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NOTE

Cost: \$18.00 per person for members, \$23.00 per person for non-members if reserved by noon, Tuesday, April 10, 2007. Call the Bar Office at 883-4022 to RSVP or e-mail us at sgonzales@corpusbar.com. All reservations must be paid for. The cost at the door will be \$20.00 for members, \$25.00 for non-members.

CLE Credit: 1.0 hour Participatory, **ETHICS**

Speaker: Martha S. Dickie, President, State Bar of Texas
Topic: "The State of the Texas Bar"

April Luncheon Meeting
Wednesday, April 11, 12:00 p.m.
Congressman Solomon Ortiz International Center
402 Harbor Drive



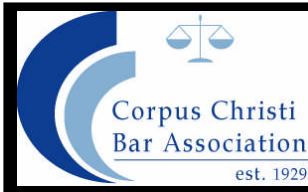
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THIS IS THE CCBA NEWSLETTER
IMPORTANT NEWS INSIDE
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Newsletter

March — April 2007

New Newsletter Feature

We start a new feature with this issue of the Newsletter. The Honorable Mike Westergren has graciously agreed to provide us with summaries that he prepares of the significant new cases. Here is our first edition.

JEREMY RAY BROWN v. THE STATE OF TEXAS

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, SIXTH DISTRICT, TEXARKANA

189 S.W.3d 382; 2006, Petition for discretionary review refused – Conviction for child abuse was reversed due to the use of a video tape of child with a counselor who was not the first outcry witness.

ROSS BOULET v. THE STATE OF TEXAS
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FIRST DISTRICT, HOUSTON

189 S.W.3d 833; 2006, No subsequent appellate history - Civil forfeiture reversed due to trial court's failure to set aside deemed admission, when the failure to properly deny was due to a calendaring error.

CHARLIE PLOEGER JR. v. THE STATE OF TEXAS

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FIRST DISTRICT, HOUSTON

189 S.W.3d 799; 2006, No subsequent appellate history – Stalking case reversed due to an improper charge. Since the application charged listed multiple offenses, the appellate court reasoned that the resulting verdict could have come from a less than unanimous jury.

IN RE KAREN MAYS-HOOPER
SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

189 S.W.3d 777; 2006 - The Supreme Court weighs in on the issue of grandparents rights to visitation and is not very supportive of grandparents. The Court set aside the intermediate court's mandamus due to the lack of any unfitness finding of the mother. A conflict arose after the death

of the father between the mother and paternal grandmother. The Court held that Section 153.432 was unconstitutional as applied because mother was not unfit, there was no evidence of that emotional well-being of child was in question and there was no evidence of an intent to exclude grandmother's access completely.

ANNESTINE ARMSTRONG v. THE STATE OF TEXAS

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FIRST DISTRICT, HOUSTON

190 S.W.3d 246; 2006, No subsequent appellate history. – Mental commitment due to substantial mental or physical deterioration is reversed due to failure to meet the proper test. Failure to take psychiatric and high blood pressure medicine was insufficient to establish that patient had a substantial mental or physical deterioration in her ability to function independently.

HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS, JOHN ANKERBERG, AND JOHN WELDON v. THE LOCAL CHURCH, AN UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION; LIVING STREAM MINISTRY, A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION; THE CHURCH IN HOUSTON, A TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION; THE CHURCH IN ARLINGTON, A TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION; CHURCH IN BEAUMONT, A TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION; THE CHURCH IN CORPUS CHRISTI, A TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION; ... (plus 97 other named church plaintiffs)
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FIRST DISTRICT, HOUSTON

190 S.W.3d 204; 2006, Petition for review denied and petition for rehearing denied. As you can see there are a lot of plaintiffs in this libel case. The appellate court reversed the failure of the trial court to grant summary judgment. Being labeled a "cult" is not actionable because the truth or falsity of the statement depends on one's religious beliefs which is an ecclesiastical matter and

cannot be tried in a court of law. Other parts of the publication which might be defamatory did not mention the churches.

J. ALAN BARRON v. GARY VANIER AND MARK GOLDOWITZ, INDIVIDUALLY AND D/B/A THE CALIFORNIA ANTI-SLAPP PROJECT

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, SECOND DISTRICT, FORT WORTH
190 S.W.3d 841; 2006, no subsequent appellate history – This is a very complicated special appearance case involving, anti-slap law of California and internet defamation. The trial court's granting of a special appearance is reversed due to failure to grant continuance to allow for adequate discovery.

TOM CLAYTON, M.D., a/k/a CHARLES T. CLAYTON, M.D., a/k/a THOMAS M. CLAYTON, v. SUSAN WISENER

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, TWELFTH DISTRICT, TYLER

190 S.W.3d 685; 2005, Petition for review denied – This case involves outrageous conduct by a doctor toward an account representative. Even though the court found that the outrageous behavior was done knowingly and intentionally it did not constitute malice. Some awards were upheld but a large award of exemplary damages was set aside.

IN RE: CHRISTOPHER ALLAN, M.D., RELATOR
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, TWELFTH DISTRICT, TYLER

191 S.W.3d 483; 2006, no subsequent appellate history – This case involves a claimed conflict between Rule 202 proceeding for deposition and the protection afforded doctors in malpractice suits. Mandamus is denied finding no conflict between Rule 202 and Civ. Prac. & Rem. Section 74.351(s).

JAMES GUEVARA v. The STATE of TEXAS

COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FOURTH DISTRICT, SAN ANTONIO
191 S.W.3d 203; 2005, petition for discretionary review denied – In an earlier version of this case the intermediate court reversed a murder conviction based on the proposition that husband had no duty to prevent a crime against his wife. Court of Criminal Appeals had remanded for a harm

analysis. That analysis takes place in this opinion. Same result—reversed and remanded for a new trial.

IN RE SUSAN C. NORMAN
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, HOUSTON
191 S.W.3d 858; 2006, no subsequent appellate history – This a recusal case in which mandamus is granted against a judge who has attempted to rule on a recusal motion against himself and another judge. Even if a motion to recuse is defective, the challenged judge must either recuse or refer the motion to the presiding judge so that another judge can decide.

SIMEON LEBLEU v. THE STATE OF TEXAS
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, HOUSTON
192 S.W.3d 205; 2006, petition for discretionary review denied – This an appeal from a successful prosecution under Penal Code 36.06(a) for retaliation against a judge and the defendant's ex-wife. Retaliation does not require intent to carry out the threat. Not a smart thing to do; we all should probably be careful what we say about judges.

JEFFREY LONDON v. LETICIA LONDON
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, HOUSTON
192 S.W.3d 6; 2005, petition for review denied – This is a high dollar child support case. Father's increase in salary from \$14,823 to \$60,000 per month was not sufficient change in circumstances to grant a modification. Mother required to pay back \$86,250 in excess child support paid during the proceedings.

MIRCEA VOLOSEN v. THE STATE OF TEXAS
COURT OF APPEALS OF TEXAS, SECOND DISTRICT, FORT WORTH
192 S.W.3d 597; 2006, petition for discretionary review granted in part – Since partial review has been granted we will have to await that proceeding. A conviction of animal cruelty is reversed. Defendant killed his neighbor's dog that was attacking his chicken. The intermediate court found that the killing of a dog that was attacking chickens was justified.

Board Actions

The CCBA Board met February 27th and March 27th and took the following actions:

- Agreed to run notice of the Estate Planning Seminar in the Newsletter
- Approved recommendation of Rhonda M. Martinez and Rey A. Ramirez for Norman Utter Scholarships
- It was agreed that CCBA would sponsor a reception for the Honorable J. Manuel Banales recognizing his appointment as Presiding Judge, Fifth Administrative Judicial Region with Brenda Baker chairing the effort
- It was agreed that the Mock Trial Award Winners would be recognized at the April Luncheon and would be the guests of CCBA
- It was agreed that a resolution opposing SB 1204/HB 2906 would be presented to the Membership for approval and if Adopted, it would be released to the

press
 It was agreed to add a category to the Judicial Evaluation
 Appointed Doug Mann and L. Gayle Nelson as representatives of CCBA to the SBOT Resolutions Committee
 Agreed to send ED to the NABE Small Bar Conference in June in St. Louis

34th Annual Estate Planning Seminar Monday, May 14th

The Corpus Christi Estate Planning Council's "34th Annual Estate Planning Seminar" will be Monday, May 14th, at University Center, Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi. It will cover recent case and legislative updates, avoiding common non-tax errors, estate planning for non-human family members, elder law, ethics, Texas Multi-Party Accounts, and drafting engagement agreements. This seminar is co-sponsored by the College of Business, TAMUCC. May 4th is

the deadline for early registration. The cost for CCEPC members will be \$160.00. Non-members will have to pay \$185.00. After May 12th, add \$20.00 for the registration cost. For more information, call 825-2434 or e-mail pamela.stokes@tamucc.edu. Send checks payable to "CCEPC" to Pamela Stokes, College of Business, Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412.

Mark Your Calendars

(Changes and seminars noted in **Bold**)

- April 2007**
- Election of New Board
 - 2 — Passover Begins
 - 6 — Good Friday
 - 8 — Easter
 - 11 — Annual Meeting Luncheon, 12:00 p.m., Ortiz Center
 - 18 — Criminal Defense Section Luncheon, Katz 21**

- 20 — Advanced Civil Trial Seminar**
- 24 — Board of Directors Meeting

May 2007

- 3 — Law Day Reception, 5:30 p.m. To 7:30 p.m., Ortiz Center
- 4 — Law Day Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. Ortiz Center, Judge Carl E. Stewart, 5th Circuit Court of Appeals
- 16 — Criminal Defense Section Luncheon, Katz 21**
- 18 — Criminal Law Seminar**
- 22 — Board of Directors Meeting
- 28 — Holiday, Office Closed

June 2007

- Docket Call,
- 20 — **Criminal Defense Section Luncheon, Katz 21**
- 21 — Baseball with the Bench**
- 21 — 22 State Bar Annual Meeting
- 26 — Board of Directors Joint Meeting with new Board

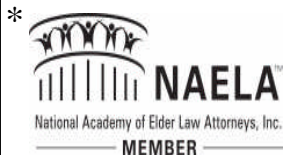
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Annual Luncheon with CPA's

The annual luncheon with the CPA's was held on Valentine's Day. Over 90 in attendance heard Alice Oliver-Parrott's presentation "The Disappearing Jury Trial — Changes in Jury Trials."



Ms. Oliver-Parrott responding to a question from the floor.

Ms. Oliver-Parrott is the President of the

Texas Chapters of the American Board of Trial Advocates. All in attendance enjoyed her down-to-earth description of the issues.

CCYLA Fat Tuesday Happy Hour

Cassidy's Irish Pub was the site of the Corpus Christi Young Lawyers' Fat Tuesday Happy Hour. Over thirty young law-



Patrick Lewis, Frank Gonzales, and Danny Gonzalez enjoying Fat Tuesday at Cassidy's Irish Pub

yers enjoyed the camaraderie and the opportunity to exchange gossip while imbibing in free beverages. All in atten-

dance recommended a repeat next year.

John Tinder Recognized as Outstanding Criminal Defense Lawyer of the Year

The Criminal Defense Lawyers Section's February luncheon was held at Katz 21.



John Tinder, center, receives the plaque noting his selection as Outstanding Criminal Defense Lawyer of the Year from Eric Perkins, President of the Criminal Defense Lawyers Section as President-Elect and Secretary David Stith, left, looks on.

Randy Mack was the speaker. His topic was recent developments in Criminal Law. During the Luncheon John Tinder was recognized as Outstanding Criminal Defense Lawyer of the Year.

CCBA New Members

We welcome the following new members:

James A. Evans, phone 361-798-5602

Eric Flores, phone 814-5500

Arthur J. Gonzalez, who is with Brent Coon & Associates, phone 883-5300

Joel Gonzalez, who is with the Law Office of William D. Bonilla, phone 882-8284

Judge Nanette Hasette, Judge 28th District Court, phone 888-0506

Alex R. Hernandez, phone 882-2093

Chris Iles, phone 361-463-9631

Christine Kirchner, who is with Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, phone 713-654-9691

Alfred Montelongo, who is with Montelongo & Montelongo, phone 855-4300

Donald M. Feferman, J.D., C.P.A. Attorney At Law

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University of Pennsylvania-1962
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Robert E. Spangler, who is with Royston, Rayzor, Vickery & Williams, phone 884-8808

John R. Stillman, who is with Wayne Wright Injury Lawyers, phone 884-9000

Volunteers Wanted to Serve on CCYLA Board

The Corpus Christi Young Lawyers Association is seeking volunteers to run for election to their Board of Directors. Volunteers are sought for three directors' positions, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President, and President-Elect. The names of all those seeking to run must be received by April 30th. Elections will take place in May. You can volunteer yourself or you can submit a name of another member of CCYLA whom you think would be a good member of the CCYLA Board. Please send nominations to the Bar Office via e-mail, fax (883-0353), or e-mail dking@corpusbar.com. If you have any questions, please call 883-4022 or e-

CCYLA "Kids In Court" Project

The Corpus Christi Young Lawyers Association conducted its "Kids in Court" program on Thursday evening, February 22nd, at the Nueces County Court House. The program is designed to ease the anxiety of children who have to testify in criminal cases. The goal is to help the children testify effectively in a manner that lessens their anxiety. In putting the program together, CCYLA worked with the Nueces County Advocacy Center, and the Nueces County District Attorney's Office. Judges Sandra Watts and Bobby Galvan graciously made their spaces available for the program. Children who are scheduled to testify in criminal cases in the near future and their parents/guardians were invited to a "pizza party" and were told that they would "[h]ave a blast learning all about what it's like when you go to court." The evening began with pizza and soda for all. After the participants had their fill, the children went to Judge Galvan's court-

room and the parents/guardians went to Judge Watts' courtroom.

Parents/guardians received an explanation of the "Kids in Court" program and the court process in general. A handout



Mark Skurka explains the court process to parents and guardians during "Kids in Court."

designed to assist parents/guardians in helping their children as they experience the court process was provided, and prosecutors went through the handout and answered questions posed by parents/guardians. Individual cases were not discussed.

The children received an explanation of the court process and were advised that their individual cases would not be discussed. The roles of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, bailiffs, court



Julie Hampton "grills" a child "witness" during "Kids in Court."

clerks, and juries were explained to them. A videotape was then played for them.

The videotape showed kids talking about the court process in a favorable light. Following that, a short skit was performed to help the children visualize the various participants in a court proceeding and how they interact. Then each of the children was afforded the opportunity to sit in the various locations in the court such as the witness stand. While they sat in the witness chair, they were asked questions about their interests and hobbies. Once that was completed, the children were given coloring books, crayons, badges, and teddy bears. Everything was done in an informal manner, and questions were entertained and responded to throughout the program.

All who participated thought it was extremely successful and should be repeated. **Special thanks go to Julie Hampton for her efforts in planning, coordinating, and implementing the "Kids in Court" program.**

Judge Sandra Watts and Nueces County Drug Divert Court Honored by White House Office

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Chief of Staff, Stephen Katsurinis, traveled to Corpus Christi to present Judge Sandra Watts and the Nueces County Drug Divert Court a certificate of Recognition. Judge Watts and the Drug Divert Court were honored for the success of the Drug Divert Court which has had significantly better results than similar programs throughout the country. The Nueces County Drug Divert Court has been operating for three years.

Every Tuesday evening Judge Watts and her team of defense lawyers, prosecuting lawyers, probation officers, and drug treatment experts meet with first-time drug offenders who have agreed to participate in the Drug Divert Court in the hope of avoiding indictment and prosecution for their drug offenses by successfully completing the year-long program.



Judge Watts receives Certificate of Recognition from Stephen Katsurinis, Chief of Staff, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy

Divert Court defendants must participate fully in a treatment program, must honor curfews, must stay employed, and must take responsibility for their actions.

Judge Watts' participation in Drug Divert Court includes occasionally accompanying probation officers to ensure the defendants honor their 9:00 p.m. curfew.

Texas Supreme Court Establishes IOLTA "Comparability" Rule

On December 18, 2006, the Supreme Court of Texas entered a court order to amend Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Rule 7 by creating a "comparability" rule that requires lawyers to place their IOLTA funds in accounts with financial institutions that pay interest rates comparable to interest paid on non-IOLTA accounts. The rule change went into effect March 1, 2007. Under the rule change, the Texas Access to Justice Foundation (TAJF) is responsible for certifying "eligible financial institutions" in which IOLTA may be placed. "Eligible financial institutions" are defined as financial institutions that pay interest rates on IOLTA accounts that are comparable to interest rates paid to non-IOLTA customers. The interest paid on IOLTA accounts helps finance civil legal services for the poor. TAJF distributes the funds throughout Texas.

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Mock Trial Winners

The High School Regional Mock Trial competition was held Saturday, February 3rd. A \$1000.00 scholarship was awarded to the Best Attorney, Ashish Shah, Carroll High School. Second Place Attorney, Hersh Verma, Carroll High School, received a \$775.00 scholarship, and Third Place Attorney, Teysha Dougherty, Flour Bluff High School, received a \$575.00 scholarship. A \$300.00 scholarship was awarded to the Best Witness, Nicole Raney, Flour Bluff High School. Second Place Witness, Neerav Mangipudi, Carroll High School, received a \$200.00 scholarship. \$100.00 scholarships were awarded to Third Place Witnesses Carly Soler and Jessica Yarbrough, both of Flour Bluff High School. Once again Carroll High School won the competition and a trip to Dallas for the state competition. All of the contestants were treated to an awards dinner at Water Street Seafood Company. **As last year, Tim Dowling did a superb job of running the Mock Trial Competition and Awards Dinner. Kudos go to Greg Gowan who raised the funds to support the event.** Thanks go to the following contributors who made the competition, scholarships, and awards dinner possible: Stone and Horne, L.L.P.; Kevin W. Lyles; Susan Barclay; Abney Law Firm; Bryan K. Harris; David Jones; Alan C. Gordon; Anthony Pletcher; Robert Patterson; Gregory Gowan; Joseph Barrietos; Patricia Shackelford; Royston, Rayzor, Vickery & Williams, L.L.P.; Coover and Coover; Law Offices of Liana E. Gonzales; James P. Bell, Jr.; Larry J. Adams, P.C., Attorney, Daniel G. Covich; Victor Guajardo, Jr.; Law Offices of David T. Bright; Michael A. Elliott; The Hastings Law Firm; Brunkenhoeffer & Nielsen, P.C.; Perry & Haas, L.L.P.; Donnell, Abernethy & Kieschnick; The Edwards Law Firm; Watts Law Firm; The Huerta Law Firm, L.L.P.; Michelle Ochoa; and Web, Cason & Covich, P.C.

Advanced Civil Trial Law Seminar Will Be Friday, April 20th

The 2007 Advanced Civil Trial Law Seminar will be presented Friday, April 20th, at the Ortiz Center. It will provide 6.5 hours of CLE with .75 hour of ethics. **The Seminar has been approved for 6.5 hours of Specialization Credit for Civil Appellate Law, Civil Trial Law, Family Law, and Personal Injury Trial Law.** The topics to be covered are Scope of Discovery, Proud to be a Trial Lawyer, Whatever Happened to Rule 1?, Federal Practice Panel, Technology from Start to Finish, Legislative Update, Voir Dire, Collateral Source/"Paid" vs. "Incurred," Ethics/Legal Malpractice Panel, Cross-Examination, Case Law Update, Damages, Arbitration, and Plaintiffs' Old Timey Jury Arguments — Learn the New Themes But Keep the Old — They Are Silver, But Those Are Gold. The Flyer is on the street and is available on our website (ccbar.com). The cost for members is \$185.00; it is \$210.00 for non-members. Please submit the registration form on the flyer to register.

The Honorable J. Manuel Banales Sworn in as Presiding Judge, Fifth Administrative Judicial Region

On Friday, March 16th, the Honorable J. Manuel Banales was sworn in as Presiding Judge, Fifth Administrative Judicial Region. The Fifth Administrative Judicial District covers Brooks, Cameron, Duval, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Starr, and Willacy Counties. The ceremony took place in Nueces County Central Jury Room with more than 150 present to witness the event. In attendance were several of the Presiding Judges from other Administrative Judicial Districts and many of the judges of courts in the Fifth administrative Judicial District. Texas Supreme Court Justice Paul W. Green swore in Judge



The Honorable J. Manuel Banales is sworn in by Texas Supreme Court Justice Paul W. Green. Holding the Bible and looking on is Judge Banales' Wife, Nueces County Court Commissioner, Precinct 1, Peggy Banales.

Banales.

Following the swearing in ceremony, the CCBA held a reception in Judge Banales' honor at the Richard M. Borchard Conference Center. Over 100 attended the reception.



The Honorable J. Manuel Banales delivers his remarks after being sworn in as Presiding Judge, Fifth Administrative Judicial Region.

The following are thanked for their contributions making the reception possible: Baldemar Gutierrez; Canales & Simonson, P.C.; Donnell, Abernethy & Kieschnick; Gonzales Hoblit Ferguson, L.L.P.; Hartline, Dacus, Barger, Dreyer & Kern, L.L.P.; Hermansen, McKibben, Woolsey & Villarreal, L.L.P.; Kaffie Investment Company; Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, L.L.P.; Perry & Haas, L.L.P.; Sico, White & Braugh,

L.L.P., The Huerta Law Firm, L.L.P.; The Rangel Law Firm, P.C.; Watts Law Firm, L.L.P.; Barrera & Barrera; Bonilla & Chapa, P.C.; Law Office of Jerry Guerra, P.C.; Rodriguez, Colvin, Chaney & Saenz, L.L.P.; The Maldonado Law Firm; The Law Offices of William D. Bonilla, P.C.; Wigington & Rumley, L.L.P.; Baker & Baker; Coover & Coover; Douglas Mann; F. I. Gandy, Jr.; Fritz, Byrne, Head & Harrison, L.L.P.; Judge Robert Max Blackmon; Marc Cisneros; Royston, Rayzor, Vickery & Williams, L.L.P.; The Edwards Law Firm, L.L.P.; Webb, Cason & Covich, P.C.; and William H. Berry, Jr. **Special thanks go to Brenda Baker who chaired the reception effort and Michael Maldonado and Judge Jorge Rangel who ran the fundraising effort.**

CCYLA March Luncheon

The Corpus Christi Young Lawyers March Luncheon was Thursday, March 22nd, at the La Bahia Restaurant. Approximately twenty attended. The speaker was Nancy Delong. Her CLE



Nancy Delong explains the affect of child support payments on low income clients at the Corpus Christi Young Lawyers Association March Luncheon.

presentation was entitled "Child Support Payments Affect on Low Income Clients." It provided CLE credit not only for Family Law, but it also provided CLE Specialization Credit for Family Law.

Criminal Defense Lawyers Section Luncheon March 21st

The house was packed for the Criminal Defense Lawyers Section monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 21st, at Katz 21. Not a vacant chair was to be had. The CLE topic was "Effective Use of Investigators." Jose Barrera was the speaker. David Jones and Watts Law Firm sponsored the luncheon

CCBA Annual Meeting April 11th

The Corpus Christi Bar Association's Annual Meeting will be conducted in conjunction with the April Luncheon meeting. During the meeting the President's Annual Report will be published, and nominations from the floor will be accepted for the Board of Directors Election. An individual nominated from the floor must give his/her permission for his/her name being placed in nomination at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee has nominated Audrey Vicknair for President-

Elect, L. Gayle Nelson for Vice President, Brenda Baker and Steve Schiwetz for Secretary, Jerry Dorsey and Rose Harrison for Treasurer. It also nominated Pam Garcia, Frank Gonzales, Coretta Graham, Jerry Guerra, Melody Rodney, The Honorable Marisela Saldana, David Walsh and Mark Woener for the three Directors positions. The voting will take place by mailed ballots after the Annual Meeting. The winners will be announced no later than the Law Day Luncheon on Friday, May 4th.

State Bar of Texas 2007 Annual Meeting — A Deal Too Good to Refuse!

The State Bar of Texas 2007 Annual Meeting will be held June 21-22 in San Antonio. This year's Annual Meeting offers value, convenience, and excellent CLE. Highlights include:

- Legislative Update — be among the first to learn how the 80th Texas Legislative Session will affect lawyers;

- Business Law Section and Corporate Counsel Section CLE — a full-day program featuring updates on bankruptcy law, margin tax, UCC, and more;
- Statewide Bench Bar CLE with presentations by some of our state's most respected judges and lawyers;
- Open Government Forum;
- Diversity Forum — gain valuable knowledge about diversity in the legal profession from those at the top and those in the trenches; and
- Numerous Section-sponsored tracks. This year, the Annual Meeting is going virtually paperless. Attendees will receive materials for all CLE programs on a flash drive that may easily be accessed through their computers.

In addition to admission to all CLE programs, the Annual Meeting registration packages include breakfast and lunch each day. Best-selling author John Grisham will offer remarks during the Thursday luncheon. Grisham has gener-

ously donated the honorarium for his presentation, allowing a \$20,000 grant to be made to the Texas Access to Justice Commission's Summer Internship Program. At the Bench Bar Breakfast on Friday, New York University School of Law Professor Noah Feldman will discuss constitutional issues involving the relationship between law and religion. Richard Ben-Veniste and Douglas W. Kmiec tackle "Striking the Right Balance Between Liberty and Security" during this year's highly anticipated Litigation Section-sponsored debate and luncheon on Friday. Reserved tables for 10 are available for these special events.

To register online, visit www.texasbar.com/annualmeeting. Contact the State Bar Annual Meeting Department at 800-204-2222 x 1515 or annualmeeting@texasbar.com with any questions.



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