

TEXAS Law

Alumni News & Notes

DECEMBER 12, 2024

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

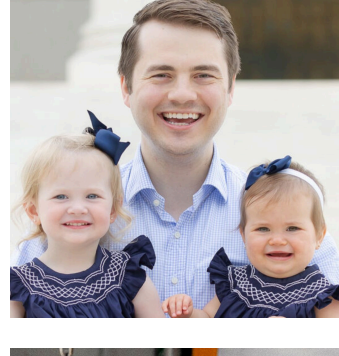
ALUMNI NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.

TOP 10 Stories in 2024

Texas Law Unwrapped

We presented nearly 100 stories in 2024. Here are your favorites—and some of ours!



From Texas Law to the Supreme Court

Reid Coleman '21 reflects on the experience of clerking for Justice Clarence Thomas during the 2023-24 term.



Alumni Voices: Rudy Metayer '06

This triple Longhorn gets more done in a day than most do in a month. Read our interview to learn why he's the hardest working man in the Capitol City.



Jennifer Banda '98 Leads Center for Women in Law

"It's a privilege to have the opportunity to build on CWIL's track record of success," says the longtime advocate and mentor.

[Read More Alumni News](#)

2024

Spread cheer this calendar year and make your gift count for 2024!
[Explore Texas Law's year-end giving deadlines and details.](#)

[Give to the Fund Today](#)

THANK YOU, LAWHORNS!

Your generosity this #GivingTuesday makes an incredible impact at Texas Law. YOU raised over \$17,000 to help provide more student scholarships, enhance our curriculum, attract outstanding faculty, and fund crucial public service placements and fellowships. Together, we're shaping a brighter future for Texas Law. #Hookem #TexasLaw



LAW SCHOOL NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.



The Law of Artificial Intelligence

Prof. Adam Klein and Matthew Murrell discuss the real need for their new courses at Texas Law.



Increasing Postgraduate Fellowship Salaries

The law school and its supporters are once again making a major investment in public service and public interest careers for students.



Every Lawyer is An Advocate

Texas Law has a long and successful history in trial advocacy, which includes the winning team of the 2024 Georgetown White Collar Crime Invitational.

[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: **David Adelman, Randall Erben, Mike Golden, Tara Leigh Grove, Henry Hu, Adam Klein, L. Scot Powe, David Rabban, Elizabeth Sepper, Charles Silver, David Spence, Melinda Taylor, and Heather Way.**

[Read Faculty in the Media](#)



ALUMNI EVENTS

Jan. 9, 2025 — Texas Law Party at AALS Annual Meeting in San Francisco | [RSVP Online](#)

Jan. 15, 2025 — [1L Mentoring Program Kick-Off Reception](#) in Austin

Mar. 12, 2025 — Washington, D.C. Regional Committee Meeting and Admitted Students Reception

Mar. 13, 2025 — New York Regional Committee Meeting and Admitted Students Reception

Mar. 24, 2025 — Dallas Regional Committee Meeting and Admitted Students Reception

Mar. 26, 2025 — Houston Admitted Students Reception

Mar. 27, 2025 — San Antonio Regional Committee Meeting and Admitted Students Reception

Apr. 10-11, 2025 — [The William Wayne Justice Center at 20](#) in Austin

Apr. 24, 2025 — Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice 20th Anniversary Gala in Austin

Apr. 25-26, 2025 — **Save the date!** [Texas Law Alumni Reunion](#) in Austin honoring alumni from class years ending in "0" and "5" from 1960 to 2020.

[View More Texas Law Events](#)



Honoring the outstanding achievements of our graduates has been a cherished tradition of the Texas Law Alumni Association since 1958. Categories include Lifetime Achievement, Outstanding Alum, Distinguished Alum for Community Service, and Outstanding Young Alum.

Submit a Nomination by January 31, 2025

CLASS NOTES

Ordered by class year, then by last name.



Pictured (top, from left): Nina Cortell '76, Brianna Herman '19, Todd Hartis '16, Brooke Rollins '98; (bottom, from left): Daniel Z. Sternthal '01, Shavonne Smith '06, Omar Alaniz '03, and Mary Kipp '94.

Nina Cortell '76, senior counsel at Haynes and Boone, was honored with the Larry Schoenbrun Jurisprudence Award from the Anti-Defamation League.

Mary Kipp '94, president and CEO of Puget Sound Energy, has been named an advisor to Washington governor-elect Bob Ferguson's transition team.

David Coligado '95, CEO-elect at Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, is featured in D CEO Magazine's 2025 edition of the Dallas 500.

Brooke Rollins '98, president and CEO of the America First Policy Institute, has been nominated by president-elect Donald Trump to serve as Secretary of Agriculture.

Wade A. Barrow '01 has risen to the rank of advocate by the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Daniel Z. Sternthal '01, a shareholder at Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr in Houston, has been elected to the firm's board of directors.

Omar Alaniz '03, a partner at Reed Smith, is among the 2024 100 LGBTQ+ Executives selected by INvolve, in recognition of his advocacy and support efforts on behalf of LGBTQ+ diversity, equity and inclusion.

Amanda Arriaga '04, general counsel with Sperry Commercial, was named the In-House Impact Award Winner of the Year by Texas Lawyer Magazine and a finalist for Corporate Counsel of the Year by the State Bar of Texas Office of Minority Affairs.

Patricia Rigney '04, the city attorney for the City of Mission, has been appointed to the Texas Division of Emergency Management's business advisory council by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

Amanda Tyler '04 has written a book titled "How to End Christian Nationalism," which provides critical insights into the ideological and legal battles against Christian nationalism in the United States.

Jordan S. Hatcher '05 has co-founded the tech company, The Grid, and will serve as its COO.

Shavonne Smith '06 has joined Ogletree Deakins as of counsel at the firm's San Antonio office.

Jeremy Reichman '12 has been promoted to partner at Vinson & Elkins' Dallas office.

Zach Rider '12 has been promoted to partner at Vinson & Elkins' Houston office.

Sarah Christian '14 has joined Jackson Walker's Austin office in the firm's finance & banking practice group.

Todd Hartis '16 has been promoted to counsel at Vinson & Elkins' Houston office.

Cara Shaffer '18 will join the faculty at the University of Colorado Law School as an associate teaching professor in the fall.

Brianna Herman '19 has joined Ogletree Deakins as an associate in the firm's Houston office.

Liam Corriston '24 has joined Weil, Gotshal & Manges as an associate in the firm's Dallas office.

[Read Full Class Notes Entries](#)

[Submit a Class Note](#)

[Update Your Contact Info](#)

IN MEMORIAM

Ordered by class year, then by last name.

Elbert Fulton '56
Robert Fairey '57
Erton Tate '59
Ogden Bass '62
Olney Wallis '65
James Powers '68

Lawrence Schaubhut '68
Bert Massey '69
Mack Ray Hernandez '70
Gregory Jones '75
Jeri Stone '77

[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.

