

articles and e-blasts. The articles are available to everyone, but only section members have access to special members-only resources like copies of the articles presented at the Advanced Government Law seminar and Government Law 101 and Ryan Henry's monthly caselaw updates. The section continues to enhance its offerings and provide value for its members.

HEALTH LAW

Elizabeth Sjoberg, Chair

In October, the Health Law Section sponsored its annual Texas Health Law Conference in Austin. The three-day event attracted more than 250 participants. In connection with the conference, the section provided scholarships to 17 Texas law school students who expressed an interest in health law, enabling the recipients to attend the conference for free and network with practicing health lawyers. The section continues to provide an educational program at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting and also delivers to its members a weekly summary of proposed and adopted rules in the *Texas Register* affecting the practice of health law. At the next conference, to be held October 7-9 in Austin, the section will present the Distinguished Service Award recognizing lifelong achievement and outstanding service and leadership in health law.

HISPANIC ISSUES

Betty Balli Torres, Chair

The Hispanic Issues Section, or HIS, continues to engage in efforts to take the section to local Hispanic bar associations around the state. In August, HIS held a joint event with the Mexican American Bar Association—El Paso thanks to HIS council member Judge Maria Salas-Mendoza. In late fall, HIS held an event in conjunction with the Laredo Webb County Bar Association. The host committee was Sen. Judith Zaffirini, HIS council member Judge Victor Villarreal, Past HIS Chair Justice Patricia Alvarez, Judge Joe Lopez, Rudy Morales, and

HIS Chair Betty Balli Torres. Through the work of HIS Immediate Past-Chair Arturo Aviles in April, HIS, the Mexican Bar Association of Houston, and the Hispanic Bar Association of Houston held a membership drive and networking event at a Houston Dynamo game. HIS works on CLEs that focus on the Latino community. The section sponsored and participated in the planning of the ABA's Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights & Responsibilities' CLE in Dallas, which included panels on SB 4 and the Disappearing Mexican-American Law Student. The commission's chair is Texas lawyer Richard Pena. It also held an afternoon of CLE at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting headlined by Isidro Aguirre, a Latino civil rights activist.

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAW

Susan Bond, Chair

Members of the Immigration and Nationality Law Section, along with immigration attorneys across the U.S., stepped up to bat for their clients in what has turned out to be an exceptionally challenging time for families, asylum seekers and refugees, foreign national students and highly skilled workers, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival recipients and "Dreamers"—all seeking the American dream.

In June, at the State Bar Annual Meeting, the section sponsored a three-hour CLE on family-based immigration, employment-based immigration, and "crimmigration." Topics included: "Legislative Updates and Proposed Rulemaking Under the Trump Administration," "Hot Topics in Family Immigration," and "the Intersection of Immigration and Criminal Law."

With the goal of encouraging academic discussion on immigration-related topics, the section will sponsor a writing contest for law students. Winners will receive stipends, along with having their articles posted on the section website.

To increase camaraderie within the State Bar of Texas community statewide, the section sponsored networking happy hours in Dallas, Austin, San Antonio,

and Houston. Membership has increased almost 10 percent this past year, up from 1,216 members in 2016 to 1,337 members in 2017.

INSURANCE LAW

Meloney Cargil Perry, Chair

The Insurance Law Section's mission is to provide high-quality educational resources to the bench, bar, and public and to promote collegiality among those with an interest in insurance law. The section accomplished this in a variety of ways this year. The section held a webinar on Hurricane Harvey and sponsored a Rio Grande Valley/South Texas seminar. The Young Lawyers Committee hosted three networking events. The section also published three editions of the *Journal of Texas Insurance Law*, which featured in-depth insurance articles. These publications, coupled with *Right off the Press* emails, provided members with weekly access to recent Texas state and federal insurance cases and other announcements so that they can be aware of up-to-the-minute developments in insurance law. The new website provides members with the ability to research past *Journals*, past conference materials, practice resources, and a caselaw database. Finally, the section held its annual meeting in conjunction with the 15th Annual Advanced Insurance Law Course and the fourth annual Casino & Networking Party, which is co-sponsored by the State Bar, at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa in San Antonio. At the annual meeting, the section awarded the Ben Love Scholarship to a deserving law student with an interest in insurance law.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Herbert J. Hammond, Chair

This year, the Intellectual Property Law Section has focused its efforts on educating entrepreneurs, lawyers, and startups. In September, the section held its first pro bono tour at Texas A&M University School of Law in Fort Worth, and in January its second at El Paso Community College. These