



TEXAS Law

Alumni News & Notes

NOVEMBER 12, 2020

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

ALUMNI STORIES

Akatugba '13 Honored as Alumni Mentor of the Year



Cynthia Akatugba '13, an Assistant Attorney General with the General Litigation Division of the Texas Attorney General's office, was put forth by her mentee Anais Stevens '22 and selected from a group of nearly three dozen nominees. [Read more >](#)

Anderson '72 Recognized for Lasting Influence and Innovation



Prof. David Anderson '72 may be retired, but he and his work are still in the spotlight among leading scholars in mass media, free speech, and the press. Two of his best-known articles were celebrated in the most recent *Communication Law and Policy*, a special issue entitled "Articles That Matter." [Read more >](#)

Galvan '93 Wins Dallas Women Lawyer's Association's Highest Honor, The Louise B. Raggio Award



Hilda Galvan '93 was honored for "demonstrating the highest levels of professionalism (and) significant contributions to the advancement of women attorneys," while Samantha Crispin '99 was named the 2020 Outstanding Woman Attorney. [Read more >](#)

Guthrie '17 Launches Texas Poverty Law Project to Help Texas' Vulnerable Populations



Carl Guthrie '17, who this year led the defense for the nation's first-ever remote jury trial, has started a non-profit to ensure individuals can overcome economic barriers to justice.

[Read more >](#)



How are you giving back this holiday season?

We want to tell the story of alumni community service, especially this year. Is that you, or someone you know? Let us hear from you! No kindness is too small.

[Tell Us Your Story](#)

LAW SCHOOL NEWS

Veterans Bring Unique Perspectives and Life Experience to Law School

This Veterans Day, Texas Law is shining a light on students who have served in America's military. Each is involved in a range of school organizations and causes, and each has a unique career ambition. Together, they and the many other veterans in our student population enrich the Texas Law community.

[Read more >](#)

Alumni Leadership, Student Success: The Mentoring Program Celebrates Its Fifth Year

Texas Law's unique approach to mentoring has helped more than 1500 students find an alum to help them thrive in law school, summer work, and the long-term career search. [Read more >](#)

May It Please the Courts: Prof. Vladeck in Both SCOTX and SCOTUS

Prof. Steve Vladeck is on academic leave this semester, but busier than ever, having made his first argument before the Supreme Court of Texas on Oct. 6, and his third argument before the Supreme Court of the United States the following week. [Read more >](#)

Prof. Albert to Lead Program on Constitutional Studies

Richard Albert, the William Stamps Farish Professor in Law as well as a Professor of Government, is taking on an additional role: Director of the Program of Constitutional Studies. The Program brings together scholars across the University in the world's leading center for the study of constitutionalism. [Read more >](#)

Read more [Texas Law News](#)

**ANNUAL
GIVING**
2020/2021



Texas Law Onward!

We invite you to take part in the Law School's story of excellence and make a contribution to the Annual Fund before the end of the calendar year.

[Donate to the Annual Fund](#)

EVENTS

Nov. 12 – [Path to the Bench: Honorable Judge Lynn, NDTX](#) | American Constitution Society

Nov. 17 – [Preparing for the Known Unknowns: A Plan for Every Longhorn](#) | The University of Texas at Austin's Gift and Estate Planning

Dec. 1 – Giving Tuesday | Texas Law

View upcoming [Texas Law Events](#)

CLASS NOTES

Listed alphabetically by last name.

Congratulations to all our Texas Law alumni who were recognized in 2020 Texas Super Lawyers® and Best Lawyers in America®.

Zach Burford '18 joined Reynolds Frizzell LLP as a litigation associate. As a trial attorney, he advises clients across a wide array of industries.

William "Bill" L. Cotulla '61 passed away in San Antonio on Oct. 19, 2020, at the age of 84. He took pride in living in the town of Cotulla and serving his community. Cotulla was an attorney for the United States Army, oversaw multiple family ranches, and was the director of the Stockmens National Bank for 25 years.

Julian T. Lopez '80 is a personal injury attorney who practices at the Villarreal & Begum Law Firm and helps injured clients throughout Texas.

Kevin M. Richardson '09 has been elected to the partnership at Latham & Watkins LLP in Houston, effective Jan. 1, 2021. He is a member of the firm's Corporate Department who focuses his practice on complex corporate transactions, including M&A, capital markets transactions, securities, and corporate governance matters.

Larry D. Thompson '64 passed away on Sept. 2, 2020. A Houston famed trial attorney and renowned author, Thompson died leaving a legacy of greatness for his loved ones to embrace. Thompson and his cousin Tom formed the law firm Lorange and Thompson in Houston in 1970, where he practiced for over 55 years.

Arthur C. Troilo, Jr. '57 passed away on Oct. 8, 2020, at the age of 89. He served as managing partner, senior board chairman, and Senior Counsel for Davidson, Troilo, Ream & Garza.

Benjamin Turner '62 passed away on Oct. 16, 2020. Turner served in the Navy and the Reserve and then practiced law for over 50 years, was board certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law, and a CPA.

Read more Texas Law Alumni [Class Notes](#)

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IN MEMORIAM

Listed alphabetically by last name.

Portia J. Bott '84

James Michael Bryant '75

William L. Cotulla '61

Jerry Edward Fischer '58

Franklin C. Fisher '66

R. Gordon Gooch '61

Robert Jay Gould '96

Michael J. Hinton '67

David Joel Knoll '68

B. Wayne Ratliff '97

Bertha Schlessinger Ross '71

Larry D. Thompson '64

Arthur C. Troilo '57

Benjamin B. Turner '62

William J. Vaughn '60

L.P. McKee Whittenburg '70

Make a gift to the Law School in memory or honor of someone.

Alumni News and Class Notes are published based on the information we receive and edited for space. If you have professional news to share, please [submit a class note online](#).



The University of Texas School of Law
727 East Dean Keeton Street
Austin, TX 78705

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