXAS WOMEN LAWYERS ANNUAL CLE | INSPIRE IMPACT. BE FIERCE.**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018 | THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

**CHAMPION**

Kastl Law, PC  
Law School Preparation Institute -  
The University of Texas at El Paso (In Kind)

**COUNSELOR**

Roxanne Rose

**MENTOR**

Eberstein & Witherite, LLP  
Dallas Trial Lawyers Association  
Texas Trial Lawyers Association

**ADVISOR**

The Almaguer Law Firm  
Express Records  
Hoover Slovacek LLP  
Jackson Walker LLP  
Center for Women in the Law  
Steptoe & Johnson PLLC  
Misty Blair, Kaneka Americas Holding, Inc  
National Association of Women Judges (In Kind)  
Montes Law Firm, PLLC  
El Paso Bar Association  
Fullenweider Wilhite/Lauren Waddell

**PEER**

Judge Maria Salas-Mendoza  
Deborah L. Cordova, PC  
Myra K. Morris  
Antcliff Mediation, PLCC  
Royston Rayzor  
AJ Johnson / Kane Russell Coleman Logan PC  
Spurlock & Associates, P.C.  
Goggin Law Firm

**TEXAS WOMEN LAWYERS**  
**100 CONGRESS AVENUE, SUITE 1100**  
**AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

**SPEAKERS' RECEPTION**

HONORED GUEST  
TEXAS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE  
EVA GUZMAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018  
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Please join us for a cocktail reception with our  
sponsors, speakers and guests.  
Circa 1963 (roof top) Hotel Indigo

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**CONFERENCE LOCATION**

The University of Texas at El Paso  
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center  
500 W. University Ave.  
El Paso, Texas 79968

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**SPECIAL ROOM RATES \$149**

Hotel Indigo  
325 N. Kansas Street  
El Paso, Texas, 79901  
(915) 532-5200

# Nonna Osteria

## Restaurant Review

By Karen Vowell



Nonna Osteria is Chef Luca Della Casa's new venture. If you aren't familiar with the chef, you should be. He was on Next Food Network Star – he totally should have won — and has been serving up fabulous food at Silo's for quite some time. He is a big part of making San Antonio a true "foodie" destination. Nonna's — Italian for "grandmother" — is located in the Fairmont Hotel and serves Northern Italian cuisine. Justice Barnard took me to Nonna's for my birthday lunch in December and as she promised, it was just fabulous.

Everything was perfect, beginning with the décor. The restaurant is bright and airy, with white subway tiles and dark navy accents. As you enter there is a beautiful glass wine case. Nonna's has simple marble-topped tables, dark navy

tufted booths, and dark wooden chairs – very inviting. The accents are simple, but fit perfectly with the overall vibe. From nearly every seat in the house you can see the kitchen pass where the Chef is preparing his beautiful food – ladies, this is a big bonus (but don't tell my hubby).

Everything we had was delicious. You know how almost all Italian restaurants bring out the standard olive oil and herbs with bread for dipping? Well, there is nothing standard about this gem at Nonna's. Chef Luca has created a dipping sauce with the finest olive oil, minced olives, and minced anchovies (don't freak out on me here), which is served with focaccia bread. Let me start with the standard, "But I don't like anchovies!" I can never, ever, ever say that again! OMG!!!! I would put this olive oil

dipping sauce on anything and everything (and I did)! Chef, you should really bottle this stuff.

We ordered the arancini in tomato sauce as an appetizer and they are incredible. Tasty little morsels, light and delicious in a tomato sauce as good as any an Italian nonna could make. For my main course, I ordered the house specialty—Gnocchi de Nonna – because gnocchi is my favorite pasta. This version is gnocchi with rabbit and it's absolutely incredible — braised rabbit that is then shredded and served with olives, fontina cheese,

and a delicious tomato sauce. One of my lunch mates ordered the Tagliolini Al Ragù — the Chef's version of a Bolognese. She raved about it. Justice Barnard ordered the Insalata Di Mare — a cold seafood salad with a lemon vinaigrette. She was kind enough to share a bite, and it was beautiful — fresh and delicious. And, I saw one of the three house pizzas being served to another diner — that's what I'm ordering on my next visit — or maybe the Risotto Al Nero – black risotto with fried calamari in a shrimp bisque, or maybe the Risotto & Animelle —





saffron risotto with fried sweetbreads and wild mushrooms. I am now drooling on my keyboard. Oh yes, I see many more visits to Nonna's in my future.

As for dessert, do not, I repeat, do not leave without trying the olive oil cake — it's my new favorite dessert of all time! Layers of olive oil cake with cream and a fruit and syrup topping - with little crunchy bits thrown on for texture. To. Die. For. We also ordered the lemon tart

dessert — it was also fabulous, especially the candied tangerines on the top. My lunch mates thought the tart was the best — something for everyone at Nonna's!

Chef Luca does not disappoint (but I didn't really expect he would). Nonna's is by far my new favorite Italian restaurant!



# Tricentennial Tidbits: 300 Miles Initiative

By: Amanda Crouch



2018 marks the 300th anniversary of San Antonio. The city has developed a series of initiatives commemorating history and education, arts and culture and community service to reflect on the city's past, celebrate San Antonio's current achievements and prepare the community for the next 300 years.

Each month, the Equal Times will be highlighting one of the Tricentennial Initiatives.

This month, we are providing information regarding the 300 Miles Initiative. The Tricentennial Commission has partnered with Baptist Health System, Tenet Healthcare Foundation, and the YMCA of Greater San Antonio to present **300 Miles**. This initiative challenges and encourages the community to celebrate San Antonio's 300th anniversary through fitness. Participants will have seven months to complete 300 miles of walking, running and/or biking.

More information about the program and how to register can be found [here](#).

Stay tuned for more information about the city's tricentennial initiatives and celebrations!



# BCWB Lites

- Interested in a corporate associate opening with a local firm. The work would involve sophisticated private equity M&A and related corporate transactions, mostly on the buy side. The ideal candidate is someone with 2-5 years of experience but the employer would be open to someone with more experience too. The pay will be competitive with the added benefit of low billable (1600 hours). Contact Morgan Matson at [mmm@preferredcounsel.net](mailto:mmm@preferredcounsel.net) if you are interested.
- Erica Benites Giese recently began a new career in the Civil Division at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Erica is using her criminal prosecution experience to handle cases involving the False Claims Act and leading investigations to root out government and health care fraud. She has also been given the opportunity to broaden her civil experience and represent the government in defensive matters involving the federal tort claims act, employment discrimination, allegations of civil rights violations, and habeas petitions by immigrants in detention. Congratulations Erica!



# OUR MISSION

*The mission of the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is twofold: to provide educational opportunities to its members; and to protect and strengthen local families by supporting legal and charitable programs.*

Bexar County Women's Bar Association

**BCWB**

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

**Please Direct All  
Questions, Comments and  
Submissions to:**

**[Newsletter@BexarCountyWomensBar.Org](mailto:Newsletter@BexarCountyWomensBar.Org)**

# THE EQUAL TIMES

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