

# OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYER OF TEXAS AWARD


## LIBERTY BELL AWARD

## OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD

*Nomination Rules and Criteria  
2009-2010*



BE AN UNCOMMON LEADER.®



Dear Bar Leaders:

We invite you to help honor members of your community. The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) annually presents three prestigious awards:

- (1) the **Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award**, which recognizes one young lawyer who has demonstrated professional proficiency, service to the profession, and service to the community; and
- (2) the **Liberty Bell Award**, which recognizes one outstanding non-lawyer in Texas who has made the most selfless contribution to his or her community to strengthen the effectiveness of the American system of Justice by instilling better understanding and appreciation of the law.
- (3) the **Outstanding Mentor Award**, which recognizes one attorney who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to mentoring young lawyers in his or her legal community.

We encourage each local bar association to participate by selecting local award winners for recognition during your local Law Day ceremonies. Your selections can then be submitted to TYLA as nominees in the statewide awards selection process. Please note: the presentation of an award at the local level is not a requirement for nominating that person for the statewide award. You should, however, begin your selection process now.

The rules and criteria for the Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas, the Liberty Bell and Outstanding Mentor awards are enclosed. Each local bar is eligible to submit one nominee for each award. Please submit one application per nominee. Written nominations and supporting exhibits must be received in the TYLA office by **April 9, 2010**. FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

All applications must be submitted in writing to:

William W. Miller, Jr., Chair  
TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award Committee  
1414 Colorado, 4th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

Karin Crump, Chair  
TYLA Liberty Bell Award Committee  
1414 Colorado, 4th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

Lee Ann Reno, Chair  
TYLA Outstanding Mentor Award Committee  
1414 Colorado, 4th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the TYLA office at (800) 204-2222, ext. 1529.

# OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYER OF TEXAS AWARD

## PURPOSE

To recognize one young lawyer in Texas who best demonstrates professional proficiency, service to the profession, and service to the community.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award, the nominee must:

- be licensed to practice law in Texas,
- have paid membership dues prescribed by the Supreme Court of Texas,
- be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas, and
- be 36 years of age or younger as of June 1, 2009.

## NOMINATIONS CRITERIA

The TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award Committee will consider all outstanding qualities of each nominee in making its recommendation to the TYLA Board of Directors. Outstanding qualities include but are not limited to exemplified:

- professional proficiency,
- service to the profession, and
- service to the community.

## NOMINATIONS PROCESS

Nominations must be submitted from a recognized TYLA affiliate or local bar association. Any individual, group of individuals, or other organization may submit a nomination to the local affiliate or local bar association for consideration. However, the local affiliate or local bar may only submit a single nominee for consideration for the statewide Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations must be submitted by written application only, preferably in narrative form. The application should include but is not limited to the following sections: (1) table of contents, (2) recent photograph of the nominee; (3) narrative nomination, (4) biographical information, (5) letters of recommendation, and (6) any other appropriate exhibits. The entire application—including exhibits—should be placed in a three-ring binder with no larger than a 2-inch capacity.

Submit only one copy of the application. All items should be neat and legible. Do not include original documents with the application, as we do not guarantee return of any items submitted.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECIPIENT

All nominations will be reviewed by the TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award Committee, which will select a winner for approval by the TYLA Board of Directors at its board meeting April 30-May 1, 2010. The award will be presented to the recipient of the TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award at the TYLA Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Fort Worth on June 11, 2010. The recipient will be an honored guest of TYLA at the event.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

**April 9, 2010 (5 p.m.)**

*Current officers and directors of the Texas Young Lawyers Association and members of the TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award Committee are not eligible for consideration. The following is a list of lawyers who are ineligible to be nominated as the TYLA Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas for 2009-2010.*

### Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award Committee

William W. Miller Jr., Chair  
Christy Albano  
Judge Rob Canas  
Kirsten Cohoon  
Hugh Coleman  
Tal Hammock  
Greg Jackson  
Chris Jensen  
Monica Latin  
Trey Martinez  
David McAtee II  
Heath Poole  
Patrick Rodriguez  
Clay Scheitzach  
Alex Stelly  
Andrew Strong

John West  
Kristie Wright

### TYLA Officers

Cori A. Harbour, President  
C.E. Rhodes, Chair  
Natalie Cobb Koehler, Vice President  
David C. Courreges, Secretary  
Jeff Chandler, Treasurer  
Jennifer Evans Morris, President-Elect  
David Anderson, Chair-Elect  
Sylvia A. Cardona, Immediate Past President

### TYLA Directors

Jeffrey A. Armstrong, Waco  
Hector A. Beltrán, El Paso  
Robert E. Booth, Galveston  
Natasha L. Brooks, Midland

Kelly L. Burris, Dallas  
J. Brett Busby, Houston  
Alfonso Cabañas, San Antonio  
M. Vittoria "Giugi" Carminati, Houston  
Kelly-Ann F. Clarke, Galveston  
Adrienne M. Clements, Fort Worth  
David C. Courreges, Austin  
Michael E. Deadman, San Angelo  
Geoff A. Gannaway, Houston  
Israel Garcia, San Antonio  
Don Jones, Corpus Christi  
Sarah Kownacki, Dallas  
Keith L. Krueger, College Station  
J.P. LeCompte, Denton  
Alyssa J. Long, San Antonio  
John Massouh, Amarillo  
Jennifer Evans Morris, Dallas  
Erin O'Driscoll, Houston

Chike Okpara, Austin  
Connie H. Pfeiffer, Houston  
Kristy Sims Piazza, Plano  
Donato D. Ramos, Jr., Laredo  
Jaime S. Rangel, Corpus Christi  
Ken Riney, Dallas  
Jobe Rodgers, Lubbock  
Shivali Sharma, Texarkana  
Paul Tu, Houston  
Brooke Ulrickson, Fort Worth  
Rebecca Vela, McAllen  
Clint Woods, Beaumont

### TYLA Liaisons

Clint Harbour, Austin  
Kirby D. Hopkins, The Woodlands  
Chip Brooker, Dallas





# LIBERTY BELL AWARD

## PURPOSE

To recognize one outstanding non-lawyer in Texas who has made the most selfless contribution to his or her community to strengthen the effectiveness of the American system of justice by instilling better understanding and appreciation of the law

## ELIGIBILITY

Any non-lawyer is eligible to receive this Award. Judges and lawyers or other members of the State Bar of Texas are not eligible.

## NOMINATIONS CRITERIA

The Award recognizes community service that:

- Promotes a better understanding of government, especially the Bill of Rights;
- Encourages greater respect for the law and the courts;
- Stimulates a deeper sense of individual responsibility, so that citizens recognize their duties and their rights;
- Contributes to the effective functioning of our institutions of government; and
- Instills better understanding and appreciation of the law.

## NOMINATIONS PROCESS

Nominations must be submitted from a recognized TYLA affiliate or local bar association. Any individual, group of individuals, or other organization may submit a nomination to the local affiliate or local bar association for consideration. However, the local affiliate or local bar may only submit a single nominee for consideration for the statewide Liberty Bell Award.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations must be submitted by written application only, preferably in narrative form. The application should include: (1) identifying information about your local association and your nominee; (2) biographical information about your nominee—e.g. family information; membership/offices held and honors received in civic, church, and other community organizations; and profession or employment; (3) a narrative of accomplishments and activities that qualify the nominee for the Award, focusing on the above criteria; (4) letters of recommendation and testimony; and (5) copies of newspaper articles, publications, awards, etc., supporting the nominee's qualifications. The entire application, including exhibits, should be placed in a three-ring binder with no larger than a 2-inch capacity.

Submit only one copy of the application. All items should be neat and legible. Do not include original documents with the application, as we do not guarantee return of any items submitted.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECIPIENT

All nominations will be reviewed by the TYLA Liberty Bell Award Committee, which will select a winner for approval by the TYLA Board of Directors at its board meeting April 30-May 1, 2010. The award will be presented to the recipient of the TYLA Liberty Bell Award at the TYLA Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Fort Worth on June 11, 2010. The recipient will be an honored guest of TYLA at the event.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

**April 9, 2010 (5 p.m.)**

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### How To Set Up A Local Liberty Bell Award Program.

1. Appoint a committee within your association that will be responsible for nominating and selecting an individual to receive your local award. Solicit nominees from community leaders and/or local civic groups.
2. Select a recipient and order a plaque (an official insignia plaque is available through the ABA).
3. Present the award to your recipient at your local Law Day activity or your affiliate's annual meeting or luncheon.

### Enter Your Local Liberty Bell Award Winner As A Nominee For The Statewide Award.

The deadline for receipt of an application for the TYLA Liberty Bell Award selection is April 9, 2010.

### Suggested Timeline

- March 26** - Deadline to select your local Liberty Bell Award recipient.
- April 9** - Deadline to submit applications for the TYLA statewide selection.
- May 1** - Presentation to your local Liberty Bell Award recipient (Law Day USA)

# OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD

## PURPOSE

To recognize an attorney who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to mentoring young lawyers in his or her legal community.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the TYLA Outstanding Mentor Award, the nominee must:

- be licensed to practice law in Texas,
- have paid membership dues prescribed by the Supreme Court of Texas,
- be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas.

## NOMINATIONS CRITERIA

The TYLA Outstanding Mentor Award Committee will consider all outstanding qualities of each nominee across the state in making its recommendation to the TYLA Board of Directors. Outstanding Mentor qualities include but are not limited to exemplified:

- serves as a role model to young lawyers in his or her community,
- fosters the development of young lawyers, and
- significantly contributes to the profession and/or the community.

## NOMINATIONS PROCESS

Nominations must be submitted from a recognized TYLA affiliate or local bar association. Any individual, group of individuals, or other organization may submit a nomination to the local affiliate or local bar association for consideration. However, the local affiliate or local bar may only submit a single nominee for consideration for the statewide Outstanding Mentor Award.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations must be submitted by written applications only, preferable in narrative form. The application should include but is not limited to the following sections: (1) table of contents, (2) recent photograph of the nominee; (3) narrative nomination, (4) biographical information, (5) letters of recommendation, and (6) any other appropriate exhibits such as newspaper articles, etc. The entire application, including exhibits, should be placed in a three-ring binder with no larger than a 2-inch capacity.

Submit only one copy of the application. All items should be neat and legible. Do not include original documents with the application, as we do not guarantee return of any items submitted.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECIPIENT

All nominations will be reviewed by the TYLA Outstanding Mentor Committee, which will select a winner for approval by the TYLA Board of Directors at its board meeting April 30-May 1, 2010. The award will be presented to the recipient of the TYLA Outstanding Mentor Award at the TYLA Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Fort Worth on June 11, 2010. The recipient will be an honored guest of TYLA at the event.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

**April 9, 2010 (5 p.m.)**

