

News

Dallas Bar Association

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Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program Announces Pro Bono Awards Recipients

The Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program (DVAP), a joint program of the Dallas Bar Association and Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, hosted the Pro Bono Awards Reception on September 24 at the Belo Mansion, which honored judges, attorneys, law firms, court reporters, and legal staff who provide free legal services to indigent residents of Dallas County.

The Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program has consistently been recognized as one of the country's most successful programs of its kind. Each year, an awards program is held to recognize the volunteers who provide free legal aid to those who are unable to afford them.

The firm of **Sidley Austin** was recognized as the Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year, and the Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year went to **John VanBuskirk**, of John C. VanBuskirk, PLLC.

Additional awards presented include:

Lisa Blue Baron Access to Justice Award: **Michael K. Hurst**, Lynn Pinker Cox & Hurst, LLP

Hartman Judicial Pro Bono Service Award: **Hon. Drew Ten Eyck**, 301st District Court

Ken Fuller Outstanding Mentor Attorney of the Year: **Walt Bondies**, Attorney at Law

Pro Bono Appreciation Award: **Laura Benitez Geisler**, Sommerman, McCaffity, Quesada & Geisler, L.L.P.

Pro Bono Coordinator of the Year: **Julie LaFace**, Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Pro Bono Court Reporter of the Year: **Shantel Beheler**, 301st District Court

Outstanding Clinic Attorney Volunteer—West Dallas: **Jack Manning**, Manning & Meyers

Outstanding Clinic Attorney Volunteer—Garland: **Robert Nunnally**, Wisener Nunnally Roth, L.L.P.

Outstanding Clinic Attorney Volunteer—South Dallas: **Jeff Burns**, Attorney at Law

Outstanding Clinic Attorney Volunteer—East Dallas: **Vinita Tandon Singh**, Attorney at Law

*Outstanding Veterans Clinic Volunteer—***Michael Regitz**, RegitzMauck PLLC

Outstanding Clinic Sponsor: **Dallas Bar Association Legal Ethics Committee**

Outstanding Solo Practitioner: **Robert Anderson**, Attorney at Law

Outstanding Court Personnel: **Zelda Ridge**, 301st District Court

Outstanding Support Volunteer: **Molita Powell**

Outstanding In-House Attorney: **Preston Moore**, Weil, Gotshal, and Manges LLP

Outstanding Corporate Legal Department: **Bank of America**

Gold Award for Pro Bono Service: **Alston & Bird, LLP; Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP; Baker Botts L.L.P.; Haynes and Boone, LLP**

Silver Award for Pro Bono Service: **Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; Jackson Walker, Winstead PC**

Bronze Award for Pro Bono Service: **The Hartnett Law Firm; Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP; Foley Gardere**

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The Dallas Bar Association is a professional, voluntary organization of more than 11,000 Dallas-area attorneys. Find out more at www.dallasbar.org.