

KATY BAR ASSOCIATION

Issue 19 APRIL 2017

KATY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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

Sarah Springer, Editor

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS - 2016-2017 BAR YEAR

President – Elizabeth Pratt

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Fish, and Rebecca Hafner

APRIL MEETING AND CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Date: April 25, 2017
Topic: **Client Conflicts: Common Ethical Dilemmas**
Speaker: Sarah Springer, The Springer Law Firm PLLC
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 CLE Ethics credit

IMPORTANT: RSVP NO LATER THAN 1:00 PM on Friday, April 21, 2017. 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 with cash or check. 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.**

APRIL CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Sarah Springer will present a full hour of ethics program on Conflicts: Common Ethical Dilemmas. Sarah will cover attorney shopping, nosy family members, deep pockets financing family member's lawsuits, expectation of representation of all family members when you handle one family member's case, and language barriers.

Sarah is a long-time member of the Katy Bar Association and one of the recipients of the KBA Silver Jubilee Service Awards. She has served the KBA as Secretary, Vice President, President, and currently serves as Editor of the KBA newsletter. Sarah has been in law practice over thirty-seven years, having started her career as a youngster. She spent twelve years as a Chancery Court Judge in Mississippi, and returned to Texas after a twenty-six year exile in the Magnolia State.

Sarah practices primarily family law at her office in the Springer Professional Building in Katy. She also conducts mediations.



We will have special guests at this meeting – winners of our 2017 Law Day essay competition. We will present the awards to the students at the start of the program and have invited them to remain with us for lunch and Sarah’s program. We will plan to begin as soon after 11:30 as we possibly can to allow time for the award presentations.

Please RSVP to Christy Theander (christy@gtkaty.com) by 1:00 on Friday, April 21, 2017. You may RSVP by paying via our website or by emailing Christy and paying at the meeting. You might want to reserve your place early as this meeting will be well-attended.

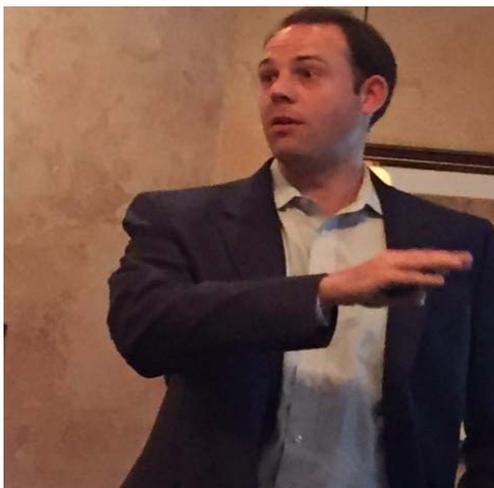
MARCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At the March meeting Geoff Garber, a partner in BRAYN Consulting LLC gave a fascinating program entitled “That Qualifies? The Legal Evolution of the Federal Research and Experimentation Tax Credit.” Jackie Franklin was the lucky winner of the “Featured Lawyer” drawing.



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, APRIL 25TH IS OUR EIGHTH MEETING OF THE 2016-2017 BAR YEAR. PLAN TO ATTEND! RSVPs ARE DUE TO christy@gtkaty.com NO LATER THAN 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST.



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	KERRI GRAHAM
AUDIT COMMITTEE	ESTELEE GARRISON
MEMBERSHIP	GERALD ZIMMERER
YOUNG LAWYERS	KELLY RIZZO
EDUCATION	STU LEVIN
PUBLIC INFORMATION	DAVID FRISHMAN
PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL	KATRINA ROGERS

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

PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEXT EVENT

Our next program will be at the Maud Smith Marks Library, May 13, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The topic will be Family Law and will be presented by Alex Hunt and Sarah Springer.

The following sessions will be held on August 12, and November 11, all from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

If you are interested in helping to plan these sessions, assisting on the day of the event, or being a speaker, please contact Alex Hunt at ahunt@huntlawtexas.com. The Committee also welcomes additional members. The People's Law School committee is led by Katrina Rogers. Other committee members are Rehan Alimohammad, Tiffany Garraton, Alex Hunt, Kate Marinacci, and Drew Zimmerman.

KATY YOUNG LAWYERS

REMEMBER: Don't miss the April 18 post-tax day/crawfish/happy hour event. Contact Kelly Rizzo with suggestions or if you want to help out at the event. Be there or be square!

Katy Young Lawyers will host a Crawfish, Beers and Peers event on Tuesday, April 18 at BB's Cafe, 406 West Grand Parkway South, #400, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Come hungry and ready to have fun!

Katy Young Lawyers is targeting attorneys under 40-years old or licensed less than 10 years (or both). The purpose of this committee is to provide opportunities for attorneys who live and/or work in the Katy area to meet other attorneys of similar ages and experience levels. If you are interested in getting more involved with Katy Young Lawyers, please contact Kelly Rizzo at krizzo@huntlawtexas.com or Kathleen LeFevre at kathleen@sarahspringerlaw.com.

NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS!

We will soon be assembling the Nominating Committee to propose the KBA's slate of officers and directors for our July 2017 – June 2018 bar year. The slate will be presented at our May 23, 2017 Annual Meeting.

If you would like to serve on the Nominating Committee, please email Elizabeth Pratt by April 30, 2017.

We encourage all KBA members to get involved by serving as an officer, director, or committee chair. We all know that we get out of an organization what we put into it! If you are interested in serving as an officer or director, please let Elizabeth Pratt know. The positions that the Nominating Committee will propose to fill include the following.

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President

**Secretary
Treasurer
Directors – three positions to be filled**

Directors serve two-year terms. Officers serve one-year terms. The duties of the officers, as stated in our by-laws, (See the bylaws excerpts at the end of this newsletter). If you have any questions about the duties of any positions, please feel free to contact the current position-holders. You can locate that information on katybar.org. No time like the present to get in line for a committee chairmanship, either! KBA offers the following committee opportunities:

**Social Committee
Audit Committee
Membership
Young Lawyers
Education/Scholarships
Public Information/Media
People's Law School**

President Pratt requests volunteers to serve on a **Website Committee**. We are also seeking a volunteer to take over as Editor of the **Katy Bar Newsletter**. If you are interested in being the Editor or serving on an editorial team, please contact President Pratt.

Those who are currently serving as committee chairs are cordially invited to re-apply to serve for the 2017-2018 Bar year, and we need as many people as possible to express their interests in serving on various committees. Please send an email to elizabeth@elizabethprattlegal.com to get your name on the list for these essential service to our Bar Association.

APRIL 1, 2017

VETERANS CLINIC

On April 1, 2017, KBA partnered with the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program and the Houston Bar Association to sponsor a free legal clinic for area veterans. The clinic took place at the Elks Lodge in conjunction with the Greater Katy Area Veterans Family Fun & Resource Day.

Many thanks to these KBA attorneys who helped to make the clinic a great success!

Jeffrey McCarthy
Elizabeth Rowatt
Aileen Diaz-Meador
Kelly Gamble

The veterans appreciated each one of you, and we do too.

KATY BAR ASSOCIATION 2017 LAW DAY COMPETITION

By Elizabeth Pratt

For many years, the Katy Bar Association has sponsored a scholarship program. The selection criteria and amounts awarded have varied over time, but two constants that have guided each year's competition are KBA's focus on encouraging students to pursue post-secondary education or training and increasing awareness of the value of our country's legal system. Beginning in 2016, we decided to base our program on the themes of the State Bar of Texas's Law Day celebration and coordinate our local competition with the State Bar's statewide Law Day competition. Law Day is the annual celebration of the system of laws that guide and support our way of life. The competition theme this year is "The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy." The KBA opened its competition to all KISD high school students, inviting them to submit editorials responding to this prompt: "Why is it important that all people receive equal protection of the laws?" The editorials received in response were thoughtful, scholarly, and inspiring. Each student tackled the prompt with different perspectives. Selecting the winners was a difficult task.

Ultimately, our Education/Scholarship Committee chose the following winners:

First	Jun-Yong Kim	Seven Lakes High School
Second	Parisa Jesudasen	Tompkins High School
Third	Emily Palmer	Cinco Ranch High School
Honorable Mention	Iyanla Smith	Mayde Creek High School

The KBA will award the students monetary recognition ranging from \$250 to \$1,500 to be used for educational purposes. The awards will be presented to the students at our April 25, 2017 general meeting. KBA has invited the parents and principals of the students to attend as our guests.

The State Bar invites each local bar association to submit its first place winner to the State Bar's statewide competition, so we entered Jun-Yong's editorial and were thrilled and honored to learn that his essay had been chosen as the FIRST PLACE editorial in the statewide Law Day contest. The State Bar has invited Jun-Yong to attend the award luncheon in Austin on May 1, 2017, where his editorial will be read as part of the program. Congratulation, Jun-Yong!

The Katy Bar Association simply could not be any prouder of these students. Whenever you hear curt dismissals of Generation Z, keep these winners (and our other contestants) in mind. They are proof that our future will be guided by caring, open-minded, and intelligent people.

In honor of Law Day 2017, we share the winning essays in their entirety in this newsletter.

The Katy Bar Association also thanks the members of the Education/Scholarship Committee for their service in designing and promoting the competition, reviewing the submissions, and arranging for recognition of our winners at our April luncheon. Stu Levin chaired the committee, which consists of Andrew Weisblatt, David Frishman, Teresa Lechner-Fish, Gerald Zimmerer, Rehan Alimohammad, and Elizabeth Pratt.



Pictured above from left to right are our scholarship winners: Jun-Yong Kim, Emily Palmer, Parisa Jesudasen, and Iyanla Smith. When you see these talented students at our upcoming CLE luncheon, be sure to give them a heart-felt congratulations for their hard work.

JUN-YONG KIM

"Monsters of My American Dream"

My boogeyman didn't come from my closet with four flailing arms - it came from school in the form of twenty-six letters. After moving to the United States from South Korea, I sat helpless in classrooms with my limited arsenal of words as the beast of the English alphabet overwhelmed me. I watched my peers laugh and yell while I was spoon-fed the American Dream in an unintelligible language. From the beginning, our country has clashed when interpreting what the 14th Amendment truly guarantees. We've vacillated in ideology, from *Plessy v Ferguson* to *Brown v Board of Education*. But when it comes to parity in schools, it's not so much about who's right, but rather, who's left. Without the 14th Amendment, millions in the United States would be left not only without proper rights, but more importantly the opportunity to thrive. Sure, the pursuit of equality is far from easy. But the United States is America because it chooses not what's easy, but what's best. Luckily, America has given me every opportunity to keep up with my English speaking peers. In the 1974 Supreme Court case *Lau v*

Nichols, Justice William Douglass argued, "students who do not understand English are effectively foreclosed from any meaningful education," in essence violating the 14th Amendment. The *Lau* decision disallowed for ignoring English learners and paved the pathway to ESL programs for students like me, in need of extra assistance. No more did I cower in the face of the English language; with bilingual programs to integrate me into society, I was able to break the wall of language holding me back. No more am I hopeless; instead, I now use English as my tool to not just explain my thoughts, but to provide a voice to the voiceless. My local school district, Katy ISD, has been integral to my academic awakening. It prides itself on truly leaving no child behind with its promise to not "discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, religion, color, gender, age, or national origin", and hence has become one of the best in the state. For the fourth year in a row, every campus met all four accountability **indexes of performance, including increased academic achievement for economically disadvantaged students and underperforming ethnicities. Katy ISD has been a champion of** acceptance, equality, and has become a bastion of exemplary performance. That's what equal protection under laws provides- it gives every student herein Katy the ability to dream without *fear of discrimination based on color, money, or gender, from the immigrant to the impoverished* to the handicapped alike. I once was told that the American Dream is called that because you have to be asleep to believe in it. I beg to differ. The American guarantee of equality has instead shackled my nightmares and freed me to dream in real life. The monsters in my closet are on an unending Sabbatical; the only beast left is my drive to capitalize on every opportunity equal protection offers me.

PARISA JESUDASEN

The Equal Protection Clause has been a center of controversy for many years seeing as it is easily applicable to a variety of situations and circumstances. So what makes such a simple principle a source of such public discord? I believe that one of the most important principles of American History is the promise of freedom and the guarantee of protection under the law. It is important that all people receive equal protection to continue support of American-held values, prevent historical disasters, and because it is logically sound for the perseverance of a fair society. John Locke led beliefs of natural rights; innate freedoms that all human beings were guaranteed and such enlightenment thinking led a few British colonists to form one of the greatest nations in history. Human beings are all divergent with contrasting ideals, desires, talents, and skills, but deep down beneath our differences we are all human beings. The rights of freedoms that inspired nations was not a new discovery but an awakening of the reality that we are all connected and deserving of the same things; we are all human. Humans deserving the same privileges and protections; necessary for the prevention of disillusionment. Equal protection, unfortunately has not been guaranteed to others in the past. Beliefs that not all human beings deserved the right to protection, or even humane treatment is a part of our country's past. When we denied equal protection to individuals what did it lead to? Complete and utter disillusionment and polarization. Our country fought an entire war against themselves and the spent decades trying to redirect the nation. All people deserve protection because denying anyone freedom is distorting the beliefs of freedom itself and allowing it and America to become destroyed. Equal protection under the law and its application to all people is important because it not only stands for the ideal and principles of our founding fathers, but also the realities of humanity. There is no person greater than another or more deserving of freedoms, it is a choice to be exercised by all and a guarantee that not only is the foundation of our being but an instrumental part of the creation of America. The thing about equality is that it is not something that can be given, but something that every individual has the capacity to receive. Insurance that every individual is provided with the same rights, treatments, and protections ensures that every individual can live up to their potential and improve the quality of life and society as a whole. It is in the best

interest of a fair society to instill within its member's beliefs of equality to create stronger relationships between individuals and help inspire everyone toward a common goal. Disenfranchising one people group from this equal protection hurts society more than helps it by ensuring defiance against laws rather than compliance and destruction in the trust and authority of a ruling body. Equal protection for all is necessary for a fruitful and strong nation.

Emily Palmer
"The Necessity of Equality"

America was founded upon distinct and essential ideals that have shaped our nation. Although these virtues have not always been acted upon or followed, our country continues to come back to them and thrive due to their impact. In one of the most important articles of history-The Declaration of Independence-it is stated, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that **all men are created equal**, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." Without equal rights being made accessible to all, the foundation our country was built upon crumbles. Equal rights hold an important and valuable place in my heart not only because of the historical importance of them, but also because I have seen the impact they can have in the lives of those who in many other countries are deemed "unequal" or "invalid". One of my deepest passions is the care of and love for those with special needs. I have seen in the lives of those who have mental and physical disabilities how significant basic rights can be. Without their being viewed as equal, they are unable to function as normal and valued members of society along with their peers. The fourteenth amendment calls for privileges to be made accessible to all just as rights are. Because of this standard of equality set forth in both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, I have gotten the opportunity to see children and young adults at a camp specifically for those with disabilities ride horses, sail across the sky on a zip line, and splash around in a swimming pool. I have been able to help in a classroom of a young boy who was refused the right to an education in his country overseas but then graciously accepted and valued in a school in this nation. I have heard of students who were able to graduate college, join the work force, and stand up for rights despite their physical and mental hindrances. These are only a few of the many times I have seen equal rights radically influence the lives of others. There are so many other stories and so many other people who are affected by equal rights and who are enabled to live the lives they love and have dreamed of. Equal rights are necessary because without them America is not by the people and for the people. Equal rights play important roles across many different categories people may fall in, but watching the way they completely shape the lives of those with disabilities makes me proud to live in a country that promises equality to all and views it as a necessity not just when it is convenient.

Iyanla Smith

Why is it important that all people receive 'equal protection of the laws'?

Imagine having to reside in a world where you couldn't vote at all no matter how old you are, not being able to get a driver's license and drive or not being able to get a job and make money. People nowadays couldn't even imagine being in that situation. Everyone in our society deserves to have the same and equal opportunities to excel in life and achieve their goals. It is important for all people to be equal under the laws because, as a country, we want to be that example for the world. We must set the standard of treating all human beings equally and fairly. It's important for the advancement of the country so we don't stay stagnant and continue to better the economy and the community. This in many ways, allowed people to be closer to achieving 'the American dream'. "In the definition of the American Dream by James Truslow Adams in 1931, "life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement"

regardless of social class or circumstances of birth." Everyone being treated justly under the laws gave each future generation the opportunity to thrive in America. This is why we have so many successful people in the U.S. today and even more working their way up. It's up to each person to work hard if they want to achieve their goals. Over the years, the 14th amendment has helped to solve many court cases where people were being treated unfairly e.g. Brown v. Board of Education and Gideon v. Wainwright to name a few. Brown v. Board of Education was very significant because it eliminated segregation between schools. It allowed for African Americans and Caucasians to go to the same school. In the case of Gideon v. Wainwright, Gideon was poor when he was convicted of his crime thus unable to pay for his own attorney, yet the court declined his request for one. The United States Supreme Court applied the 14th amendment to the case making it mandatory to provide an accused person an attorney. All of these examples were enormous steps to our country becoming equal but we need to keep working to make the country fairer. Women and men should receive the same pay for the same jobs, all children should have the opportunity to go to a good school. No matter where we start in life, we should all be allowed a fighting chance to get ahead. That's all that parents hope for their child, i.e. the American dream.

KBA JUDGE SARAH SPRINGER SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of Sarah Springer's professionalism and dedicated service to the bar, three donations totaling \$2000 were made to the Katy Bar Association and designated for Sarah to determine as a scholarship. The Board approved this honor and Sarah, Rebecca Hafner, and Teresa Lechner-Smith worked together on a committee to determine the qualifications for this scholarship award. It was decided that a scholarship should be awarded to a University of Houston student from the Katy area. The Judge Sarah Springer Scholarship will be awarded to Alexandra D. Tijerina at the upcoming Dean's Awards Day at the University of Houston. The program will describe the scholarship as follows:

Judge Sarah Springer Scholarship

The Katy Bar Association established the Judge Sarah Springer Scholarship to recognize her service to the Katy Bar and her passion for family law. This scholarship is awarded to a student who is a current or past Katy, Texas resident, demonstrates financial need and has an interest in family law.

Donor: Katy Bar Association
Recipient: Alexandra D. Tijerina

Alex will be attending the upcoming KBA CLE Luncheon as the guest of Sarah Springer.



Pictured to the left is the Judge Sarah Springer Scholarship winner, Alexandra D. Tijerina. Alex is from Katy and has been a Creech Comet, a Beck Bulldog, and a Cinco Ranch Cougar. She has a BA in Arts in Philosophy and a BFA in Dance from the University of Arizona, and is currently in the Class of 2020 at the University of Houston Law Center. From Alex's personal statement: "I will honor Sarah Springer's contributions to the Katy community and use my legal education to give back to the wonderful community that raised me."

UPDATE ON HARRIS COUNTY CIVIL COURT BUILDING ELEVATORS

From Judge David Farr: I know that there has been tremendous frustration with the status of the elevators at 201 Caroline so I am sending this update in order to bring you collectively current on that issue. Harris County is undergoing a modernization of all 6 elevators to floors 8 to 17 in the Civil Courthouse. That means they are replacing equipment, such as drives, controls, electronics, cables, etc. The Harris County Commissioners Court voted yesterday to bypass the bid process and to go directly to Otis Elevator to begin this process. It will take approximately 16 weeks to manufacture and deliver the new equipment. Once the new equipment is delivered, it will take an estimated 6 months to complete the installation (March 2018). The work will be done 2 elevators at a time. If they can do 3 at a time they will. Because of the problems with the upper level elevators the freight elevator has been used for the general public during the highest traffic period of 7:30 am to 9:30 am. Unfortunately, the freight elevator sustained water damage last week due to a relief valve that failed. The parts to repair this elevator have been delivered and it will take another 2 weeks (estimated) to complete that repair. The good news is that there will be newly repaired (and different brand of) elevators this time next year. Meanwhile, we will continue to use the freight elevator when available so please be mindful of delays as to your arrival times for dockets and as to late calls to the courts. Thank you for your patience as the county works through these issues.



**KATY YOUNG
LAWYERS**

CRAWFISH, BEERS, AND PEERS

**April 18, 2017
6-8 PM**

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MODERN LAWYER

RIK SEHGAL of Modern Lawyer maintains the Katy Bar Association website and would be glad to give any member a free consultation on their current website. Contact him at rik@modernlawyer.org.

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.

FEATURED LAWYER

Congratulations to **JACKY FRANKLIN** for winning the March 2017 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 May 2017 Featured Lawyer winner. 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. If needed, you must secure Bar approval of your content. 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.

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 love to feature member scholarship! Should anyone be inspired to write one or share a blog post, please send your article in Word to sarah@sarahspringerlaw.com.

MEMBER NEWS—

PRAYERS AND SUPPORT NEEDED: John Kelly's twin brother Michael Kelly, a small town lawyer in Kansas, is seriously ill. Please keep John and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

BIRTHDAYS: We are starting a new feature to wish our members HAPPY BIRTHDAY each month. If you have not sent me your birthday day/month, please do so and you will be included in Happy Birthday wishes in our Newsletter.

HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY TO ETHAN GAO AND BETH SERAFINI-SMITH!!!

OTHER NEWS:

Nicole Zimmerer, daughter of KBA member, **Gerald Zimmerer**, has accepted a place at the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama to study her Masters of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing starting this fall.

DAVID FRISHMAN RECEIVES DISTRICT ROTARY AWARD

The 2015-2016 Rotary District Governor, Dr. Nick Giannone traveled from Lake Jackson to Katy to attend the weekly Katy Rotary Club Lunch to present our own KBA Member David Frishman with the Rotary International Service and Dedication Award for this District. Rotary International which has about 1.2 million members/volunteers worldwide is divided into regions, called "Districts". The Katy Rotary Club is in Rotary International District 0589, which includes approximately 61 clubs. David was recognized for his work in eradicating polio worldwide and for the community legacy, the Freedom Park Memorial Tower.



Pictured left are Dr. Nick Giannone and David Frishman as he received his award. Congratulations to David who commented, "Wow! When you consider Dr. Giannone is an emergency room doctor and he traveled all the way to Katy (80 miles) to present me this District Rotary Award—I was surprised and honored." CONGRATULATIONS, DAVID FRISHMAN! Well deserved.



IN OTHER NEWS:

SEVEN LAKES 4 x 400 VARSITY RELAY TEAM BREAKS SCHOOL RECORD - TWICE (SO FAR!)

On March 24, 2017, Thomas Pratt, son of KBA member Elizabeth Pratt, and his SLHS varsity track teammates broke the four-year old SLHS record in the 4 x 400 relay event. The team broke the record during the prelims of the annual Rice track and field meet on March 24 and then broke their own record the following evening during the meet finals. The team clocked a time of 3:18:89. The team also captured first place in this event at the District Track Meet on April 13, 2017.

Team members pictured above right: Nonso Anyanti, Thomas Pratt, Zion Mpeye, and Derek Jones.

INVITATION FROM HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Samantha Torres, CLE Committee Chair of the Houston Young Lawyers Associations has invited the KBA to an upcoming CLE. The CLE is at South Texas College of Law on April 18th from 6pm-8pm. It will begin with a networking happy hour followed by a CLE presented by KIND. The training teaches the essentials for representing children in immigration matters. This is a chance to learn how to make an immense difference for an immigrant child. This CLE is generously supported by a grant from the American Bar Association, and its Working Group on Unaccompanied Minor Immigrants and sponsored by Capital Construction Design Build Group. You may register at <http://conta.cc/2n4MpMj>. Per Samantha Torres: "This is a timely topic and supported by an ABA grant so we would love to have a great turnout!"



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**TUESDAY
APRIL 18, 2017**

**6:00PM - 7:00PM:
NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR
7:00PM - 8:00PM: CLE
1 HOUR MCLE .25 ETHICS**

**SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW
HOUSTON
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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. If you have not paid for your ad and it has appeared in the newsletter, you will be billed.

RSVP TO christy@gtkatylaw.com FOR OUR APRIL 25TH MEETING AT HASTA LA PASTA BY 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST.

SPONSORSHIPS

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a Katy Bar Association meeting or event, please contact Social Committee Chair 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

RSVP TO christy@gtkatylaw.com FOR OUR APRIL 25TH MEETING AT HASTA LA PASTA BY 1:00 PM ON FRIDAY, April 21st.

DUTIES OF KBA OFFICERS

ARTICLE 3

Officers and Directors.

Section I. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. The duties of these Officers shall be as follows:

- a. President: Shall preside over all meetings and shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.
- b. First Vice-President: Shall assume the duties of the President in the President's absence and shall participate as an *Ex Officio* member of all Committees.
- c. Second Vice-President: Shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President and First Vice-President and shall chair the Programs Committee. The Second Vice-President is responsible for securing speakers for each regular Association meeting who shall provide programming eligible for Continuing Legal Education credit from the State Bar of Texas.
- d. Third Vice-President: Shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President and shall chair the Education Committee. The Third Vice-President shall secure approval of eligible Continuing Legal Education programs from the State Bar of Texas and shall be responsible for transmitting participant information to the State Bar of Texas for credit to the participants' Continuing Legal Education records.
- e. Secretary: Shall keep the minutes of all meetings, the Association's records, and attend to correspondence. The Secretary is authorized to attest to all actions of the Association.
- f. Treasurer: Shall keep well and truly the Association's books of account and membership lists of the Association. The Treasurer is authorized to transact all banking business on behalf of the Association. The Treasurer shall also serve as the tax officer of the Association.