

Class Notes
Submitted December 2005-January 2006

1938

The Honorable R.C. Vaughan recently celebrated his 90th birthday. His friends and family threw him two parties on November 19 and 20, 2005.

1964

Irwin H. Steinhorn, a partner with Conner and Winters in Oklahoma City, was selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*.

1965

Charles I. Nelson is the proud grandparent of quadruplets born in California on August 17, 2005.

Carl Vogt, a retired partner in Fulbright & Jaworski's Washington, D.C. office, received the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) Elder Statesman of Aviation Award. The NAA is the oldest aviation association in the United States and the Elder Statesman of Aviation Award is given each year to individuals who have contributed significantly to the field of aviation in their careers.

1966

Terry Gardner, a member of Gardner Aldrich in Fort Worth, was elected as a member of the Honorary Sergeants Inn of the Dallas-Fort Worth Inns of Court in 2005.

Gene L. Jameson, of Jameson & Powers in Dallas, was named a *Texas Monthly* Texas Super Lawyer.

1967

Rex H. White, Jr., a sole practitioner specializing in oil, gas and mineral law in Austin, was appointed to Terax Energy's board of directors.

1969

James Aycock, of Bayern & Aycock in San Antonio, was listed in *Worth Magazine* as one the nation's top 100 estate planning attorneys.

1971

James R. Leahy joined Locke, Liddell & Sapp as a partner in the firm's Houston office.

1975

Michael A. McConnell, formerly of Winstead Sechrest & Minick, joined Kelly Hart & Hallman as head of the bankruptcy section in Fort Worth.

Charles W. McCoy, Jr. currently serves as supervising judge of the Civil Departments at the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Scott Rozzell, CenterPoint Energy executive vice president and general counsel, was recently awarded Houston's Outstanding General Counsel with attorney staff of 11 or more. The award was presented by the *Houston Business Journal*, Bracewell & Giuliani, ACC and Ad Hoc The Legal Placement Company.

Greg Strobl was appointed general counsel of The Woodlands Development Company.

1977

Robert N. Udashen, a partner with Sorrels and Udashen in Dallas, was elected president of the Dallas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Udashen will serve as president elect in 2006 and assume the presidency in 2007.

1979

Richard Schechter was formally installed as a member of the Houston Community College Board of Trustees on Sunday, January 8, 2006. Schechter was elected in November, 2005 and will represent District V.

1981

Karen Jones was elected managing principal of Riddell Williams in Seattle.

1982

David W. Powell, a partner in the Groom Law Group in Washington, D.C., gave a presentation on Pension Fiduciaries and their Duties under U.S. Law to the Working Party on Private Pensions of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris on November 29, 2005. Powell was also listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Employee Benefits Law in Washington, D.C.

Marc R. Stanley, a principal at Stanley, Mandel & Iola in Dallas, was installed as the 2006 President of the Texas Trial Layers Association.

1983

Charles C. Bailey was re-elected to serve his 5th term as district attorney for the 26th judicial district for the state of Texas.

Alan Schoenbaum, a former partner at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, joined Rackspace Managed Hosting as general counsel in San Antonio.

1985

L. Martin Nussbaum, a religious institutions attorney in Colorado Springs, serves as co-chair of the Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons Religious Institution Group.

1986

Melody Cooper was appointed vice-chair of the National League of Cities' International Task Force. She was also appointed as a member of the Executive Bureau for the United States of United Cities and Local Governments, an international organization.

Jorge L. Freeland was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America 2006* for mergers and acquisitions.

1987

Vladimir Lechtman, partner-in-charge of Jones Day's Moscow office, led a team of attorneys that represented Alfa Group in connection with its investment in Cukurova Telecom Holdings. The \$3.3 billion joint venture with the Cukurova Group was completed November 25, 2005 in Istanbul and represents the largest Russian outbound investment to date and one of the largest private deals in Turkey.

1990

Katherine Ohlandt joined Farella Braun & Martel's St. Helena office as a partner in the tax and family wealth practice.

Paul Sarahan, former director of the Litigation Division of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), has joined Fulbright's Environmental Group as counsel in its Houston office.

1991

Karan Cummings Ciotti, a partner in McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore's Houston office, was recently board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in labor and employment law.

Dana Sheppard was named associate commissioner of the Risk Finance Bureau of the District of Columbia's Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking. Sheppard previously served as the acting director of the Bureau.

1993

A. Melissia Riddle joined Doster Mickes James Ullom Benson & Guest as an associate in its Chesterfield, MO office. Riddle practices in the areas of business law, estate planning, probate administration, and trust and estate litigation.

1994

JoAnn Dalrymple was named partner at Strasburger & Price in the firm's Dallas office. Dalrymple practices in the area of civil defense litigation with an emphasis on ERISA and employee benefits, insurance defense and coverage disputes.

1996

George W. Jordan III was named partner in Merchant & Gould's Atlanta office. Jordan focuses on patent, copyright and entertainment litigation.

1997

Laura Castro was appointed the Los Angeles Times Centennial Visiting Professorship in Journalism at The University of Texas at Austin for the 2005 fall semester. As such, she taught an undergraduate course on news media writing and editing in the UT School of Journalism. Castro, a former journalist who worked at *New York Newsday*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and CNN, has worked as communications strategy manager for UT Law since 2001.

Shane Kimzey, formerly with Baker Botts, joined Burlington Resources.

Diana Saldana, former CHLSA President, was selected as the new U.S. Magistrate for the Southern District in Laredo. Her term begins on March 15, 2006.

1998

Sean Christian Platt was named partner in Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker's San Diego office.

Lori Olenick Rodriguez joined the newly established Bexar County Appellate Public Defender's office as an assistant public defender.

Christopher Ward was named partner in the Dallas office of Strasburger & Price. Ward represents clients in litigation matters with an emphasis on fidelity and surety claims, insurance coverage, construction, and general commercial matters.

1999

Brian Beckcom, of Vujasinovic & Beckcom in Houston, was recently named one of Houston's "Top Professionals Under 40" by *H Texas*. Beckcom's firm focuses on catastrophic injury and death cases as well as complex business and insurance disputes.

Karolyn Knaack joined Locke, Liddell & Sapp in Dallas in the firm's corporate and securities section.

2001

Andrew Maebius joined Armbrust & Brown as an associate in real estate, condominiums, and community associations.

Jason M. Ryan was commissioned as Ensign in the United States Navy by President Bush. Ryan currently serves as an intelligence officer with a reserve unit at the Navy Resource Intelligence Command Headquarters.

Bryan M. Taylor joined Bradley Arant Rose & White as an associate in the firm's Birmingham office. His areas of experience include civil litigation, criminal law, administrative and regulatory law, and government affairs.

Jill M. Williamson joined Alston & Bird LLP as an associate in the Litigation and Trial Group in the Washington, D.C. office.

2002

Daniel N. Ramirez was named partner with Monty Partners in Houston.

2003

K. Simi Denson (nee Blair), recently celebrated the birth of her second daughter, Mariela Hope, on April 9, 2005. Denson and her husband have another daughter, Andie, who is now four. Denson is in-house counsel at the Austin office of RMT, an environmental and engineering firm.

Ray Lauser joined Rosenbloom & Associates in El Paso as the firm's chief litigator in its immigration and asylum litigation unit.

2004

Ana Hernandez, former legislative aide to the late Representative Joe Moreno, won the runoff election to replace him (District 143, Houston).

2005

Matthew M. Jennings joined Cox Smith Matthews as an associate in the firm's San Antonio office.

Andrew Lehman joined Kirkland & Ellis as an associate in the firm's Chicago office in the area of corporate and securities transactions.

Jessica K. Lombardi joined Cox Smith Matthews as an associate in the firm's San Antonio office.

Michelle C. Moreno joined Cox Smith Matthews as an associate in the firm's San Antonio office.

James M. Oliveros joined Cox Smith Matthews as an associate in the firm's San Antonio office.

Matthew R. Raley joined Baker & Hostetler as an associate in the firm's Houston office.

Michael B. Seay joined James F. Martens & Associates in Austin.