

THE EQUAL TIMES

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Bexar County Women's Bar Association

BCWB

April 2021

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation



The President's Column

Spring is here! Despite the deep freeze that devastated many Texas families just six weeks ago, the trees are budding and the flowers are blooming. With the nicer weather and COVID-19 vaccinations becoming available to all San Antonioians, BCWB is looking forward to a time, not too far into the future, when we can safely gather in-person.

Over the past few months, BCWB has been busy planning and implementing programs for our members to include CLE's, mentor circles, social events, and food drives. I am so impressed with the Ladies of the BCWB; everyone came together to provide our membership and our community, with quality options to be involved and contribute.

In March, our very own **Artessia "Tess" House** received the 2021 Alice Wright Franzke Feminist Award from St. Mary's. The award honors "feminists of the St. Mary's community who promote peace, empowerment, civic engagement, cooperation, equality and respect of all people." This is such an honor. Congratulations, Tess!

Thank you to **Judge Toni Arteaga**, **Alicia Grant**, and **Hayley Ellison** for chairing the BCWB Virtual Jury Trial CLE held via zoom on March 18. For most of us practicing litigation, a Judge's perspective on a virtual trial with the "dos and don'ts" is invaluable. If you missed it, you can find the link below.

Robin Thorner and **Kathleen Church** are continuing to chair our thriving mentor program with the Women's Law Association of St. Mary's Law School, Inspiring & Aspiring Lawyers Mentor Circles. **Hayley Ellison**, Senior Counsel at Davis Santos, hosted the March 31 Mentor Circle and **Patti Oviatt**, Principal at Cokin Young, will host the April Mentor Circle.

Each year, Law Day nationally celebrates the rule of law. In support of Law Day, BCWB hosts a contest for Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) students to submit essays, photos, and posters reflecting a law-related theme. This year's theme is, "Advancing the Rule of Law Now." Wish our contestants luck as they compete for first place! A special thank you to **Aridssa Martinez**, **Patti Oviatt**, and **Tess House** for chairing this committee and inspiring the young ladies of the YWLA.

A big kudos goes to **Casey Lee**! She has been instrumental in setting up BCWB with the San Antonio Food Bank's Campaign, Food from the Bar. This month-long food drive consisted of monetary donations, community service hours, and food contributions. Thank you to all who donated, contributed and supported this fantastic campaign!

Thank you to **Christine Rudy** and **Natalie Karge** for keeping us all up-to-date with social media postings, membership blasts, and this Newsletter. They graciously serve this role and are absolutely amazing at it!! Be on the lookout for these upcoming events: Leading Ladies Trivia Night and Social Hour – April 16 at 5:30 p.m., chaired by **Whitney Thomas** and **Kellye Fernandez**. DEI Workshop on Intersectionality – April 28 at 4:00 p.m., chaired by **Robin Thorne** and **Alicia Grant**.

I am very excited to announce that **Natalie Wilson** and **Natalie Karge** will be Co-Chairing the 2021 Autumn Affair. They are dedicated, creative, and passionate about furthering the BCWB Mission. If you know a deserving local organization serving women or children, please send the beneficiary nomination to nwilson@langleybanack.com or natalie.karge@valero.com by **Friday, April 9, 2021**.

Nicole Jackson
BCWB President

2021 AUTUMN AFFAIR

CALL FOR BENEFICIARY NOMINATIONS

The Bexar County Women's Bar is soliciting nominations for this year's Autumn Affair beneficiary. If you know of a deserving local organization serving women or children that would like to apply to be this year's beneficiary, please send the name and contact information to Natalie Wilson at nwilson@langleybanack.com or Natalie Karge at natalie.karge@valero.com by **Friday, April 9, 2021**.



Upcoming April Events

April 16 at 5:30PM

Leading Ladies Trivia Night and Social Hour

April 28 at 4:00PM

DEI Workshop on Intersectionality

Stay tuned for more details!

PILOT PROGRAM FOR LIVE IN PERSON PROCEEDINGS IN CIVIL DISTRICT COURTS

In an effort to insure a smooth and safe transition back to live/in person proceedings, the Civil District Judges are conducting a pilot program. **Beginning April 5, 2021**, Judge Angelica Jimenez of the 408th District Court will be presiding over a non-jury matter in which the parties have agreed to participate either live in person or in a hybrid manner (part by Zoom and part live). You are encouraged to view the proceedings by logging into Judge Jimenez' courtroom via **ZOOM Meeting ID number 588 400 6357 at 9:30 a.m.** on **Monday, April 5th. No one should appear in person to observe this proceeding.**

It is anticipated that additional live in-person proceedings will be conducted by Judge Gonzales on April 12th and by Judge Stryker on April 19th (by agreement of the parties). Notice of those proceedings will be provided at a later date.

The Judges have worked tirelessly to ensure that any return to "normal" live proceedings will be done with the highest concern for the safety of all participants, Judges and staff. All participants in live proceedings will have access to masks, face shields, gloves, and microphone covers. The courtrooms will be cleaned regularly and the County has taken extra precautions such as changes to the HVAC system in the courthouse to protect against the spread of infection. As always, anyone entering the courthouse must wear a mask and is subject to temperature checks.

The Civil District Court Judges invite you to view this "experiment" with the hope that when cases return to live hearings, everyone will feel secure in knowing that all precautions have been taken.

BCWB LITES



CONGRATULATIONS to Artessia "Tess" House on her award of the 2021 Alice Wright Franzke Feminist Award from St. Mary's University.

The Alice Wright Franzke Feminist Award was established by the St. Mary's Women's Caucus in March 1990 to commemorate the life and works of Alice Franzke, Ph.D., a Professor in the Sociology Department at St. Mary's University from 1982 until 1989.

Franzke was an inspirational model of feminist activism and civic engagement who embodied a commitment to justice and peace. The award honors feminists of the St. Mary's community who promote peace, empowerment, civic engagement, cooperation, equality and respect of all people. Any current or past member of the University community is eligible for nomination.

Tess (J.D. '14') is an attorney and founder of Tess House Law, PLLC and a Board Member of the BCWB.

Congratulations!

A vibrant, multi-colored splatter graphic in shades of purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red, serving as a background for the word 'Congratulations!' written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

BCWB LITES CONT.



CONGRATULATIONS to **Maurleen Cobb**,
who was recently selected for promotion to
Colonel in the United States Air Force
Reserve!

ACC 8th Annual Charity Golf Tournament & Social- April 9, 2021



Dear Friends of ACC:

We are excited to invite you to attend the Association of Corporate Counsel South/Central Texas Chapter's 8th Annual ACC Golf Tournament and Social. This year the tournament will be held at The Quarry Golf Club: 444 East Basse Road, San Antonio, Texas 78209 on **Friday, April 9th, 2021. Tee time is 1:30pm.** The proceeds of the event will benefit **Family Violence Prevention Services**. For 42 years, Family Violence Prevention Services, Inc. has served our community by providing life changing services to victims of abuse.

There will be a pre-tournament CLE Lunch presentation by BKD CPAs & Advisors. The CLE lunch is free for all participating golfers. Non-golfing in-house counsel are invited and encouraged to attend the lunch also—\$15 for ACC members; \$25 for non-members. Registration will open at 11:00am. Lunch and the CLE presentation will begin promptly at 11:30am.

There will also be a cocktail social after the tournament from 6:00pm to 8:00pm where golfers and non-golfing ACC members will have the opportunity to network.

TO REGISTER ONLINE [CLICK HERE](#)

ARE YOU AN ATTORNEY LOOKING TO HELP VICTIMS OF WINTER STORM URI?

SALSA
San Antonio Legal Services Association

Thousands of Texas Residents whose homes and property were destroyed during the **February 2021 Winter Storm**, have applied for relief from FEMA, but have been **DENIED**.



THIS IS WHY WE NEED YOU!



BECOME A SALSA FEMA APPEALS VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Sign up through the link below to become a volunteer and help Texas residents get the relief they need!



www.sa-lsa.org

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant District Attorney - Child Protective Services

Job Summary

Under direction, is responsible for determining case or appeal merit; ascertains facts; develops case plan; represents the State in legal actions; and performs related duties as required.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Reviews cases or appeals for legal sufficiency, requests investigations and drafts the required documents for legal disposition
- Prosecutes civil and criminal cases and litigates appeals
- Contacts victims, witnesses, defense attorneys, investigators and law enforcement personnel regarding restitution, plea bargains and punishment issues
- Researches statutes and case law issues
- Performs computer assisted research regarding criminal history and case status
- Examines felony and misdemeanor video, file and medical evidence
- Organizes pre-hearing and trial dockets requiring witness appearance coordination and negotiating plea bargains
- Dictates and edits legal documents prepared by the clerical and paralegal staff
- May supervise Misdemeanor Prosecutors, Paralegals, Advocates, Interns, and office support staff
- Performs related duties as required

Minimum Qualifications

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Doctorate of Jurisprudence, and two (2) years prosecution experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience
- Good knowledge of civil and criminal prosecution procedures and techniques; good knowledge of plea bargaining and negotiation
- Skill to organize and present facts and supporting logic; skill to ascertain factual information from conflicting or purposely inaccurate data; skill to communicate effectively with hostile, abusive or irrational individuals; skill to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Ability to supervise employees; ability to operate personal computer and basic office equipment; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, County employees, attorneys, law enforcement officers and the general public
- Must be licensed to practice law in the State of Texas
- Must secure and maintain a favorable background investigation from the Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office.
- Must secure and maintain a pre-employment physical
- May be required to work more than 40 hours during the workweek

Working Conditions and Physical Demands:

- Generally working in indoor conditions
- Occasionally moves items weighing up to 5-10 pounds
- Occasionally moves about the office
- Frequently communicates with others; must be able to exchange accurate information
- Generally operates a computer and other office productivity machinery
- Positions self to perform essential functions
- Must be able to remain in a stationary position

For More Information, Click [HERE](#)

If you missed the BCWB March CLE Zoominar
CLICK HERE to watch

The Bexar County Women's Bar
Presents

Trying Your Case Virtually

A CONVERSATION WITH
BEXAR COUNTY CIVIL DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

March 18, 2021
Noon

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Approved for 1.0 MCLE hrs.
Course No. 174115196

Bexar County Women's Bar Association

BCWB

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is twofold: to provide educational opportunities to its members; and to protect and strengthen local families by supporting legal and charitable programs.

**Please Direct All
Questions, Comments and
Submissions to:**

Newsletter@BexarCountyWomensBar.Org

THE EQUAL TIMES

Edited by

Natalie E. Karge