

KATY BAR ASSOCIATION

Issue 14 OCTOBER 2016

KATY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

2016 Winner of Stars of Texas Bars Awards for Small Bar Newsletter

Sarah Springer, Editor

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OCTOBER MEETING AND CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Date: October 25, 2016

Topic: "The New Federal Trade Secrets Law: Impact on Employees and Employers" with discussion on the current Texas Trade Secrets Law and (lack of) pre-emption.

Speaker: Stanley Santire
Santire Law Firm.

Time: 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Place: Hasta La Pasta, 1450 West Grand Parkway South, Katy, TX

Menu: Delicious salad, entrée, assorted beverages

Cost: \$25 for members \$30 for non-members or walk-in members

CLE: 1 hour participatory, .25 ethics

IMPORTANT: RSVP NO LATER THAN 1:00 PM on Friday, October 21. You may RSVP by email to christy@gtkatylaw.com and pay at the meeting, or you may register on line and either pay via credit card or at the meeting. You will also have the opportunity to register for the Featured Lawyer drawing for an additional \$5 paid in advance of the meeting. Entering the drawing at the meeting will cost you \$10. If you RSVP and do not attend or cancel, you are still responsible for your meal's cost. **If you do not RSVP, the meeting cost is \$30.00, but we cannot guarantee you either a seat or a meal.**

OCTOBER CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Pictured to the left is our October speaker, Stanley Santire, former chief legal counsel for Lockheed Aircraft International, A.G. Mr. Santire counsels and represents clients in non-competes, trade secrets, employment issues, construction, and business transactions in State and Federal trials and appeals as well as in arbitrations and mediations in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. After serving as a Naval officer, he graduated from the University of Texas School of Law followed by post-graduate studies in comparative and foreign law at Columbia University and in public and private international law at The Hague Academy of International Law in The Netherlands. He is admitted to U.S. District Court Southern District of Texas and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and is also member of the College of the State Bar, Bar Association for the Fifth Circuit, and United States Supreme Court Bar. He practices in Houston. Mr. Santire has authored several published articles and addressed audiences in forty-nine states.



Don't miss out on what is sure to be an excellent CLE presentation. Come out for our third meeting of the 2016-2017 Bar Year at **11:30, October 25, 2016, at Hasta La Pasta, 1450 West Grand Parkway South, Katy, TX.**

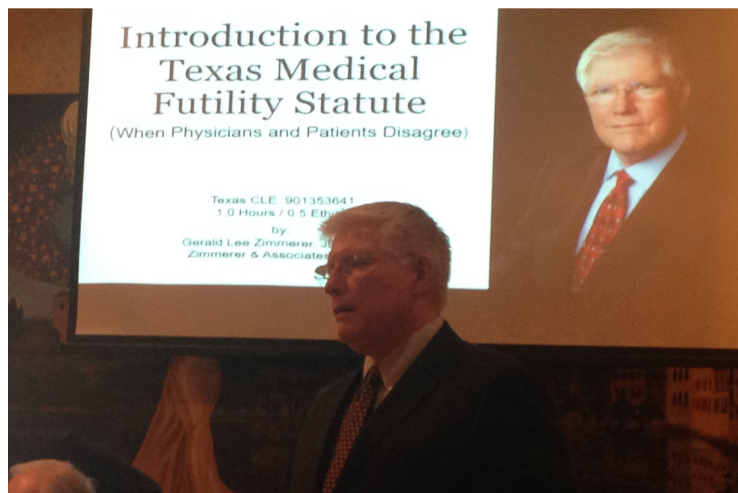
SEPTEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The well-attended September meeting at Hasta La Pasta was highlighted by KBA member Gerald Zimmerer's excellent CLE presentation on the Texas Medical Futility Act. President Elizabeth Pratt conducted a lively business meeting which included important updates on many KBA activities and projects. Be sure to attend the October meeting for more valuable CLE and to keep up to date with what is happening with the KBA.



VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE! BE SURE TO "LIKE" US AND YOU CAN SEE PHOTOS OF OUR MEETINGS AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGH THE YEAR.

<https://www.facebook.com/Katy-Bar-Association-206976949484743/>



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25 IS OUR THIRD MEETING OF THE 2016-2017 BAR YEAR. PLAN TO ATTEND! RSVP'S ARE DUE TO christy@gtkaty.com NO LATER THAN 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.

COMMITTEES

Committee work is a great way to get involved in your Bar Association, and it's fun! From time to time, ad hoc committees will be formed, so be ready to volunteer to staff those committees. In addition, there are standing committees which always are in need of additional help. Current committees and their chairs are as follows:

SOCIAL COMMITTEE
AUDIT COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIP
YOUNG LAWYERS
EDUCATION
PUBLIC INFORMATION
PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL

KERRI GRAHAM
ESTELEE GARRISON
GERALD ZIMMERER
KELLY RIZZO
STU LEVIN
DAVID FRISHMAN
KATRINA ROGERS

Please feel free to contact the Chair of any committee in which you have interest.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

If you would like to be a part of the scholarship process for the 2016-2017 Bar year, please contact Education Chairman Stu Levin at stulevin@levinandatwood.com to volunteer. Our scholarships this year will be tied to the State Bar's Law Day contest, as was done for the 2016 scholarships. David Frishman and Teresa Lechner-Fish joined the committee, and the committee welcomes all interested volunteers.

PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Current Chair Grace Nwanguma will be passing the reins of this committee to Katrina Rogers, one of our newer KBA Members. Thank you for getting involved, Katrina! We also express our appreciation to Grace for her hard work leading this project in the past. Rehan Alimohammad and Drew Zimmerman are working with Katrina on plans for our People's Law School. If you would like to help on this committee, please contact Katrina at katrina-rogers@cox.net, Rehan at rehan@aandzlegal.com, or Drew at drewzim@sbcglobal.net.

CANDIDATES FORUM COMMITTEE

The committee will soon be finalizing details for an early 2017 event, so now is a great time to join in the planning. It appears that the Candidates' Forum we have been planning will be postponed to the 2018 election cycle as there has not been sufficient positive response from the political parties and candidates. As we would have to pay for the venue, the plan was to charge a \$50 speaking fee, but many candidates were not interested and many others declined to commit to participate at all. Tentative plans for 2018 will be for two events, one for Republican candidates and one for Democratic candidates. If you would like to take part in the planning, please contact Michael Cramer, mwcramer18@sbcglobal.net or John Kelly, johnkelly@experiencedhoustonmediator.com.

KATY YOUNG LAWYERS!!

The Katy Bar Association now has a Katy Young Lawyers group! The first event was a Meet and Greet held at Little Woodrow's in Katy in September. The event was well attended and the feedback was all positive. If you are interested in joining the KBYLA or serving on the committee, contact Kelly Rizzo, krizzo@huntlawtexas.com. Stay tuned to the Newsletter for announcements of future events. The purpose the KBYLA is to provide opportunities for young attorneys who live and/or work in the Katy area to meet other attorneys of similar ages and experience levels.

BENEFITS OF BAR MEMBERSHIP

Take advantage of the many opportunities available to our members to get involved in our Bar. Volunteer for a committee! Come out for a Veterans' Clinic! Volunteer to give a CLE presentation in your field of practice. Involvement in your Bar Association is beneficial for your professional and your personal lives. There are great people in the KBA who live and work in Katy.

Don't miss out: come to our next meeting on October 25th!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY OCTOBER 21 ON OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT CHRISTY THEANDER.

FEATURED LAWYER

Congratulations to **Andrew Weisblatt** for winning the September 2016 Featured Lawyer drawing. Take a look at our website--the Featured Lawyer is everywhere! The website is optimized and comes up when people are looking for a lawyer in Katy, so it's a great opportunity to be in the drawings for this bar year. You may pay \$5.00 per meeting to enter at the time you register online for the meeting. If you come to the meeting, want to be in the drawing, and you haven't paid in advance, the "on-the-spot" entry will be \$10 for that month's drawing. We will be drawing at the upcoming meeting for the October 2016 Featured Lawyer winner. The lucky winner will have one month as Featured Lawyer, so please give yourself this opportunity for great publicity! The proceeds from our website ads and the Featured Lawyer drawings help support the continued visibility and optimization of our website, so please consider participating and supporting our Bar.

WEBSITE ADS

Purchase an ad on our website! For a mere \$100, you will be front-and-center with an ad promoting your law practice on the optimized and wonderfully maintained Katy Bar website. If you wish to purchase an ad, please send your check for \$100 to Christy Theander, KBA Treasurer, 21559 Provincial Blvd., Suite A, Katy, TX 77450. You may also pay for your ad online. Please provide full ad content for our use in setting up your ad. The ads are rotated in position, so your ad will change in position each time the website is loaded. What a great bargain! Reserve your space now, and help support our website. Ads purchased now will remain on the website through September 30, 2017, so the sooner you purchase, the more time you have to display your ad.

NEW VENUE FOR CLE LUNCHEONS

After trying out Salt and Pepper, The Cellar Door, and Hasta La Pasta as potential venues for our future meetings, and after considering feedback from members on the benefits of each location, the KBA Board of Directors has voted to hold our regular meetings at Hasta La Pasta, 1450 West Grand Parkway South in Katy.

KATY AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Katy Bar Association has paid dues to become an Associate Member of the Katy Area Economic Development Council. If you are interested in attending KAEDC events as a representative of the KBA, please contact Elizabeth Pratt to advise of your interest. We rotate attendance among KBA members due to the participation limits of our membership.

FEATURED ARTICLE

We do not have a featured article for this month's newsletter. If you have a blog post you would like to share or a CLE article you may have put together, please share with Sarah Springer, KBA Newsletter Editor, for inclusion in future editions. Thank you! sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com.

As you are getting your offices organized for the new year, you may want to check out Elizabeth Pratt's blog post regarding important handbook updates: <http://elizabethpratt-legal.com/#!/blog>.

FORT BEND BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Fort Bend County Bar Association President and KBA Member Sherrie Travers extends an invitation to the KBA:

The Fort Bend County Bar Association cordially invites you to its 37th annual golf tournament on October 20th at Sweetwater Country Club (shotgun start at 1:00). If you are interested in playing, please contact Executive Director, Susan Spann at susan.spann@fortbendbar.org.

Additionally, as a result of the guidance from last year's FBCBA President, Sarah Springer, non-golfers will be able to participate in the 1st annual wine and chocolate tasting on October 20th at Sweetwater Country Club,

3:00 - 5:00. If you are interested in enjoying ten boutique wines, unique appetizers, and handmade treats from a local chocolatier, please contact Executive Director Susan Spann at susan.spann@fortbendbar.org.

SEPTEMBER 2016 VETERANS' LEGAL CLINIC --- ANOTHER SUCCESS

On Saturday, September 24, 2016, KBA and the HBA Veterans Legal Initiative ("VLI") jointly sponsored a free legal advice clinic for area veterans. Together with VLI coordinator Andrew Lehmann, our KBA volunteers worked with thirty area veterans during the course of the three-hour clinic. We were able to provide counsel and direction covering a broad range of inquiries, from family law needs to estate planning and tackling financial difficulties.

These volunteer KBA attorneys staffed the clinic:

Michael Burg
Stu Levin
Kevin Michaels
Katrina Rogers
Lora Lenzsch
Elizabeth Pratt

KBA typically sponsors four such clinics each year. We will be setting the early 2017 dates soon, so watch your email for opportunities to volunteer. The VLI makes volunteering easy, and every bit of guidance is useful to our veterans, so we encourage members to give volunteering at the clinics a try. You really do meet the nicest people, and they all deserve the effort on our part.



Pictured at left are our Katy Bar Association volunteer lawyers who donated their time and talent on a recent Saturday morning to give back to our area Veterans. Pictured from left are Stu Levin, Elizabeth Pratt, Lora Lenzsch, Katrina Rogers, Kevin Michaels, and Michael Burg. Thank you for representing the Katy Bar Association!

MEMBER NEWS—

Katy Bar Member Knobloch Meets with the European Patent Office

The Katy Bar got some indirect representation before the European Patent Office! Katy Bar 2nd Vice President Charles Knobloch currently chairs the U.S. Bar - European Patent Office Liaison Council. The Council comprises approximately three dozen bar organizations who periodically meet for bilateral discussions with the President and leaders of the European Patent Office. The 32nd Meeting of the Council was conducted this past September 15th in New York City. Topics included patent practice issues of import to U.S. businesses and implications of the UK BREXIT vote.

Charles is also chair of the Intellectual Property Owners Association subcommittee on Patent Enforceability Worldwide as well as Vice Chair on their International Patent Law & Practice Committee. Locally, he is the Program Chair for the 2017 Offshore Technology Conference.



Pictured to the left, Katy Bar Association member Charles Knobloh and European Patent Office President Benoit Battistelli, NYC 2016.



IT'S A GIRL!! KBA Member Sarah Springer's son Colin and his wife Jennifer welcomed Audrey Mary to this world on September 18th in Yokosuka, Japan. Audrey was 8 lbs 9 oz and was 20" long. Sarah was lucky enough to be there for the birth, and is looking forward to the family's return to the US, hopefully in March. Colin is a Lieutenant in the US Navy, currently serving as the Navigator on the USS Benfold.

We want to brag about all of the honors and achievements of our members and their families! If you have news or photos you would like to see in the KBA Newsletter, please contact any member of the Board of Directors, or send an email to sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com.

UPCOMING CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION AT KBA LUNCHEON MEETINGS

Be sure not to miss our **October 25th** meeting, when Stanley Satire, former chief counsel for Lockheed Aircraft International, A. G., will speak on the new federal trade secrets law and its impact on both employers and employees. Our meetings are a wonderful opportunity not only to network with Katy area lawyers, but also to learn about areas of law outside our usual areas of practice. Our programs cover a very broad array of topics, including but not limited to immigration, tax, disposal of bodies, cutting edge policing programs, employment law, personal injury, professional malpractice, end of life choices, estate planning, family law....you name it, you have learned about it at a KBA meeting or you will learn about it! We walk away from every single meeting having learned interesting and useful information, even if it is well outside our usual silo!

At our **November** meeting, KBA Member Michael Burg will present a humorous, incisive, and insightful update on ethical issues confronting lawyers.

All CLE luncheons offer 1.0 hour of CLE, and usually at least .25 Ethics credit. Our November meeting featuring KBA Member Michael Burg will provide a full hour of ethics credit.

KBA Second Vice President Charles Knobloch (713-335-3021) is seeking Katy Bar members and/or others who wish to give presentations during 2017 at the Katy Bar monthly meetings. We would like to have a broad variety of topics and especially topics that are relevant to the practice areas of our members. Judges at all levels are very much welcome to share with us their insights and peeves so that we may improve our litigation & appeal practice skills. If you are not the speaking type, let us know your topic and/or speaker suggestion. All input is most welcome. You may email Charles at: charles@aklaw.com or CKnobloch@arnold-iplaw.com with a cc: to DBena@arnold-iplaw.com (713-335-3022).

UPCOMING CLE SCHEDULE:

10-25-16	Stanley Santire	The New Federal Trade Secrets Law: Impact on Employees and Employers—with discussion of the current Texas Trade Secrets law and (lack of) pre-emption.
11-25-16	Michael Burg	Update on Ethics
12-10-16	NO MEETING	HOLIDAY PARTY!!
1-24-17	Teresa Lechner-Fish	What We All Need to Know about Copyright Law
2-10-17	Various speakers	ETHICS PROGRAM FOLLOWED BY HAPPY HOUR AT THE SWINGING DOOR IN RICHMOND, 11:00 am to 5:00 PM for the program including lunch, then socializing.
2-16-17	Andrew Weisblatt	Reviewing a Commercial Lease—a practical guide for the general Practitioner.

If you know someone who may be interested in joining the Katy Bar Association, please forward this Newsletter to them. The more we grow our local bar, the more it will be able to provide a useful service to our members, community, and potential clients.

RSVP TO christy@gtkatylaw.com FOR OUR OCTOBER MEETING AT HASTA LA PASTA BY 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2016.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR HOLIDAY PARTY!

KBA Member and Chair of the Social Committee Kerri Graham and her husband Joe have volunteered to host the Katy Bar for our annual holiday again this year. Details will be announced soon, but **SAVE THE DATE!!**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH 2016.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FEBRUARY ETHICS CLE!

The KBA is sponsoring an Ethics CLE on Friday, February 10, 2017 at the Swinging Door in Richmond. Heather Hughes of US Legal Support will be doing her one-hour HIPAA program (a must-do CLE for all lawyers and their staff), and Jett Hanna, Senior Vice President of Texas Lawyer's Insurance Exchange will present a two-hour CLE program on general professional responsibility/ethics. Michael Burg will also be presenting an Ethics CLE. Our plan is for everyone to satisfy their entire annual ethics CLE requirement at one time. The program will include a delicious lunch and the CLE will be followed by a happy hour, so be sure to calendar this event as it is a **MUST DO!** Thank you to President Elizabeth Pratt for putting the program together and for working tirelessly to promote our wonderful Bar Association. If you are interested in sponsoring the event or if you have vendors who might be interested, please get in touch with Elizabeth Pratt for more information. Chase Bank plans to underwrite a happy hour for us, so we already have a great event under way. Excess proceeds go to fund our scholarships, so please work on getting sponsors and consider a sponsorship yourself! **SAVE THE DATE!!**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 2017 beginning at 11:00 AM.

TEXAS BAR BENEFITS

There are many benefits available to members through the State Bar of Texas. Did you know that TLAP (Texas Lawyer Assistance Program) has wellness classes for free on line? You can get on the blind notice list by contacting cameron.vann@texasbar.com. Classes include: Anger and Boundaries; Dealing with Grief and Loss, Lawyer Addiction and Recovery, Lawyers Fighting Back Against Burnout and Depression, Lawyer Happiness, Practical Tips for Lawyer Self-Care, Taking Care of You and Your Colleagues: Donald Davis Story, Unstuck from Depression. There are also in-person wellness groups which are confidential and all lawyers are welcome. In Houston, the meetings are the first Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., 303 Jackson Hill, Houston. The telephone number for TLAP is 800-343-8527, website is www.texasbar.com/TLAP.

ADVERTISE IN YOUR NEWSLETTER

The KBA newsletter is now accepting ads! If you would like to advertise a service you provide or if you have a Vendor who would like to advertise in our newsletter, please submit ad copy to Sarah Springer, Editor, at sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com. The cost of the ad will be \$10 per issue, and you can buy several months of ads at a time or just buy a one-time ad. Ads will be approximately this size:



RSVP TO christy@gtkatylaw.com FOR OUR OCTOBER MEETING AT HASTA LA PASTA BY 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2016.

SPONSORSHIPS

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a Katy Bar Association meeting or event, please contact Kerri Graham at kerri@gtkatylaw.com, Elizabeth Pratt at elizabeth@elizabethpratt-legal.com, or Sarah Springer at sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com.

NEWS!

Send your news and events to Sarah Springer at sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com for inclusion in future newsletters. We also invite our members to write and submit short posts on recent case law updates or areas of practice, or anything else you think might be a benefit for our members.

Editor: Sarah Springer

WEBSITE ADS

The Katy Bar Association website is a great place to get your name out there! Ad space can be purchased for \$100 and will run through September 30, 2017. If you are interested in purchasing an ad, please visit www.katybar.org and click on the payment link.

ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER!!

Provide ad copy to Editor Sarah Springer and pay \$10 to Christy Theander and you can have an ad in our Award Winning Newsletter!! You may purchase several months of ads at a time or advertise in a single issue.

www.katybar.org