

HISTORY OF THE PARALEGAL DIVISION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS

2010 - 2011

2010 Incoming Board Meeting

The Incoming Board Meeting was held on June 12, 2010 in Fort Worth, Texas. President Oaks discussed her goals for the year.

2010-2011 Board of Directors

Officers:	President	Debbie Oaks
	President-Elect	Kristy Ritchie
	Secretary	Michele Rayburn, CP, PLS
	Treasurer	Cheryl Bryan, CP
	Parliamentarian	Joncilee Miller Davis, ACP
Directors:	District 1	Nan Gibson
	District 3	Michele Rayburn, CP, TBLS
	District 4	Michele Flowers Brooks
	District 5	Kristy Ritchie
	District 6	Sheila Veach, CP
	District 7	Misti Janes
	District 8	Carol Jean Trevino/Laura Rogers*
	District 10	Cheryl Bryan, CP
	District 11	Kim Hennessy, CP
	District 12	Gloria Porter/Sunnie Palmer**
	District 13	Cynthia Powell***
	District 14	Shannon Watts, CP
	District 15	Cindy Curry
District 16	Linda Gonzales	

*Director Trevino resigned in March 2011. Laura Rogers of Corpus Christi was appointed to fill her position for the remainder of her term.

**Porter resigned in June 2010. Sunnie Palmer of Denton was appointed to fill her position for the remainder of her term.

***Director Powell resigned Spring 2010 leaving District 13 without representation

The following committee chairs, advisors, and liaisons were appointed.

Committee Chairs/Board Advisors appointed:

Committee	Chair	Advisor
Annual Meeting	Susan Wilen, R.N.	Kristy Ritchie
Continuing Education District CLE	Sheila Milbrandt	Cheryl Bryan, CP
Elections	Gloria Porter	Cindy Powell
Membership	Erica Anderson, CP	Misti Janes
Professional Development	Allen Mihecoby	Michele Flowers Brooks
Professional Ethics	Ellen Lockwood, ACP, RP	Joncilee Davis
Public Relations	Lisa Pittman	Michele Rayburn, CP, TBLS
Publications	Heidi Beginski, TBLS	Nan Gibson

Ad Hoc Committee/Board Advisors were appointed as follows:

Committee	Chair	Advisor
Ambassador Program	Patti Giuliano	Cheryl Bryan, CP
E-Group Policy	Heidi Beginski, TBLS	Sheila Veach, CP
Ethics Handbook	Ellen Lockwood, ACP, RP	Joncilee Davis
Membership Renewals/Spot Audit	Lori Winter, CP	Michele Flowers Brooks
Online CLE/Webinars	Rhonda Brashears, CP	Kimberly Hennessy
Pro Bono	Lyla Malolepszy	Susan Wilen, R.N.
Procedures Manual State Bar College Membership	Susan Wilen, R.N.	
Application Review	Jena Parker, CP	Linda Gonzales
TAPS 2010 Planning Cmte	Stephanie Hawkes, RP, CIPP	Debbie Oaks Guerra
TAPS 2011 Planning Cmte	Debbie Oaks Guerra	Susan Wilen, R.N.
Vendor Liaison	Debbie Oaks Guerra	Susan Wilen, R.N.

Liaison appointments were as follows:

Organization	Liaison
American Alliance of Paralegals	Carol Trevino
American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants	Susan Wilen, R.N.
American Association for Paralegal Education	Kim Hennessy, CP
American Bar Association/Paralegal	Kristy Ritchie
Association of Legal Administrators	Sheila Veach, CP
International Paralegal Management Association	Cindy Curry, TBLS
National Association of Legal Assistants	Linda Gonzales
National Federation of Paralegal Associations	Joncilee Davis
Paralegal Committee of the State Bar	Debbie Oaks Guerra
Texas Alliance of Paralegal Associations	Debbie Oaks Guerra
Texas Association of Legal Professionals	Michele Rayburn, CP, TBLS
Texas Board of Legal Specialization	Cheryl Bryan, CP
Texas Young Lawyers Association	Misti Janes

2010 Fall Board Meeting

The Fall Board of Directors meeting was held in Fort Worth, Texas, on November 5-6, 2010.

President Oakes discussed community service and her request that the Paralegal Division Directors perform community service in each District.

There was discussion regarding the 2010 salary survey and the survey was approved.

The contract for the Membership Services Coordinator, Rachel Strong Mahler, was extended for six-months. The Membership Services Coordinator report was read. The Board discussed promoting student membership.

President Guerra reminded the Board of Directors to obtain speakers for webinars.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Crimes of Moral Turpitude Language presented their report regarding the definition of moral turpitude definition. The board voted and approved the definition.

TAPS 2010

TAPS 2010 was held in Austin, Texas at the DoubleTree North Hotel on September 29-October 1, 2010 with the theme "Capitalizing on CLE-TAPS 2010." There were 291 registrants in attendance. The Wednesday night social, Capital Networking Social, was held at the hotel and the attendees played a Texas History game. For the Thursday evening social, the attendees

attended a dinner and a performance by the Ester Follies comedy group. The keynote speaker at the Friday luncheon was Howard T. Price presenting the topic "The Importance of Leadership in your Profession and Your Community."

Winter 2011 Board Meeting

The Winter 2011 Board of Directors meeting was held in Dallas, Texas on February 25-26, 2011.

There was discussion regarding Professional Development and leadership development.

Norma Hackler announced that a new volunteer button under the "Members Only" section of the PD website has been added to keep current members up-to-date on current volunteer opportunities.

There was discussion regarding the Paralegal Division utilizing social media, including LinkedIn and the PD Blog.

Texas Forum

The Texas Forum XXVIII was held on February 25, 2011 in Dallas, Texas. The theme was "The Gray Area for Lawyers and Paralegals: Ethical Vulnerabilities Created by Business Scandals and Social Media."

2010-2011 Outgoing Board Meeting

The outgoing Board of Directors meeting was held June 23, 2011 in San Antonio, Texas.

President Oaks reported on the successful Community Service Initiative and the challenge she extended to each member of the Board. She reported that the PD would be sponsoring a booth at the upcoming 36th Annual Convention of the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) scheduled for July 27-28, 2011 in Dallas/Plano at the Marriott at Legacy Town Center.

It was reported that the PD's online CLE library continued to grow.

The 2010 edition of the Paralegal Ethics Handbook was recently released and that Thomson West was offering a 20% discount on the handbook to all PD members through June 2011.

The 2011 PD trip to Germany had 29 travelers, and there were stops in Munich, Salzburg (Austria), Dachau and Nuremberg, where there was a CLE event at the Palace of Justice.

2011 Annual Meeting

The 2011 Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the Paralegal Division was held at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas on June 24, 2011. The keynote speaker was Jeanne C. "Cezy" Collins, attorney with Kemp Smith in El Paso and member of the Access to Justice Commission, who presented "Practicing Accessible Justice".

The following awards were presented:

Award	Recipient
Exceptional Pro Bono Service Award	Pamela Horn
Outstanding Committee Chairs Award(s)	Gloria Porter, Elections Committee Allen Mihecoby, Professional Development
Special Awards	Patti Giuliano, Co-Chair 2010 TAPS Rhonda Brashears, Co-Chair 2010 TAPS Lisa Pittman, Mentor Protégé Program
Outgoing Director Plaques	Nan Gibson, District 1 Michele Rayburn, CP, TBLS, District 3 Misti Janes, District 7 Kim Hennessy, CP, District 11

Other general PD business was conducted and the annual report of the President was given, followed by the installation of the 2011-2012 Officers and Board of Directors.