



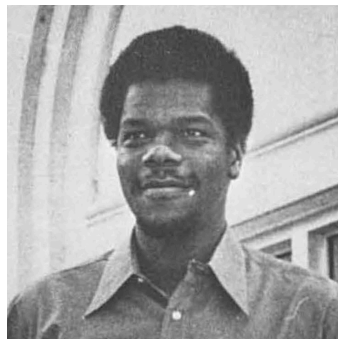
TEXAS Law

Alumni News & Notes

MARCH 13, 2025

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

ALUMNI NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.

'He Gave Us a Voice'

The story of Carnegie Mims, Jr. '71, the founding of the Thurgood Marshall Legal Society, and a legacy 55 years in the making.



A Tribute to Lasting Connections

A new "Friendship Bench" honors the late Jane Hayman '74 and the lifelong bonds that generations of students have formed at Texas Law.



Alumni Recognized with UT Presidential Citations

John Adams '69 and the Hon. Kay Bailey Hutchison '67 were two of the four Longhorn legends bestowed with the University's highest honor.



Championing Housing Justice

"Everyone, regardless of income, should have a stable home," says Prof. Heather Way '96 who now directs the Housing Policy Clinic.

[Read More Alumni News](#)

NOW MORE THAN EVER

Your gift to Texas Law supports scholarships, faculty excellence, and hands-on learning opportunities for our students. Make a difference today by investing in the next generation of Longhorn lawyers.

[Give Today!](#)

LAW SCHOOL NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.

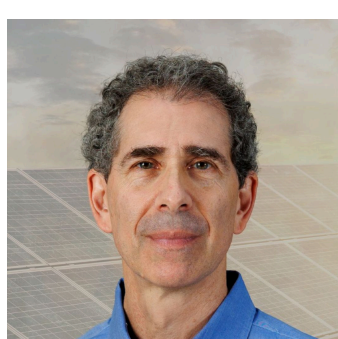
Alice Min '25 Wins Skadden Fellowship

The prestigious two-year fellowship will support her work with the Legal Aid Society in New York City, fighting unjust community surveillance practices.



Students Investigate Child Hosting Programs

Prof. Lori Duke '95 and a pair of students uncovered major gaps in oversight and regulation, presenting key findings to the U.S. State Department.



Researching Renewables

Prof. David Adelman is helping map strategies for renewable energy projects, bridging the knowledge gaps between developers and communities.



3L Earns Fifth Circuit Bankruptcy Honors

Hannah Young '25 will accept the award from the American College of Bankruptcy in a ceremony in Washington, D.C., later this month.

[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**, **Jens Dammann**, **Erik Encarnacion**, **Tara Leigh Grove**, **Susan Klein**, **Angela Littwin**, **Tracy McCormack**, **Scott Schneider**, **Elizabeth Sepper**, and **Charles Silver**.

[Read Faculty in the Media](#)

ALUMNI EVENTS

Mar. 13 — New York Regional Committee Meeting

Mar. 24 — Dallas Regional Committee Meeting

Mar. 26 — Houston Regional Committee Meeting

Apr. 4 — Alumni Association Executive Committee Spring Meeting

Apr. 4 — [Center for Women in Law Award Luncheon](#)

Apr. 10 — [Texas Law Showcase](#) is traveling to New York City to celebrate the launch of our new Law and Business Program | **RSVP by April 8**

Apr. 10–11 — [The William Wayne Justice Center at 20 Years](#)

Apr. 24 — [Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice 20th Anniversary Gala](#)

Apr. 25–26 — [Texas Law Alumni Reunion](#) welcomes all alumni and honors class years ending in "0" and "5" from 1960 to 2020 | **Register Today!**

[View More Texas Law Events](#)

CLASS NOTES

Ordered by class year, then by last name.



Pictured (top, from left): Greg Flores '19, Hon. Debra H. Lehrmann '82, Harris Wells '17, Patricia Rigney '04; (bottom, from left): Wendy Harvel '96, Junish Arora '00, Emily Leitch '06, and Stephen Yeh '13.

Mickey Klein '68 has received The University of Texas' Shirley Bird Perry Longhorn Citizenship Award.

Jack O'Neill '72, co-founder of Pierce & O'Neill in Houston, has been named a 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading Energy Lawyer in America.

Jesse Pierce '74, co-founder of Pierce & O'Neill in Houston, has been named a 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading Energy Lawyer in America.

James C. Lawler '76, a retired CIA operations officer, has published two spy novels, "Living Lies" and "In the Twinkling of an Eye."

Hon. Sam Lindsay '77, U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, has received Texas Law's 2025 Virgil C. Lott Medal.

Hon. Debra H. Lehrmann '82, senior justice on the Supreme Court of Texas, has received the 2025 Samuel Pessarra Outstanding Jurist Award from the Texas Bar Foundation.

Scott Cole '94 has joined Reichman Jorgensen Lehman & Feldberg as managing partner of its Austin office.

Kyle Fox '95 has joined Perkins Coie as a partner in its Austin office's mergers & acquisitions and private equity practices.

Jonathan Harmon '95, chairman of McGuireWoods in Richmond, Virginia, has been named one of Virginia Business's 50 Most Powerful Leaders in 2025.

Wendy Harvel '96 has joined Spencer Fane as of counsel in its Austin office's environmental and energy law practice groups.

Junish Arora '00 is now the deputy director of the Office of Civil Rights for the U.S. Department of Commerce and serves as chair of the Council's Infrastructure Workstream.

Jayne Piana '00 is now co-chair of Brown Rudnick's patent trial and appeal board practice group in Houston.

Erick Robinson '00 is now co-chair of Brown Rudnick's patent trial and appeal board practice group in Houston.

Thomas Nguyen '01, a restaurant practice leader at Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis in Houston, competed in Netflix's "Squid Game: The Challenge."

Patricia Rigney '04, the city attorney for the City of Mission and owner of the Rigney Law Firm, has been reappointed by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to the Business Advisory Council within the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

Jesse Zambrano '05, principal of the Zambrano Law Firm in McAllen, Texas, has created a Legal Eagles pipeline program for high school and college students aspiring to join the legal field.

Emily Leitch '06 has joined Jackson Walker as a partner in its Houston office's corporate & securities practice group.

Charles Lee '07 has been appointed senior advisor to acting chairman Mark T. Uyeda at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Michael Reeder '09 has joined Blank Rome's Houston office as a partner in the intellectual property litigation group and member of the technology industry team.

James Lloyd '11 has been appointed deputy policy director to Vice President JD Vance.

Robert Brown '12 has been promoted to partner at Latham & Watkins in Houston and Austin.

Stephen Yeh '13 has been promoted to partner at Latham & Watkins in Los Angeles.

Emily Young '13 has joined Covenant Clearinghouse's in-house legal team in Round Rock, Texas.

Harris Wells '17 has been promoted to partner at Reynolds Frizzell in Houston.

Kate Goodrich '18 has been promoted to a senior policy advisor and a member of Holland & Knight's government advocacy team in Austin.

Greg Flores '19 has been promoted to partner at Nichols Weitzner Thomas in Houston.

Brighten S. Kaufman '24 has been promoted to associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in New York.

[Read Full Class Notes Entries](#)

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IN MEMORIAM

Ordered by class year, then by last name.

James Coffee '59	Roger Hoffman '70
Harry Dishman '59	Diana Dutton '71
Billy Wiley '62	Carlos Higgins '76
Donald Wilson '65	Arthur Pertile '86
Terry Weeks '67	Debra May '92

[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.

