

2025-2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Top Row: Laura Pratt, Wendy A. Humphrey, Sara Foskitt, Teddy Adams, Mike Micallef, Andy Tindel, Judge Victor G. Villarreal, Judge Roy B. Ferguson, Michael C. Smith

Middle Row: Jaime A. Saenz, Justice Gina M. Benavides, David N. Calvillo, Laura Gibson, Chad Baruch, Deborah L. Cordova, Judge Elisabeth Earle, Judy Barton, Kristal Thomson, Anne Dobson

Bottom Row: Alyson A. Martinez, Diana M. Geis, William G. Hagans, Kenda Culpepper, Sylvia A. Cardona, Sara E. Dysart, Cori A. Harbour, Baillie Milliken

Not Pictured: Christy Amuny, Carlos Eduardo Cárdenas, Kelly-Ann F. Clarke, Deborah J. Race, Judge Penny Roberts, Brandy Wingate Voss



**More than
\$30,000,000
awarded in
grants
since inception**

Thanks to the incredible commitment of our Fellows, the Texas Bar Foundation is awarding a record-breaking number of grants. Your commitment to our mission is serving the Texans who need it the most. We appreciate the support of every Fellow, Life Fellow, and Sustaining Life Fellow, and want you to know that your dollars have a direct impact on your community.

Please share with non-profits in your area that fit our mission about our grant program.

WHAT'S NEW?

FELLOWS DIRECTORY

We're excited to announce that the Texas Bar Foundation Fellows Directory is now available online — an exclusive, easy-to-use resource designed just for our Fellows.

Take a moment to log in, review your listing, and ensure your information is up to date.

How to Access the Directory

1. Visit www.txbf.org
2. Select "Fellows Directory" at the top of the page
3. Enter the email address associated with your Fellows profile
4. Check your inbox for a secure access link

💡 Tip: For a seamless login experience, use the same email address you receive Texas Bar Foundation communications. If your email has changed, please contact us so we can update our records.

PLANNED GIVING

Discover New Ways to Make a Lasting Impact

We're thrilled to share the Texas Bar Foundation Planned Giving page! This new resource highlights opportunities to continue shaping the future of justice in Texas — beyond your Fellows pledge. Take a moment to explore other giving options and help ensure the Foundation's mission continues serving Texans.

To start a conversation about a gift to the Texas Bar Foundation, please contact Baillie Milliken at bmilliken@txbf.org.

HELP US SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

Help us recognize your esteemed colleagues and mentors in the legal profession. Each year, the Texas Bar Foundation honors those who exemplify the highest standards of legal practice. The 2026 award recipients will be celebrated at our Annual Dinner on Friday, June 12, 2026, in Houston.

Nominees for these prestigious awards do not need to be Fellows of the Foundation. We welcome all nominations of individuals who have made significant contributions to the legal field.

To nominate a candidate, please submit a completed nomination form, the nominee's resume, and 3-5 letters of support.

Nominate today!

A graphic for the Texas Bar Foundation's nomination campaign. It features a large, stylized star in the background. The star is composed of horizontal lines, with a red five-pointed star in the center. The words "TEXAS BAR" are arched over the top of the star, and "FOUNDATION" is written in a white box below it. To the right of the star, a list of awards is displayed. The text "Seeking Nominations" is written in a large, stylized font. A red box contains the deadline date. At the bottom, contact information is provided.

**TEXAS BAR
FOUNDATION**

***Seeking
Nominations***

Deadline: January 15, 2026

For more information on the nominations process, visit www.txbf.org or call the TXBF office at (512) 480-8000.

Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award

Outstanding Law Review
Article Award

Lola Wright Foundation Award

Samuel Pessarra
Outstanding Jurist Award

Dan Rugeley Price
Memorial Award

Ronald D. Secrest
Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award

Gregory S. Coleman
Outstanding Appellate
Lawyer Award

Terry Lee Grantham
Memorial Award

TEXAS BAR FOUNDATION AWARDS

Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award

The Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award was the first award established by the Texas Bar Foundation in 1974. The award recognizes attorneys whose practice spanned fifty years or more, as of January 1st of the year of the award, and who adhere to the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession and service to the public.

Dan Rugeley Price Memorial Award

The Dan Rugeley Price Memorial Award was established by friends and family and endowed through the Texas Bar Foundation in June 1996. The award celebrates Dan's life as an outstanding lawyer who devoted himself completely to any task he undertook. The recipient exemplifies the qualities of an accomplished legal writer and researcher, a talented and dedicated practicing lawyer, a servant of the profession as a volunteer and an advocate on its behalf. The recipient exhibits an unreserved commitment to clients and to the practice of our profession, and it demonstrates dedication to the Bar and service to the public with the same commitment, dedication and zeal which defined Dan Price's life and work.

Lola Wright Foundation Award

Established in 1985 in honor of Coleman Gay, this award honors an attorney who exemplifies the highest standards of professional ethics. This award is presented in recognition for outstanding public service in advancing and enhancing legal ethics in Texas.

Outstanding Law Review Article Award

The Outstanding Law Review Article Award honors a law review article published by one of the Texas law schools. Articles must be published between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, to be considered.

Ronald D. Secrest Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award

The firm of Beck Redden LLP established the award in honor and memory of Mr. Secrest, a gifted trial lawyer and a founding partner of the firm. The award recognizes a trial lawyer who, in his or her practice, has demonstrated high ethical and moral standards and has demonstrated exceptional professional conduct, thus enhancing the image of the trial lawyer. In consideration of the award, Beck Redden LLP will make a gift to the Texas Bar Foundation of \$10,000 annually in honor of the recipient.

Samuel Pessarra Outstanding Jurist Award

In 1987, the Texas Bar Foundation created the Outstanding Jurist Award to honor an active Federal or State Judge. Retired judges or judges of senior status are eligible if they continue to be active on the bench. In 1995, the Foundation received a bequest to the endowment from the estate of Mrs. Samuel Pessarra in honor of her late husband for the purpose of funding the Outstanding Jurist Award. The recipient must have served on the bench for a minimum of 10 years and exhibit an exceptionally outstanding reputation for competency, efficiency, and integrity, the nominee may not be standing for election or re-election during the cycle in which the award is given (June 2026).

Gregory S. Coleman Outstanding Appellate Lawyer Award

Yetter Coleman LLP established the Gregory S. Coleman Outstanding Appellate Lawyer in 2011 in honor and memory of Gregory S. Coleman. The award celebrates the high ideals and standards that Greg demonstrated in his appellate practice and personal life. The recipient should exhibit an outstanding appellate practice while maintaining a strong commitment to providing legal services for the underserved. Dedication to mentoring young attorneys should be evident as well as a strong moral compass to guide both professional and personal pursuits.

Terry Lee Grantham Memorial Award

The Terry Lee Grantham Memorial Award was endowed through the Texas Bar Foundation in 2014 by Terry Lee Grantham's family and friends. As an enduring tribute to Terry's life and work in the practice of law, this award is made annually to an outstanding Texas lawyer. The award celebrates Terry's life as a gifted and committed man and lawyer who devoted himself completely to every task he undertook. Each recipient of this award must exemplify the qualities of an accomplished, talented and dedicated practitioner, a servant of the profession and an ardent advocate, demonstrating dedication and service with the same passion that defined Terry's life and work. The Texas Tech University School of Law will receive the cash portion of the award for the Terry Lee Grantham Energy Law Scholarship



TEXAS BAR FOUNDATION GRANTS IMPACT

Asian Family Support Services of Austin 2025 Legal Resource Fair for Survivors



Asian Family Support Services of Austin staff at Legal Resource Fair for Survivors

"The Texas Bar Foundation's sponsorship of our Legal Fair had amplifying benefits to create a supportive community for survivors, not just for their legal needs but for their community resource connections."

- *Rajina Pradhan, 2025 AFSSA Board President*

"AFSSA's third annual Legal and Community Resource Fair welcomed 75 attendees and featured 25 legal and community resource partners offering culturally competent, trauma-informed, and language-accessible services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and trafficking. In addition to legal clinics and presentations, attendees benefited from free interpretation, on-site childcare, transportation assistance, and multilingual materials.

As part of the fair, we also invited several survivors who own small businesses to attend as vendors at the event. Each of these survivors are part of AFSSA's Survivors to Creators program, which aims to support survivors in working towards their long-term goals for entrepreneurship. One of these clients had started her own jewelry business while in the midst of a custody case with her abuser. Each of the bracelets she makes is centered around manifesting a different desire, from "protection" and "healing in grief" to "legal victory." When an AFSSA advocate met with this client to help with marketing materials for the Legal and Community Resource Fair, the client showed the "legal victory" bracelet she had worn throughout her own legal battle. She shared that the opportunity to "give back" and offer resources to other survivors who may be experiencing some of the same things that she went through felt like a meaningful step in her own healing journey.

With the help of the Texas Bar Foundation, we were able to invite these survivors to grow the presence of their small businesses while engaging in a community response to the legal needs facing survivors. A sincere "Thank You" to the Texas Bar Foundation for funding this project!"

- *Darlene Lanham, AFSSA Executive Director*

TEXAS BAR FOUNDATION GRANTS IMPACT

Books are Gems

Legal Literacy Storytime: Inspiring Kids with Justice, Rights, & Responsibility



County Attorney Christina Sanchez reading Leo's First Vote to a group of kids

“Thanks to the Texas Bar Foundation, Legal Literacy Storytime has already become more than a reading activity — it has become a spark of empowerment. When children in El Paso hear directly from leaders like County Attorney Christina Sanchez, they begin to see themselves as future voters, decision-makers, and citizens with a voice. Parents have expressed how powerful it is for their children to meet these role models up close, and community leaders like Cielo Vista Neighborhood Association President Mike Adjemin are now asking us to bring the program into their neighborhoods as well. This grant has planted the seeds for a generation of confident, informed young people — and the impact is growing faster than any of us expected.”

- Emma Acosta, Executive Director, Books Are Gems

The project “is a remarkably transformative initiative. It aims to empower young minds by instilling a foundational understanding of justice, rights, and responsibilities from an early age. This program is particularly beneficial for children in El Paso County, Texas as it nurtures early childhood literacy which is crucial for their cognitive and social development. By fostering a love for reading and a comprehension of legal concepts, we are paving the way for a more informed and responsible generation. Early literacy not only enhances academic success but also boosts self-esteem and critical thinking skills, laying a solid groundwork for lifelong learning and civic engagement.”

- Christina Sanchez, El Paso County Attorney



QUICK INSIGHTS

**2026 Award
Nomination
Deadline:**
January 15, 2026

**We awarded
\$974,275 in grants
to 91 nonprofit
organizations in
Fall 2025.**

**Save the Date
Annual Dinner**
**June 12, 2026
Houston**

**Upcoming Grant
Deadlines:**
**January 15, 2026 at
5 PM central time.
July 15, 2026 at
5 PM central time.**

FELLOW BADGES

For sixty years, the Texas Bar Foundation has proudly recognized excellence in the legal profession. Election to the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation is one of the highest honors a member of the State Bar of Texas can receive, awarded to those with distinguished careers and a demonstrated commitment to serving their communities. We are excited to share our Fellows badges for Fellows, Life Fellows, and Sustaining Life Fellows! If you have not received your badge, please reach out to Shalom Almeida at salmeida@txbf.org.



UPCOMING RECEPTIONS

District 6 - Dallas

Thursday, January 22, 2026
Dallas, TX

District 4 – Houston

Thursday, February 26, 2026
Houston, TX

District 10 – San Antonio

Wednesday, April 15, 2026
San Antonio, TX

District 9 – Austin

Thursday, April 30, 2026
Austin, TX

We invite you to attend an upcoming reception. Our Fellows Appreciation receptions provide an opportunity to network with other Fellows, learn about the impact we are making in your area, and acknowledge your valuable contribution to our efforts. We hope to see you soon!

Visit our website www.txbf.org or scan the QR code to view upcoming receptions and register to attend.



Celebrate and Remember Legal Leaders with Honor or Memorial Gifts

An honor or memorial gift to the Texas Bar Foundation celebrates the legacy of a cherished colleague or mentor. Mark work anniversaries, milestones or memorialize someone special with a contribution that honors their impact.

Texas Bar Foundation

515 Congress Ave., Ste. 1755
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: (512) 480-8000

Fax: (512) 480-8005

Email: info@txbf.org

Visit our website www.txbf.org

