

TEXAS Law

Alumni News & Notes

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

ALUMNI NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.



'I owe it all to Texas Law.'

Outstanding alumni were recognized at this year's alumni association awards dinner, including the Hon. Royal Furgeson '67 and Arleas Upton Kea '82, president-elect of Texas Exes.



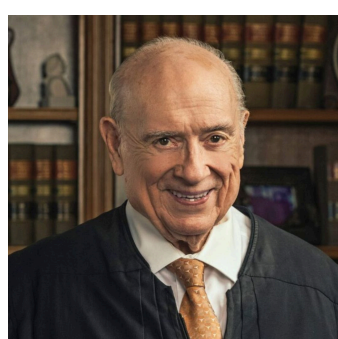
Out of this World!

The Fall 2024 issue of Texas Law Magazine is out now, with features on the new business model of college athletics, the battle to legalize psychedelics to treat trauma for veterans and others, and the dawn of a second space age.



Tailgate 2024

Nearly a thousand alumni and friends gathered for the annual Alumni Tailgate Extravaganza—and to see Texas dominate on the gridiron.



Q&A: Judge Royce Lamberth '67

He's witnessed history—and made it—from the bench in Washington, D.C., and he talked with us about the rule of law in this sneak peek from the new magazine.

[Read More Alumni News](#)

GIVING TUESDAY

If you haven't already given this year, please **save the date for Giving Tuesday on Dec. 3**. We invite all alumni to show their collective support of Texas Law. To learn more, contact Chloé Dwyer at chloe.dwyer@law.utexas.edu.

[Give to the Fund Today](#)

LAW SCHOOL NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.



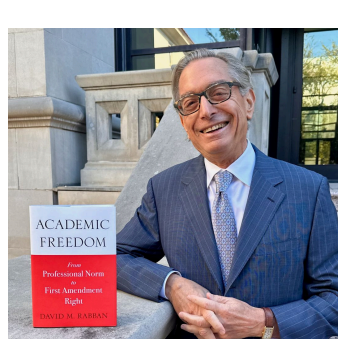
Accolades From The Bar

Emma Jane Hopper '25 and Daniel Dreyfus '24 were recognized at this year's Texas Bar Induction: Hopper with the TAJC Pro Bono Award and Dreyfus for the top bar score.



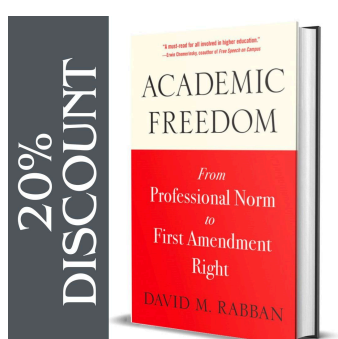
Student Spotlights

Texas Law students—such as 1L Ananya Dwivedi, pictured—do amazing things and go to great places. Get to know your future colleagues in our recurring series of profiles with current Lawhorns.



'This is an immediate concern.'

Prof. David Rabban's new book on academic freedom is getting rave reviews and major attention in a way few academic works can hope for. Read our exclusive interview.



Buy the Book!

Texas Law alumni can receive a 20% discount on this critically acclaimed book through Nov. 29. Use code [ACF20](#) online.

[Read More Texas Law News](#)

FACULTY IN THE MEDIA



Texas Law faculty experts were recently quoted in leading national and state news outlets. Click below to see what these thought leaders had to say: **Dean Bobby Chesney, Steven Collis, Jens Dammann, Randall Erben, Lisa Eskow, William Forbath, Julius Getman, Denise Gilman, Tara Leigh Grove, Douglas Laycock, Sanford Levinson, Angela Littwin, Mimi Marziani, Linda Mullenix, L. Scott Powe, Joshua Sellers, Charles Silver, David Spence, and Jay Westbrook.**

[Read Faculty in the Media](#)



ALUMNI EVENTS

Nov. 18 — Teaching Legends Talks: David Rabban in Chicago | **RSVP**

Nov. 21 — New York City Pre-Game Happy Hour (Syracuse vs. Texas Men's Basketball) in Brooklyn | **RSVP**

Jan. 9, 2025 — Texas Law Party at AALS Annual Meeting in San Francisco

Jan. 15, 2025 — Mentoring Program Kick-Off Reception in Austin

Apr. 25–26, 2025 — **Save the date!** Texas Law Alumni Reunion in Austin for class years ending in "0" and "5" from 1960 to 2020.

[View More Texas Law Events](#)

CLASS NOTES

Ordered by class year, then by last name.



Pictured (top, from left): Reid Powers '19, Viane Lopez Braun '91, Ronald E. Mendoza '78, Macey Reasoner Stokes '93; (bottom, from left): Cathy Garza '14, Keith Cohan '09, Monica Brown '98, and Jaime A. Saenz '86.

Kleber Miller '51 was named a Tarrant County Legal Legend in recognition of his contributions to the profession and community.

Scott Rozzell '75 was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lone Star Flight Museum.

Ronald E. Mendoza '78, a shareholder with Davis, Cedillo & Mendoza in San Antonio, has been inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Robert L. Tobey '80, a shareholder with Johnston Tobey Baruch in Dallas, has been named a 2024 Super Lawyer for professional liability: plaintiff and a Top 100 Lawyer in Dallas/Fort Worth.

Sylvia Borunda Firth '84, of counsel with Bojorquez Law Firm in Austin, was recognized for government service by McDonald's at the 23d Annual Triunfadores Awards Luncheon in El Paso.

Joseph C. Blanton Jr. '85, a partner with the Law Offices of Blanton, Nickell, Collins, Douglas & Hanschen in Sikeston, MO, has been inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Jaime A. Saenz '86, a partner with Colvin, Saenz, Rodriguez & Kenamer in Brownsville, has been inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Cheryl Rosenburg '87 has joined Frost Brown Todd, following 14 years with Haynes and Boone.

Scott Schools '87 has been appointed chief compliance officer for OpenAI.

Cal Hendrick '90 has been elected the next mayor of Odessa, TX.

Barrett Reasoner '90, a partner with Gibbs & Bruns in Houston, will be honored with the prestigious Karen H. Susman Jurisprudence Award by the Anti-Defamation League's Southwest Region.

Viane Lopez Braun '91, a shareholder with Decker Jones in Fort Worth, was named one of "100 Hispanic Board Members Making a Difference" by Board Recruitment Magazine in its October 2024 issue.

Joe Profaizer '93 has joined Linklaters LLP's Washington, D.C., office as partner and international arbitration global co-head.

Macey Reasoner Stokes '93, a partner with Baker Botts in Houston, will be honored with the prestigious Karen H. Susman Jurisprudence Award by the Anti-Defamation League's Southwest Region.

Christi Craddick '95 has been reelected to the Railroad Commission of Texas, of which she is the current chair.

Jennifer Banda '98 has been named the director of the Center for Women in Law at Texas Law.

Monica Brown '98 has been appointed executive vice president, chief legal officer, and secretary for Lennox International, effective January 2025.

Julie Partain '01, a partner with Bracewell in Dallas, has been named a Distinguished Alumni of 2024 by the Henderson Independent School District.

Sean Whyte '04 has joined Bressler, Amery & Ross' Florham Park, N.J., office as a principal in the firm's commercial litigation practice group.

Keith Cohan '09, a partner with Reid Collins & Tsai in Austin, has received the Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award from Texas Lawyer and Law.com.

Cathy Garza '14 has joined Jackson Walker's electric regulatory practice in Austin.

Greg Sorensen '14 has been promoted to counsel at Latham & Watkins' Houston office.

Christine Mainguy '15 has been promoted to partner at Latham & Watkins' Houston office.

David Moore '15 has been promoted to partner at Latham & Watkins' Houston office.

Lena Silva '18, an associate with Beck Redden in Houston, has received the 2024 Texas Minority Counsel Program (TMCP) Rising Star Award from the State Bar of Texas Office of Minority Affairs and the Steering Committee of the TMCP.

Reid Powers '19 has been named the director of gift and estate planning for Alumni Relations and Development at Texas Law.

Nik Soni '22 has joined bicoastal boutique BraunHagey & Borden as an associate in their New York City office.

Colombina Valera '22 has joined Austin-based litigation firm Botkin Chiarello Calaf as an associate, following a two-year clerkship for U.S. Magistrate Judge Dustin M. Howell of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

David Young '24 has joined Reynolds Frizzell as an associate.

[Read Full Class Notes Entries](#)

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IN MEMORIAM

Ordered by class year, then by last name.

Lewis Tarver '52

Dick Grainger '59

Frank McClendon '61

David Tate '62

Lewin Plunkett '65

Andrew Barr '66

James Watters '68

Edward Dunbar '70

Kenneth Priem '71

Patrick William Ferchill '72

Glen Lewis '72

Charles Southard '72

Jon Green '77

William Moore '81

Edward Carstarphen '82

Don Mau '83

Frank Aguilar '84

Charles Scholz '84

Margaret Ingram '85

[Read In Memoriam Notes](#)

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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.

