

# TEXAS Law

## Alumni News & Notes

JUNE 16, 2022

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

### ALUMNI NEWS

*Click on headlines to read more.*



#### Susana Alemán '84, Omar Ochoa '11 Make Legacy Challenge Gifts

Aleman and Ochoa have honored Texas Law by documenting new planned gifts as part of the Legacy Challenge. Read on to see which law school initiatives they chose to receive matching gift funds right away.



#### David Beck '65 Honored as a "Texas Legal Legend"

Congratulations to David Beck for being inducted as a "Texas Legal Legend" by the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas.



#### Recent Grads Receive Texas Law's CLEA Outstanding Clinical Student Awards

Four recent graduates who worked as a team in Texas Law's Supreme Court advanced clinic have been honored with the school's 2022 Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Clinical Student Award.

[Read More Alumni News](#)

### Has Your Firm Accepted the 100% Giving Challenge?

#### Calling all Texas Law alumni at law firms or in-house legal departments!

Your firm can earn the title of Challenge Champion this summer! **How?** Just have all the Texas Law alumni in your office make a donation to the law school before Aug. 31.

**Bragging rights?** Complete the 100% Giving Challenge to be recognized on our website, in our Recognition Report, and on the Wall of Champions in Townes Hall.

ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE: MAKE A GIFT TO TEXAS LAW

#### Want to participate?

Contact Jennifer Sloan to learn more or click [giving.utexas.edu/lhg](http://giving.utexas.edu/lhg) to make a donation today.

### LAW SCHOOL NEWS

*Click on headlines to read more.*



#### Happy Father's Day!

For Father's Day 2022, we honor dads everywhere including the following four recently graduated and current Texas Law students who fill those shoes.



#### Dean-Designate Chesney Announces New Associate Deans

Four current faculty members—Susan Morse, Melissa Wasserman, Shavonne Henderson, and Eden Harrington— have agreed to serve the law school community as Associate Deans, effective July 1.



#### Sunflower Ceremony Celebrates the Class of '22

Watch YouTube video of the full ceremony which featured Sandra Phillips Rogers '91 delivering the commencement address and Emma Culotta '22 with the student address. And view photos on Flickr!

[Read More Texas Law News](#)

### FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Media sources frequently turn to Texas Law faculty for their expertise on legal issues pertinent to current events.

Faculty who have been interviewed and quoted in the media over the past month include: **Bobby Chesney, Randall Erben, Michael Golden, Henry Hu, Adam Klein, Lee Kovarsky, Thomas McGarity, Elizabeth Sepper, David Spence,** and **Stephen Vladek.**

Two faculty members also had books published in the last month. **Richard Albert** co-edited "The Limited and Legitimacy of Referendums" and also wrote a chapter. **Thomas McGarity** authored "Demolition Agenda: How Trump Tried to Dismantle American Government, and What Biden Needs to do to Save It."

[Read Faculty in the News](#)

### ALUMNI EVENTS

**Sept. 10 – Tailgate Extravaganza – UT vs Alabama – Save the Date!**

[View More Texas Law Events](#)

## CLASS NOTES

Ordered by class year, then by last name.



**Wayne Kreis '71** was inducted into the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame.

**Paul Hobby '85** has been elected to the Baker Institute Board of Advisors at Rice University.

**Cindy Hill '87** has been named general counsel for Round Rock ISD.

**Scott Clark '88** has joined Houston-based global intellectual property and commercial litigation firm Alavi Anaipakos as a partner.

**John Browning '89** received the Luther (Luke) H. Soules III Award for Outstanding Service to the Practice Award, presented by the State Bar of Texas Litigation Section.

**Francisco Solis '89** been named interim president at San Antonio College.

**Sandra Phillips Rogers '91** has been promoted to newly created position of senior vice president, corporate resources and general counsel for Toyota Motor North America (TMNA).

**Lyrissa Lidsky '93** has been named Raymond & Miriam Ehrlich Chair in U.S. Constitutional Law at the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

**John Kinchen '94** has been named a litigation partner at Smyser Kaplan & Veselka LLP, where he will serve in white collar defense and government investigations practice.

**Irina B. Plumlee '97** has been recognized as a top immigration attorney by Chambers USA, an independent research company delivering rankings and insight into the world's leading lawyers.

**Stuart F. Miller '98** has been recognized as a top healthcare attorney by Chambers USA, an independent research company delivering rankings and insight into the world's leading lawyers.

**Stefan Smith '99** has been named a partner at BakerHostetler, where he specializes in helping employees navigate benefits and executive compensation matters.

**Ravez Javelidze '00** has been appointed the new Head of Government Administration for Georgia by the country's Prime Minister.

**Daniel Z. Sternthal '01** has been recognized as a top healthcare attorney by Chambers USA, an independent research company delivering rankings and insight into the world's leading lawyers.

**Drew Baldinger '05** has been named a partner at Skadden's Energy and Infrastructure Projects Group at the firm's Houston office.

**Chante (Prox) Brantley '06** has been promoted to Clinical Professor of Law at the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

**Kayla Dreyer '07** has been elected chair of the Colorado Bar Association Litigation Section's Executive Council.

**Michael McBride '08** has joined the recently established Houston law firm Alavi Anaipakos, which specializes in global intellectual property and litigation.

**Jhett Nelson '09** has been named a Rising Star by Law360, an honor awarded to top legal talents under 40.

**Michael Ritter '10** authored an article that was selected as the 2022 Outstanding Law Review Article Award by the Texas Bar Foundation and also won the Michael K. Moore Award from the State Bar of Texas Legal Services.

**Shannon Sims '11** has been named Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Current World Affairs.

**Andrew Hettinger '13** has been named a 2022 Flinn-Brown Fellow by The Arizona Center for Civic Leadership at the Flinn Foundation.

**Faisal Al Alam '20** has joined the Dallas office of Steptoe and Johnson PLLC as an associate.

[Read Full Class Notes Entries](#)

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## IN MEMORIAM

Ordered by class year, then by last name.

Jack Holland '55

Annelle Lanford '57

Bill Brister '58

G. Sidney Kacir '59

J. Ray Gayle '66

Paul Wiley '67

Kenneth Hooper '69

Howard Britain '72

Mary Fly '78

Jimmy Little '86

[Read In Memoriam Notes](#)

[Make a Memorial Gift](#)

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

**Feedback?** Email us at [alumni@law.utexas.edu](mailto:alumni@law.utexas.edu).

