

the law and tries to stay up to date on State Bar activities while promoting policies that are helpful to solos and small firms. The section regularly publishes a *General Practice Digest*, sponsors the Annual General Practice Institute at Baylor Law School, and hosts a popular CLE event at the State Bar Annual Meeting. The section is focused on providing more CLE opportunities for its members this coming year as well as hosting live networking events in an effort to get people back together. Please let us know how we can help you.

GOVERNMENT LAW

Kimberley Mickelson, Chair

The Government Law Section is committed to providing resources, education, and services for its members who represent governmental entities across Texas. Take a minute to consider the variety of government lawyers there are at all levels of government, all with different regulations to apply and interpret. The section sends out e-blasts to its members with caselaw updates and upcoming CLEs for government lawyers. The section is also continuing its work with the State Bar to establish legal specialization in local government law to recognize this distinct practice area and the breadth of knowledge required for government law practitioners. The council established a 2023 schedule of three Road Show CLEs around the state, with the first being planned for the Rio Grande Valley, likely in McAllen. In 2023, the section is co-hosting the annual Government Law 101 and Advanced Government Law courses August 2-4 at the DoubleTree by Hilton on Interstate 35 in Austin. A wide range of engaging speakers and useful presentations are planned, including foundational topics for new government lawyers, caselaw and legislative updates, and emerging issues for seasoned practitioners. The section will have its business meeting, and the Outstanding Government Lawyer and Rising Star awards will be presented there.

HEALTH LAW

Kristi Duske, Chair

The Health Law Section of the State Bar of Texas is dedicated to supporting health law practitioners across the state in every practice setting. The section's signature event continues to be the annual Texas Health Law Conference, co-sponsored by the Texas Hospital

Association, in which it offers an estimated 13 hours of quality health law CLE for those interested in maintaining their practice focus or specialization certification. This year's conference will be at the AT&T Hotel and Conference Center in Austin on October 8-10, 2023. The Health Law Section provides stipends for law students to attend the conference to encourage those who want to explore a possible career in health law. The Health Law Section's website, containing helpful information about the council and the annual conference, may be accessed at texhealthlaw.org. Weekly e-newsletters provided by the section tracking proposed and adopted Texas rules and regulations are easily accessible on the website as well. In 2023, the section will continue to offer in-person educational and outreach programs.

HISPANIC ISSUES

Novert Morales, Chair

The Hispanic Issues Section, or HIS, has had a very active year with initiatives and CLE programming. Starting with "LAW"tería, HIS and the Texas Access to Justice Foundation hosted the third annual virtual fundraiser. This event is based on the popular *lotería* game of chance played by Mexican families for decades. The night of fun took place via Zoom on November 1, 2022, on Día de Los Muertos. "LAW"tería successfully raised more than \$46,000 in much-needed funds for civil legal aid in Texas and has raised \$112,400 in funds to date. All proceeds from "LAW"tería will benefit Texas legal aid programs helping vulnerable members of our communities who are struggling with civil legal needs such as evictions and benefits for veterans and the elderly. HIS continues to keep its members informed of the section's activities and benefits with its newsletter *HIStoric* and through its Facebook page. On March 8, 2023, HIS, along with the Mexican American Bar Association of Texas, hosted a Legislative Day and CLE at the Texas Law Center. The Legislative Day and CLE were well attended by attorneys and judges from across the state with excellent programming and a tour of the Texas State Capitol.

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAW

Roy Petty, Chair

The Immigration and Nationality Law Section has launched an enhanced

and redesigned website at texasimmigrationandnationalitylaw.com. Section members have collaborated to produce an in-depth report addressing the Texas Access to Justice Commission's study regarding the permitting of certain non-attorneys, to be known as paraprofessionals, to practice in specific legal areas. The report highlights that the practice of immigration law, including the selection and completion of immigration forms, is governed by federal regulations; and therefore, only those authorized by federal law may practice immigration law. Paraprofessionals would not be authorized to practice immigration law. The section continues to provide resources to its members. The section completed its spring legal writing workshops and is preparing its fall workshops. The section made updates to the Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions Chart originally created by Jodi Goodwin and Thomas Esparza. Upon completion, the section anticipates that criminal defense attorneys, prosecutors, and judges will utilize the revised chart to complement legal opinions, informing noncitizens about the potential immigration consequences of criminal convictions. Finally, the section encourages bar members interested in pursuing a career as an immigration judge to apply for the many available positions. No immigration experience is required to apply. More details are available at justice.gov/eoir/Adjudicators.

INSURANCE LAW

Stephen Melendi, Chair

The Insurance Section Council had several in-person meetings and networking events across Texas. The section's networking events have provided opportunities to involve new section members, provide mentoring, and promote the exchange of ideas among members. The section also has continued to educate membership and the bar with the publication of the *Journal of Texas Insurance Law*, which remains the preeminent law review dedicated to Texas insurance law. Additionally, regular "Right Off the Press" email updates provide summaries and links to the latest decisions from Texas state and federal courts on insurance law, as well as current listings of insurance-related employment opportunities. The section's website, insurancelawsection.org, also continues