

THE EQUAL TIMES

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Spring is near and, as you know, this is a great time to reflect and be thankful. All of the events planned throughout the year are scheduled by our own volunteer members, who provide countless hours in planning, organizing, fundraising, and all of the other tasks that are involved in getting these events onto our calendars. Thank you to all, whether you have participated in planning one event, or several, it takes our collaborative effort to make BCWBA the extraordinary organization that it is today, for which we have all contributed. We are thankful for you!

I want to express my appreciation for Serina Rivela and Brittany Weil, who planned this year's President's Party at El Mirasol this past month. The room for this event was very nice with colorful decorations, flowers, delicious appetizers, and most importantly, a lot of our members, who made the evening very special! During the party, we heard from Delia McLerran, formerly Network Principal for Young Women's Leadership Academy, and now Head of School, who gave us an update on the school and the success of the students. Ms. McLerran expressed her gratitude for the mentorship support of the Bexar County Women's Bar members. We are especially

President's Column (cont.)

thankful to our LEAD class members and everyone that attended for their support in coming out to vote for the Law Day Contest winners. The winners of our local Law Day Contest will be announced at the Law Day Luncheon on April 9, 2019. We invite all of our members to attend this very special lunch, which will be attended by many of the YWLA students who submitted entries for the Law Day Contest.

Other events for which we are thankful for, that provided opportunities to meet and catch up with members this past month included the CLE lunch planned by Patti Oviatt, Casey Lee and Elaine Damian Salazar, at Club Giraud, with speaker Christina M. Nahidi, Deputy General Counsel for the Texas Department of Banking, on the topic of "Cryptocurrency And Blockchain: Beginner's Guide And Implications For Your Practice", which was very well attended, the Around Town Lunch with Nicole Jackson at Eggspectation and the Off The Clock social mixer with the San Antonio Bar Association.

We also had a few opportunities to volunteer with Caritas Legal Services through their Ask A Lawyer program. I attended one of these clinics this month and I can express to you that offering this pro bono service was very rewarding, both for the person attending the program and for myself. This was a 3 hour clinic involving a question and answer session regarding various legal issues, that included family law, probate and estate planning. I encourage you to attend one of their upcoming Ask A Lawyer clinics this next month.

Calling volunteers for Autumn Affair! Monica Lerma and I will be co-chairing the committee assisting with the beneficiary application/review process. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact either Monica Lerma, at monicalerma@iheartmedia.com or myself at hella@sch-lawfirm.com, by March 22, 2019. If you are interested in serving on some of the other Autumn Affair Committees, to include, arrangements and decorations, set up, auction, please contact Kathleen Church, at Kathleen@churchlawsa.com or Durime Fahim at durime@me.com.

Be on the lookout for the Spurs Game we have planned for March 31, 2019, you can find more details about this event in this newsletter.

Hella Scheuerman
BCWB President

2019 PRESIDENT'S PARTY *Recap*



By: Serina Rivela
President's Party and
Law Day Contest
Committee Chair

Many thanks to our members who joined us Wednesday evening, February 20th, at El Mirasol in honor of our newly elected BCWBA's President, Hella Scheuerman, previous BCWB Presidents and New Members. It was a great evening to personally welcome this year's Lead Academy Class and to socialize with new and familiar faces while enjoying the wide variety of lite bites and refreshing margaritas.

Our members got to view all of the artwork and editorials the Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) submitted for this year's Law Day Contest: Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society. We also enjoyed learning more about the YWLA from Delia McLerran who recently was promoted to Head Of School. Many thanks to those of you who participated in judging the Law Day Contest at the President's Party and those who opted to donate funds to purchase much needed SAT prep books for the YWLA students. We look forward to announcing the winners at the upcoming Law Day Luncheon on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at the Quarry Golf Club!



2019
PRESIDENT'S PARTY
Memories



February CLE Luncheon Recap

**By: Elaine Damian
Luncheons Co-Chair**

Welcome to the future! February's luncheon took us all on a ride through cyberspace and innovation. Cristina M. Nahidi, Deputy General Counsel of the Texas Department of Banking, deciphered the technological terms and broke down how the world of cryptocurrency and blockchains works and covered the laws created to address this ever-advancing technology. Most importantly, she provided practical tips for how this innovation touches various areas of practice and how to better inform and serve our clients as it relates to cryptocurrency and blockchains.

Ms. Nahidi explained the basics. Essentially, Blockchain equals the internet and Cryptocurrency is an application, like email, made possible by the new technology. More specifically, cryptocurrency is a medium of exchange, created and stored in the blockchain. Encryption techniques are used to control the creation of monetary units and to verify the transfer of funds. It has no physical form, intrinsic value and its supply is not determined by a centralized banking system, unlike the traditional currency (fiat, electronic, or virtual) such as paper, coins, or even credit cards.

The positive aspects of Cryptocurrency are that it provides for high speed transfers across the globe and has minimal to no transaction costs associated with its use and is anonymous. Unfortunately, price values fluctuate dramatically, it's accepted in limited arenas, and is subject to hacking where all can be lost forever.

Those in attendance found Ms. Nahidi's presentation so interesting that the room was buzzing with ideas and questions; so many, that not all questions could be answered in the time allotted! Before the presentation, most would probably say that they had heard of bitcoin or cryptocurrency, but few could



February CLE Luncheon Recap cont.

articulate how it works and most certainly did not understand how it could relate to various areas of the law such as wills, trust and estates, family law, post judgment discovery, collections, tax law, criminal law and small business startups. After Ms. Nahidi's brilliant presentation, we all learned how important it is to have a basic understanding of this technology so we can better inform and advise our clients and look forward to a more innovative and creative future.





National Conference of Women's Bar Associations

February 2019 Newsletter

Did you know that we are a member of the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations?

Click [here](#) to read the NCWBA February 2019 Newsletter and learn about other women's bar associations across the country!

MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

By: Robin Thorner

As part of our commitment to support future women lawyers, BCWB and the St. Mary's Women's Law Association are teaming up to host a series of mentorship circles this spring. If you would like to host a small group of WLA members at your home, a coffee shop, or a restaurant for an informal discussion about your career and to share your advice, please e-mail Robin Thorner at rthorner@stmarytx.edu. Prefer to co-host with another attorney? The more, the merrier! You set the date, time, location and number of students you wish to invite, and we will take care of the coordination.





LEAD Academy Update

By: Leslie Hyman

BCWB Board Member

2019 LEAD Steering Committee

The 2019 class Symposium took place on January 30 through February 1 at the T Bar M Ranch in New Braunfels. The event started out with speed networking, giving the class members an opportunity to get to know each other. Out-of-town speakers included Kim Askew, who is a partner at K&L Gates in Dallas, and Linda Chanow, who is the Executive Director for the Center for Women in Law at UT School of Law. Local speakers included Langley & Banack Shareholder, and LEAD Steering Committee member, Sylvia Cardona and Paula Gold Williams, who is CEO of CPS Energy. Ms. Williams's recounting of making a multi-million dollar profits reporting error was particularly encouraging to the class. After all, if Ms. Williams can survive that, we can all survive anything! The Symposium also included a Strength Finders workshop and a presentation on Vision and Authenticity. The 2019 class's next event will be a voluntary vision board and happy hour at Schmoyer Reinhard in March.

Members of our 2017 and 2018 classes continue to participate in mentorship circle events, including a meet-the-judges event put together by Judge Karen Pozza. Judge Pozza was joined by Justices Patricia Alvarez and Luz Elena Chapa and by Judges Monique Diaz, Toni Arteaga, Cathy Stryker, Laura Salinas, and Norma Gonzales. We hope to make this a quarterly event.



2019 AUTUMN AFFAIR UPDATE



By: Kathleen H. Church and
Durime Fahim
Autumn Affair Co-Chairs



Happy March to all! Hopefully you saw our save the date in the last newsletter, and if not, don't fear, all of the info is in this one as well. This year, Autumn Affair will be held on October 25, 2019 at the Witte Museum. Doors will be open at 5:30 p.m., so don't be late!

At this time, we are looking for volunteers for Auction Committee and Décor Committee. Alice in Wonderland lends itself to some amazing decoration ideas and any and all help would be appreciated immensely! It is still early in the Auction Committee days, but one can never start too early for this kind of event. Even if you cannot volunteer, if you have auction ideas or contacts, please do not hesitate to contact us.

This month, we are calling all members to nominate non-profit agencies for Autumn Affair. We request that you submit the contact information for any non-profit agency that you wish to be sent an application for consideration as this year's Autumn Affair Beneficiary. Please send the agency's contact information, to include name of contact at agency, address, telephone number and e-mail address to Hella Scheuerman at hella@sch-lawfirm.com or Monica Lerma at monicalerma@iheartmedia.com, by March 22, 2019.

In the meantime, please enjoy pictures of Durime (left) and myself, Kathleen (right) attending Autumn Affairs through the years!





Bexar County Women's Bar Association

BCWB

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

SAVE THE DATE!!!
2019 BCWBF Autumn Affair
Witte Museum
Friday, October 25, 2019
6 o'clock



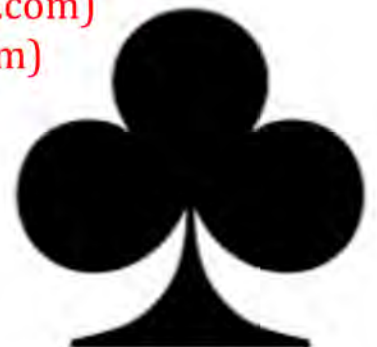
***Don't be late
for a very important date!***

Co-chairs

Kathleen Church (kathleen@churchlawsa.com)

Durime Elmazi Fahim (durime@me.com)

Please email Kathleen or Durime
for volunteer opportunities.



2019 LAW DAY LUNCHEON

Please join us as we recognize our Law Day winners from the Young Women's Leadership Academy, and welcome keynote speaker, Justice Liza Rodriguez from the Fourth Court of Appeals, who will discuss this year's Law Day Theme: "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society."

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Quarry Golf Club

\$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$20 for students, payable at the door* or [online](#)

RSVP: The Quarry Golf Club has asked that we provide a headcount well in advance of the luncheon, so please RSVP by Tuesday, March 29, 2019 by clicking [here](#). *You can now register and pay online!* Please include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand that 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 the Quarry Golf Club's staff and no-shows will be billed.

For more information, contact Serina Rivela at Serina.Rivela@uhs-sa.com.



Membership Renewal for 2019

By: Lindsay S. Riley
Membership Committee Chair

Don't forget to renew your BCWB membership! We have many exciting events planned for 2019 that you will not want to miss. You can complete the renewal process by logging into www.BexarCountyWomensBar.org.

If you have any questions or any problems renewing your membership online, please contact me at lriley@dykema.com. 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!

March Around Town Lunch

Join Jane Ann Fosson for the March Around Town Lunch on Friday, March 22, at noon at Whiskey Cake, located at 15900 La Cantera Pkwy Ste 21200 No need to RSVP - just look for Jane Ann. Hope to see you there!



Catholic Charities
Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc.

Caritas Legal Services presents:

ASK A LAWYER

Immigration | Guardianship | Kinship

Would you like to volunteer?

We welcome your help

- ▶ Guardianship/Wills
- ▶ Immigration Assistance
- ▶ Child Support
- ▶ Grandparent Rights
- ▶ Custody Rights
- ▶ Power of Attorney
- ▶ Crime Victim's Rights

- Jan 19th 9a-12p Sacred Heart, Floresville
- Jan 26th 9a-12p Sts. Peter and Paul, New Braunfels
- Feb 9th 9a-12p St. Timothy
- Feb 16th 9a-12p Holy Redeemer
- Mar 2nd 9a-12p St. Cecilia
- Mar 23rd 9a-12p Our Lady of Guadalupe, Helotes
- Mar 30th 9a-12p St. Andrew, Pleasanton
- Apr 6th 9a-12p St. Peter the Apostle, Boerne
- Apr 13th 9a-12p St. Andrew, Lytle
- May 11th 9a-12p St. Joseph, Del Rio
- May 25th 9a-12p St. Mary Magdalene
- Jun 1st 9a-12p St. Pius X
- Jun 22nd 9a-12p Shrine of Padre Pio
- Aug 17th 9a-12p St. Timothy

Lawyers interested in providing pro bono services to Caritas Legal Services must contact Tom Harper with Volunteer Services at (210) 222-1294 or tharper@ccaosa.org to process a volunteer application.

Caritas Legal Services
110 Bandera
San Antonio, TX 78228
www.ccaosa.org





March 2019

Impact San Antonio

Happy Hours around Town



COME JOIN THE FUN!

HAPPY HOUR Olmos Park

Tuesday, March 26

5-7 pm

Tribeca

4331 McCullough Ave

210-320-0698

APPETIZERS PROVIDED/CASH BAR



Members and guests are invited to bring friends to our new Happy Hours around Town! It's our recruiting season, and this is a fun, social opportunity to introduce more great women to Impact San Antonio. See your friends and make new ones. Don't know anyone in Impact SA? Come meet us!

Register today! See "What's happening" at www.impactsanantonio.org for other happy hours and events.

Info & Registration [here](#)

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Legislative Attorney (Communications Law)

Congressional Research Service (CRS), American Law Division (ALD)

2/13/2019 to 3/14/2019

\$96,970 to \$126,062 per year

Seeking a Legislative Attorney to analyze legal questions that emerge from the work of Congress related to communications law in particular and American public law generally. This is a non-litigating position emphasizing qualifications and interest in legal research and writing in a public service legislative context.

Candidates with research experience in and broad general knowledge of legal issues regarding communications law in particular and American public law in general; who demonstrate strong research, writing, and oral communication skills; and who possess a portfolio of high quality legal analytical writing are encouraged to apply. Experience as a judicial clerk will be beneficial.

The position's primary focus is the broad area of communications law. However, given ALD's relatively small staff and the breadth of issues ALD covers for Congress, candidates must also be capable of working in a number of different areas of the law and have the intellectual curiosity to seek out and maintain a broad portfolio of legal issues. Thus, applicants should also have knowledge of constitutional and administrative law and statutory interpretation.

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of communications law in particular and American public law generally**
- Ability to analyze legal issues**
- Ability to write in a legal context**
- Ability to convey legal analysis and information orally through briefings, consultations and other presentations.

CRS is fully committed to workforce diversity. Interested applicants must apply online <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/524321400>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

Legislative Attorney (Trade Law)

Congressional Research Service (CRS), American Law Division (ALD),

2/27/2019 to 3/27/2019

96,970 to \$126,062 per year

Seeking a Legislative Attorney to analyze legal questions that emerge from the work of Congress related to trade law in particular and American public law generally. This is a non-litigating position emphasizing qualifications and interest in legal research and writing in a public service legislative context.

Candidates with research experience in and broad general knowledge of legal issues regarding trade law in particular and American public law in general; who demonstrate strong research, writing, and oral communication skills; and who possess a portfolio of high quality legal analytical writing are encouraged to apply. Experience as a judicial clerk will be beneficial.

The position's primary focus is the broad area of trade law. However, given ALD's relatively small staff and the breadth of issues ALD covers for Congress, candidates must also be capable of working in a number of different areas of the law and have the intellectual curiosity to seek out and maintain a broad portfolio of legal issues. Thus, applicants should also have knowledge of constitutional and administrative law and statutory interpretation.

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- Knowledge of trade law in particular and American public law generally**
- Ability to analyze legal issues**
- Ability to write in a legal context**
- Ability to convey legal analysis and information orally through briefings, consultations and other presentations

CRS is fully committed to workforce diversity. Interested applicants must apply online <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/525647800>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)



FOURTH COURT OF APPEALS

San Antonio, Texas

JOB VACANCY NOTICE

State Job Title: Attorney V
Annual Salary: \$97,527

Closing Date: 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 Justice Rebeca C. Martinez. 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 Justice Rebeca C. Martinez 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.

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.

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/>

Help St. Mary's University law students dress for success

The Office of Career Services is accepting donations of business attire to help law students build their professional wardrobes.

Donations can be dropped off at the Office of Career Services in the Sarita Kenedy East Law Library, Room 216, or at the next monthly luncheon.

Please contact Kim Underdown at 210-436-3511 or kunderdown@stmarytx.edu to arrange a donation pick-up.



OFFICE OF
CAREER SERVICES

law.stmarytx.edu

The St. Mary's Law "Suit Up Station" is now open for law students who are in need of professional attire for an interview or even their first day on the job. If you have business professional and business casual clothes and accessories you no longer wear, we will happily take them!

BCWB LITES



Christine Rudy is pleased to announce she recently started her own practice, Christine Rudy Law. Christine has been litigating family law cases in Bexar and surrounding counties since 2015. She handles all aspects of family law - primarily divorce, child custody and child support. Christine encourages peaceful resolutions for her clients and their families, while recognizing when court intervention becomes necessary.

Christine can be reached at:

www.christinerudylaw.com

9901 I.H. 10 West, Suite 800

San Antonio, Texas 78230

Tel: 210-558-2841

info@christinerudylaw.com



Sylvia A. Cardona has been appointed to the Advisory Board of Langley & Banack's Management Committee. She is a shareholder with the firm and practices commercial litigation. She also serves as the chair of the Hospitality Law group at her firm, and is a leader in her community and bar associations. She sits on the steering committee of the LEAD Academy, and we congratulate her on her new leadership position on Langley & Banack's Advisory Board.

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Ashley Duffy

Elena Serna

Gail Jensen

Shayla Sanchez

Leslie Megin Koch

Jacqueline Sandoval

Juanita Pelaez-Prada

Chelsea Mikulencak

Rachel Reuter

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.



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

Newsletter@BexarCountyWomensBar.Org

THE EQUAL TIMES

Edited by

Brittany M. Weil