



2014 Hispanic Issues Section Awards Recipients

Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations, and congratulations to our winners!

Judge of the Year Award: Justice Gina M. Benavides

This award recognizes Justice Benavides as having demonstrated excellence in her capacity to serve the Hispanic community by showing exceptional leadership and consistent dedication to justice.

Legislator of the Year Award: State Representative Justin Rodriguez

This award recognizes that Rep. Rodriguez showed an outstanding service during the last legislative session advancing Hispanic issues.

Reynaldo G. Garza Lifetime Achievement Award:

Former Supreme Court Justice Raul A. Gonzalez, Jr.

This award recognizes that Justice Gonzalez demonstrated a long commitment and made great achievement in addressing concerns and issues affecting the Hispanic community and the Hispanic Bar in Texas, and has worked toward advancing diversity and access to justice in the practice of law.

Pete Torres Jr. Community Service Award:

Former City of San Antonio Councilman Maria Antonietta Berriozábal

This award is given to Mrs. Berriozabal for demonstrating a history of service and commitment to the Hispanic community.

James W. Wray Jr. Founder’s Award: Judge J. Manuel Bañales

This award is given to Judge Bañales, a co-founder of the Hispanic Issues Section, for making exceptional achievements on behalf of the Hispanic legal community in Texas.

Hispanic/Mexican American Bar Organization of the Year Award: MABA-San Antonio

This award is given to MABA-SA for outstanding community involvement, commitment to increase awareness of Hispanic issues, and a dedication to the Hispanic community.

Chair Award: Betty Balli-Torres and Tracy Nuckols

This award is given to Ms. Balli-Torres and Ms. Nuckols for their outstanding work to make HIS a greater section.

The awards will be given at the State Bar of Texas’ Annual Meeting, and we encourage you to attend our section’s following events:

June 26 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.	New Discovery Rules/Federal & State Practice CLE with Justice Gina Benavides and US District Judge Marina Garcia Marmolejo	Austin Convention Center Room 16A
June 26 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.	Membership Meeting with a Surprise Guest	Austin Convention Center Room 16A
June 26 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Awards Ceremony and Joint Reception	Hilton Austin Hotel Governor’s Ballroom E

Yours truly,
Justice Patricia O. Alvarez, Chair
Hispanic Issues Section