

WOMEN AND THE LAW NEWSLETTER



FEB 2025



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As we wrap up the year and my time as Chair for the Women and the Law Section (WAL) comes to its final months, there has been time to reflect and embrace what we have done and will do. This has been such an eye-opening and fulfilling experience. I was able to take a back seat and watch this section grow over the years with such impact. This year, I have been led and supported by the many women who came before me, and soon enough, I will pass the torch on to my colleague and friend, Gabriella Guarena.

Looking back on this past year, we have been gratifyingly busy. We have continued to present our lunchtime CLEs throughout the year with presentations from knowledgeable and skilled Attorneys in their field, and we have a few more coming in the next couple of months, so stay tuned. These presentations are also posted on our WAL website for members in case you missed them. Two WAL newsletters have been released and e-blasted to our members. With the help of our newsletter committee, we have included articles on recent decisions and changes in the practice of law, plus kept our members updated on upcoming events. In March, we have several opportunities to get your CLE hours and build relationships with local and statewide attorneys and judges. Our International Women's Day and CLE (IWD) baby turns 3 years old this year, and we are excited to have 12 different cities across the state of Texas participate on March 6th and 7th. During the IWD event, we will be presenting a 1-hour CLE titled "You have a law degree. Now what?"

TRENDING THIS ISSUE:

- Message From The Chair
- Black History Month Attorney Spotlight
- The Legal Brief- Muldrow v. City of St. Louis
- Legal Rules You Should Know: Federal Rule Changes Update
- International Women's Day and CLE
- First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat
- Call for Award Nominations
- Meet the Board

WOMEN AND THE LAW NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR CONT'D

Finally, WAL is announcing our First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat to be held at the Tapatio Springs Resort in Boerne, Texas, from March 27th through March 29th. This legal symposium will have about 14 different presentations from legal minds from around the state of Texas. There will also be activities throughout the symposium, from hiking to meditation to yoga to dining!

To end our 2024-2025 WAL journey, we will meet at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, on June 19, 2025, where we will have a panel discussion on Jury Trends.

Our goals and passion for growing this section to provide our members with the best opportunities do not end here. We look forward to your continued membership as we move into the 2025-2026 year under our Chair-Elect, Gabriella Guerena. Thank you for the opportunity to help build up this section. Happy reading!

Natasha R. Martinez
2024-2025 WAL Chair

WAL NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Special thank you to our newsletter committee members.

- Elizabeth Cantu
- Analisa Figueroa
- Sarah Nicolas
- Robin Thorner
- Natasha Martinez
- Deborah Cordova

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DENISE ALEX PAUL

Denise Paul is Regional Legal Counsel at Jungheinrich, one of the world's largest suppliers of industrial trucks. Denise earned a B.A. in Communications from Texas A&M University, and an M.B.A. and J.D. from the University of Houston. Denise is a past chair of the Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas and has served as a council member of the African American Lawyers Section and WAL for numerous years. Denise resides in the Greater Houston area with her husband, Franklin, and beloved dog, Maxxie Pooh



“Being an attorney is more than a profession it’s a privilege and a responsibility. The ability to navigate the law, advocate for others, and contribute to society in a positive manner is something I take to heart every day. Each experience in my legal career has reinforced my belief in the power of legal knowledge to create meaningful change.

One of my greatest aspirations is to help the next generation of women in law find their confidence, voice, and purpose. Whether through mentorship, advocacy, or leadership, I strive to create pathways for those coming after me. Representation matters, and I want to ensure that future attorneys, especially women, see that success in this field, while maintaining a personal life, is attainable, fulfilling, and impactful.

I am also passionate about fostering ethical leadership and integrity in corporate spaces. I aim to promote a culture where legal professionals not only excel in their careers but also uplift others along the way. The future of law is bright, and I am committed to being a part of its continued evolution.”



THE LEGAL BRIEF

MULDROW V. CITY OF ST. LOUIS

BY: BECKY WALKER



MULDROW V. CITY OF ST. LOUIS

601 U.S. 346 (2024).

Sergeant Jatonya Clayborn Muldrow alleged that her employer, the St. Louis Police Department, transferred her from one position to another within the Department because of her sex.[i] This transfer reportedly came with a noticeable difference in “her responsibilities, perks, and schedule.”[ii] For instance, Muldrow’s work after the transfer consisted primarily of administrative responsibilities and she no longer had a schedule that allowed her to enjoy most of her weekends off.[iii]

Nevertheless, the Eighth Circuit affirmed the District Court’s summary judgment in favor of the City of St. Louis, reasoning that to succeed on a Title VII sex-based discrimination claim, Muldrow was required to show that the transfer caused “a ‘materially significant disadvantage.’”.[iv]

For some time now, scholars have observed that the federal circuits’ Title VII precedent seemed to stray from the law’s aim to defend workers against insidious forms of discrimination.[i] While the circuit courts imposed an additional “materially adverse” or “materially significant” hurdle, the text of Title VII itself makes no mention of some sort of greater showing of abuse.[ii] And certainly, requiring some sort of heightened showing of discrimination seemed to contradict certain Supreme Court precedent.[iii]

With this background in mind, it perhaps comes as no surprise that Muldrow was successful before the Supreme Court.

Writing for the majority, Justice Kagan noted that while a Title VII discrimination claimant “must show some harm respecting an identifiable term or condition of employment,” that harm need not be “‘significant.’ . . . Or serious, or substantial, or any similar adjective suggesting that the disadvantage to the employee must exceed a heightened bar.”[i] “To demand ‘significance’ is to add words—and significant words, as it were—to the statute Congress enacted.”[ii] The Court ultimately remanded the case for the lower courts to revisit the summary judgment record, bearing in mind the proper Title VII standard.[iii]



MULDROW V. CITY OF ST. LOUIS 601 U.S. 346 (2024).

One important caveat to highlight is that the Court’s decision draws a distinction between discrimination and retaliation for bringing a Title VII claim.[iv] Retaliation, per the Court’s precedent in Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway Co. v. White, 548 U.S. 53, 126 S.Ct. 2405 (2006), still requires that the retaliatory action taken was “materially adverse,” meaning that it cause[d] ‘significant’ harm.”[v]

Justice Alito filed a concurrence, agreeing in judgment but maligning the Court’s opinion as “unhelpful.”[vi] According to Justice Alito, there is “little if any substantive difference between the terminology the Court approves and the terminology it doesn’t like. The predictable result of [this] decision is that careful lower court judges will mind the words they use but will continue to do pretty much just what they have done for years.”[vii] Justice Thomas also concurred, suggesting that Title VII claimants still “must show harm that is more than trifling.”[viii] He further suggests that most of Muldrow’s allegations regarding her change in responsibilities were “forfeited or attributable to a non-party.”[ix] Which, to be fair, is the reason that the Court remanded the case to the lower court instead of rendering judgment.[x] Lastly, Justice Kavanaugh filed a concurrence arguing that no showing of harm is necessary beyond the initial showing of discrimination.[xi]

What is on the horizon for employment discrimination claims? Ames v. Ohio Department of Youth Services is set for oral argument in front of the Supreme Court on February 26, 2025. The question presented is: Whether, in addition to pleading the other elements of an employment discrimination claim under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, a



MULDROW V. CITY OF ST. LOUIS 601 U.S. 346 (2024).

majority-group plaintiff must show “background circumstances to support the suspicion that the defendant is that unusual employer who discriminates against the majority.” Again, the Supreme Court appears to be teeing up resolving a circuit split surrounding a heightened evidentiary burden in reverse discrimination claims.

Sources cited:

[1] *Muldrow v. City of St. Louis*, 601 U.S. 346, 350 (2024)
 [1] *Id.* at 351.
 [1] *Id.*
 [1] *Id.* at 352–53.
 [1] See, e.g., Esperanza N. Sanchez, *Analytical Nightmare: The Materially Adverse Action Requirement in Disparate Treatment Cases*, 67 *Catholic Univ. L. Rev.* 575, 579 (2018) (“[E]mployment discrimination decisions by the federal courts have created a body of law that patently contradicts Title VII’s aim of equal employment opportunity.”); Marcia L. McCormick, *Let’s Pretend that Federal Courts Aren’t Hostile to Discrimination Claims*, 76 *Ohio St. L.J. Furthermore* 22, 28–29 (2015); Ernest F. Lidge III, *The Meaning of Discrimination: Why Courts Have Erred in Requiring Employment Discrimination Plaintiffs to Prove that the Employer’s Action was Materially Adverse or Ultimate*, 47 *U. Kan. L. Rev.* 333, 347 (1999)
 [1] Compare *Webb-Edwards v. Orange Cnty. Sheriff’s Off.*, 525 F.3d 1013, 1033 (11th Cir. 2008) (requiring a showing of “serious and material change in the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.”); *Sanchez v. Denver Pub. Schs.*, 164 F.3d 527, 532 (10th Cir. 1998) (“significant change”), with 42 U.S.C. § 2000e–2(a)(2) (providing that it is unlawful for an employer “to limit, segregate, or classify his employees . . . in any way which would deprive or tend to deprive any individual of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect his status as an employee, because of such individual’s race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.”).
 [1] See *McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Green*, 411 U.S. 792, 801 (1973) (“[I]t is abundantly clear that Title VII tolerates no racial discrimination, subtle or otherwise.”).
 [1] *Muldrow*, 601 U.S. at 355 (internal citation omitted).
 [1] *Id.*
 [1] *Id.* at 359–60.
 [1]
 [1] *Id.* at 348.
 [1] *Id.* at 362 (Alito, J., concurring) (“Title VII plaintiffs must show that the event they challenge constituted a ‘harm’ or ‘injury,’ but that the event need not be ‘significant’ or ‘substantial.’ . . . I have no idea what this means . . .”).
 [1] *Id.*
 [1] *Id.* at 360 (Thomas, J., concurring).
 [1] *Id.* at 361.
 [1] *Id.* at 359–60 (majority op.) (“We recognize, however, that the decisions below may have rested in part on issues of forfeiture and proof. . . . We leave such matters for the courts below to address.”).
 [1] *Id.* at 365 (Kavanaugh, J., concurring) (“The discrimination is [the] harm.”).

Becky Walker is an associate at Ramón Worthington Nicolas & Cantu PLLC. Prior to joining the firm, she was a staff attorney for several years at the Thirteenth Court of Appeals. Becky is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law where she also earned her B.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and a B.A. in Linguistics, Minor: Italian





LEGAL RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW

THE FIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE
FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

By: Jay Spring



AMENDMENTS TO FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

ON DECEMBER 1, 2024, THE FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE (“FRE”) WERE AMENDED, INTRODUCING ONE BRAND NEW RULE AND MAKING SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO EXISTING RULES. THIS BRIEF NOTE SUMMARIZES THE NEW STATE OF THE FRE.

NEW RULE 107

FRE 107 governs the use of illustrative aids at trial (often referred to as demonstratives in Texas practice, though as discussed below that has been clarified not to be the proper term). Illustrative aids are permissible when their utility is not substantially outweighed by one of the familiar 403 grounds (unfair prejudice, waste of time, misleading the jury, etc). They must be entered into the record if practicable. Probably the most significant change, the judge can for good cause allow a demonstrative to go back to the jury during deliberations (parties can also consent to this). It also states that illustrative aids are not evidence, even if received by the jury, as opposed to summaries of voluminous records under FRE 1006, which are evidence. FRE 1006 has been amended to note the distinction.

It’s important to note the distinction between “illustrative aids,” which FRE 107 applies to, and “demonstrative evidence,” which it does not. “Writings, objects, charts, or other presentations” are illustrative aids if they are “offered for the narrow purpose of helping the trier of fact understand what it being communicated to them,” and are governed by FRE 107. “Writings, objects, charts, or other presentations” are demonstrative evidence—and not subject to FRE 107—if they are “offered to prove a disputed fact.” Demonstratives always go back to the jury for deliberations, illustrative aids only do when the parties agree or the court so orders for good cause.

The advisory committee was highly concerned with juries not understanding this distinction and put safeguards in place. First, the commentary says that judges should specifically consider whether the illustrative aid will be seen by jurors as substantive evidence. The commentary suggests that judges may order modification of an illustrative aid to fix any issues, and that opposing counsel should be able to request a limiting instruction to the jury explaining that the illustrative aid is only offered for the narrow purpose of helping them understand the testimony or evidence being offered—not to prove that that testimony or evidence is true.

AMENDMENTS TO FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

AMENDED RULE 1006

To further the distinction between demonstrative evidence and illustrative aids, amendments were also made to FRE 1006 which governs the admission of summaries, charts, or calculations to prove the content of voluminous records. It is intended to reinforce that demonstrative evidence—including summaries under FRE 1006—are substantive evidence (which was previously a point of disagreement among the courts). The amendment clarifies that a summary is admissible (subject to other rules of exclusion, such as FRE 403) whether or not the underlying documents had already been admitted, another previous point of contention among the courts. However, while the underlying documents need not necessarily be admitted, the amendment does make explicit that they must be admissible.

AMENDED RULE 613

FRE 613 governs when extrinsic evidence of a witness' prior statement can be brought in. Previously, it required, full-stop, that the witness be given an opportunity to explain or deny the statement and an adverse party be given the opportunity to examine the witness about it. The amended Rule makes this discretionary—the court is free to dispense with those requirements if it views it as proper to do so. If the court does not grant leave, however, the witness must now be given the opportunity to explain or deny the statement before the evidence of the prior inconsistent statement is brought in.

AMENDED RULE 801(D)(2)

The rule governing exclusions from hearsay has been amended to include this text: "If a party's claim, defense, or potential liability is directly derived from a declarant or the declarant's principal, a statement that would be admissible against the declarant or the principal under this rule is also admissible against the party." This amendment addresses situations where one party is standing in the shoes of another.



The commentary provides the example of an estate suing on behalf of a decedent—statements that would be useable against the decedent are also useable against the estate. Other use cases include assignor/assignee, debtor/trustee when the trustee is pursuing the debtor's claims, and subrogor/subrogee. This was previously the subject of a circuit split, where some circuits would permit statements usable against a predecessor-in-interest to be used against the successor while others would not.

AMENDED RULE 804(B)(3)

The statement-against-interest exception to hearsay previously required, in criminal cases, that the statement that would expose the declarant to criminal liability be corroborated by circumstances that clearly indicate trustworthiness. Some courts were refusing to consider evidence outside of the statement itself to determine if there were corroborating circumstances. The amended rule specifically delineates a totality-of-the-circumstances test and clarifies that evidence can be adduced concerning the statement's trustworthiness.

J. Collin Spring ("Jay") is an associate attorney with burke bogdanowicz in Dallas, Texas. He represents clients dealing with commercial litigation, personal injury, insurance disputes, breach of contract, professional responsibility, tax matters, and more across Texas, Louisiana, and the country. He is an Adjunct Professor at Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law, where he teaches students trial advocacy and evidence law.



A stylized sun icon with yellow rays and a pink circular center containing the text 'UPCOMING CLE'.

UPCOMING
CLE

SAVE THE DATE

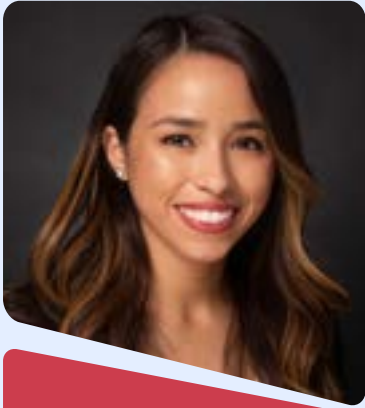
February 24, 2025- Attorney Mental Health- presented by Jessica Vittorio

March 6, 2025 - International women's day in the evening (across 12 cities)

March 19, 2025-Attorney Implicit Bias- presented by Collyn Peddie

March 27-29, 2025- First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat at Tapatio Springs (registration open)

June 19, 2025- Annual Meeting, WAL Awards and CLE on Jury Trends at the Hilton Anatole, Dallas

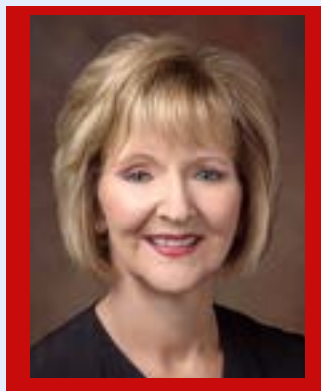


MODERATOR
**NATASHA R.
MARTINEZ**
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YOU HAVE A LAW DEGREE. NOW WHAT?



Caren Lock
Regional Vice-President
& Associate General
Counsel of Government
Relations TIAA



**Justice
Judy C. Parker**
Justice of the Seventh District
Court of Appeals, Amarillo,
Texas



Judge Gloria Rincones
State District Judge
445th District Court
Cameron County, Texas

Join one of our participating cities for this
webcast CLE with our incredible panelists!
To be presented during the first hour of our
International Women's Day celebration
March 6, 2025*

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Third Annual SBOT Women and the Law International Women's Day Celebration and CLE entitled "SO YOU HAVE A LAW LICENSE, NOW WHAT?"

See participating cities, times and locations below



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

#ACCELERATEACTION

Edinburg / McAllen Bond Cocktail Lounge 1200 Auburn Ave. Ste 220 McAllen, Texas 78504	MARCH 06 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Dallas Stewart Law Group 1722 Routh Street, Ste. 745 Dallas, Texas 75201	MARCH 06
Tarrant/Denton Messina Hof Winery Grapevine 201 S. Main Street Grapevine, Texas 76051	MARCH 06
Brownsville La Troje Bar and Grill 3001 Pablo Kisel Blvd., Ste B Brownsville, Texas 78520	MARCH 07 12 - 1:30 PM
Austin Hilgers House 712 West 16th St. Austin, Texas 78701	MARCH 06 11:30 AM - 1 PM
Corpus Christi The Annex 312 S. Chaparral Street Corpus Christi, Texas 78401	MARCH 06

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the
Third Annual SBOT Women and the Law International
Women's Day Celebration and CLE entitled
"SO YOU HAVE A LAW LICENSE, NOW WHAT?"

See participating cities, times and locations below



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

#ACCELERATEACTION

San Antonio Paloma Blanca 5800 Broadway #300 San Antonio, Texas 78209	MARCH 06
El Paso TO BE ANNOUNCED	MARCH 06
Tyler Pop's Wine Bar 7268 Old Jacksonville Hwy Tyler, Texas 75703	MARCH 06
Waco Beard Kultgen 220 S. 4th Street Waco, Texas 76701	MARCH 06 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Laredo TO BE ANNOUNCED	MARCH 06
Lubbock TO BE ANNOUNCED	MARCH 06
Houston Mutiny Wine Room 1124 Usener Street Houston, Texas 77009	MARCH 06



WOMEN AND THE LAW

STATE BAR OF TEXAS

First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat



TAPATIO SPRINGS
1 RESORT WAY
BOERNE, TEXAS 78006

MARCH 27 - 29, 2025

Register today!

WAL LAW SYMPOSIUM AND ATTORNEY WELLNESS RETREAT

or email ecantu@ramonworthington.com



First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat Agenda

MARCH 28TH	FRIDAY
7:30 AM	HIKING AND ATTORNEY NETWORKING
9:00 AM	INTRODUCTION TO LAW SYMPOSIUM <i>Natasba Martinez, McAllen</i> <i>Women and the Law Section Chair</i>
9:15 AM	BREAKFAST AND ATTORNEY BONDING (OVER CYBER PROTECTION) <i>Elizabeth Sandoval Cantú, Edinburg</i>
9:45 AM	THE 4 D'S EVERY BUSINESS SHOULD PLAN FOR - DEATH, DIVORCE, DISABILITY AND DISAGREEMENTS <i>Deborah Cordova, Edinburg</i>
10:30 AM	FAMILY LAW UPDATE <i>Cindy Tisdale, Granbury</i>
11:15 AM	NETWORKING BREAK
11:30 AM	DEPOSITION BULLIES AND HOW TO HANDLE THEM <i>Andrea Cook, Dallas</i>
12:00 PM	LUNCHEON AND SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER <i>Linda Garza- Siete Foods</i>
1:15 PM	TEXAS SUPREME COURT UPDATE <i>Debra Lehrmann, Senior Justice, Supreme Court of Texas, Austin</i>
1:45 PM	APPELLATE CONSIDERATIONS PANEL <i>Deborah Race, Tyler; Justice Meagan Hassan, Houston (fmr); Justice Diane DeVasto (ret), Tyler</i>
2:15 PM	A PATH TO LEADERSHIP <i>A panel with Former State Bar of Texas Presidents Sylvia Borunda Firtb (El Paso), Laura Gibson (Houston), Cindy Tisdale (Granbury)</i>
3:15 PM	NETWORKING BREAK



First Annual Law Symposium and Attorney Wellness Retreat Agenda

3:30 PM	THE THREE P'S SPECIAL GUEST RENEE PARDO <i>Section A When you've just started</i> <i>Section B When you've been at it a while</i>
4:45 PM	ADJOURN FOR THE DAY
6:30 PM	DINNER AND DRINKS WITH OUR FORMER WOMEN AND THE LAW SECTION CHAIRS
MARCH 29TH	SATURDAY
7:30 AM	ATTORNEY MENTORSHIP AND MEDITATION
9:30 AM	BREAKFAST AND SPECIAL GUEST RENEE PARDO <i>The Anxious Mind in the Courtroom</i>
10:15 AM	NETWORKING BREAK
10:30 AM	SUCCESSION PLANNING <i>Laura Gibson, Houston</i>
11:00 AM	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE IN THE COURTROOM <i>Heather King, Houston</i>
11:30 AM	GOVERNMENTAL ADMIN UPDATE <i>Judge Judy Ney, Houston</i>
12:00 PM	EFFECTIVE SELF PROMOTION AS A NEW ATTORNEY <i>Laura Pratt, Lubbock and Alyson Martinez, Laredo</i>
12:30 PM	CLOSING AND ADJOURN



WOMEN AND THE LAW
STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Early Bird Arrival

MARCH 27TH

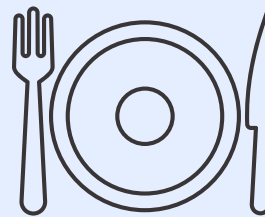
THURSDAY

4:30 PM
**YOGA FOR
ATTORNEYS**



6:00 PM
**NETWORKING
MIXER- ON SITE
SPONSORED BY
TIJERINA LAW GROUP**

7:00-9:30 PM
**ATTENDEE
AND SPEAKER
DINE
AROUNDS**



Pure Country BBQ - 7:00 p.m.
Peggy's on the Green - 7:00 p.m.
Las Guittarras Cocina Mexicana - 7:30 p.m.

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WOMEN AND THE LAW

STATE BAR OF TEXAS

2025

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year the Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas presents awards to recognize attorneys whose work is in line with the mission statement of the Women and the Law.

The awards, presented during the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting are the Sarah T. Hughes Women and the Law Achievement Award and the Louise B. Raggio Award.

Nominations of deserving recipients are due by March 18, 2025. The award presentation will be held at the Annual Meeting on June 19, 2025, in San Antonio, Texas at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa.

Please submit the name of the nominee, a brief summary of why the nominee is deserving of the award, and your contact information in case additional information is needed.

- The nominations should be submitted to sbotwomenandthelaw2024@gmail.com



Sarah T. Hughes

WOMEN AND THE LAW ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas established the Sarah T. Hughes Women and the Law Achievement Award to honor the accomplishments of women who have achieved outstanding recognition in their professional area and who, by so doing, have paved the way for success for other women attorneys. Sarah T. Hughes was an original Texas trailblazer, breaking down barriers for women in the profession decades before the State Bar even recognized women attorneys as a distinct group. Ms. Hughes put herself through law school while working a day job as a police officer in Washington, DC. After graduating in 1922, she moved to Texas, where she practiced for some years before serving three terms in the Texas House of Representatives. In 1935, she became the first woman state district judge in Texas, and in 1961, the first woman to serve as a federal district judge in the State. She was a longtime advocate for women and was instrumental in helping to pass a 1954 amendment to the Texas Constitution, allowing women to serve on juries. Speaking to an interviewer in 1977, Ms. Hughes said, "It all depends on whether you're willing to work hard enough to get what you want, not what stands in your way."



Louise B. Raggio AWARD

The Louise B. Raggio Award recognizes an attorney who has actively addressed the needs and issues of women in the legal profession and in the community. Louise Raggio graduated law school in 1952 as the only woman in her class and struggled to find work as an attorney at a time when most law firms would not consider hiring a woman associate. With the help of Sarah Hughes, Ms. Raggio became Dallas County's first female criminal prosecutor and tried the first case before an all-women jury in Texas. She would become known as the "Texas Tornado" for her work in improving the rights of women. She helped draft the Texas Marital Property Act of 1967, which gave women the right to own property, secure a bank loan, and start a business without their husbands' consent. In 1979, Ms. Raggio became the first woman to be elected to the State Bar's board. Ms. Raggio was a lifelong civil rights activist and a champion for the rights of women and children.



WOMEN AND THE LAW
STATE BAR OF TEXAS



The State Bar of Texas Women and the Law Section Council is hard at work planning and bringing its members MCLE programs, lawyer networking events and member benefits. If you are not a member, join today to access our video CLE library, newsletter, lunchtime CLE's and other events!

2024-2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

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WOMEN AND THE LAW

STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Welcome to all our new members!!



Check us out on Instagram!!

Member CLE Password is: justice

Send questions to ecantu@ramonworthington.com

Just Write

Have a great idea for a law article?

*Want to write for the Women and the
Law newsletter?*

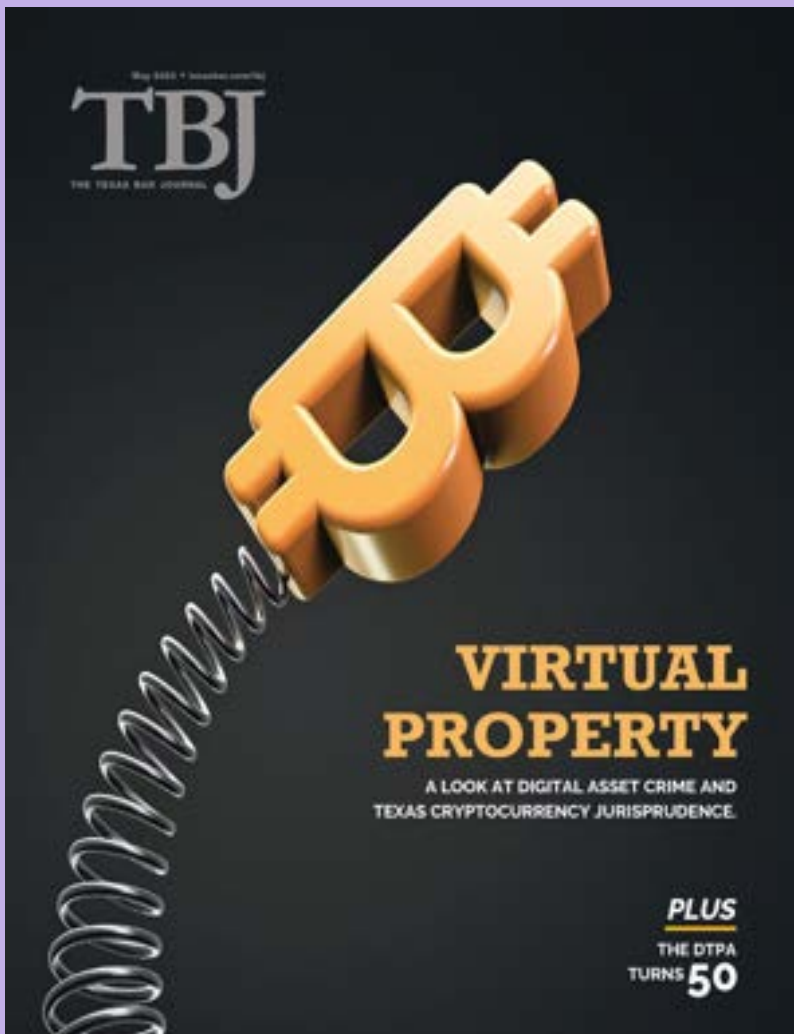
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