

ESTATE PLANNING & COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAW JOURNAL

January 2013

Issue 1



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, TORRIE TAYLOR:

Greetings from Lubbock, Texas! The Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal is excited to present its first bi-annual newsletter to update our alumni on the successes and events of the EPJ. My name is Torrie Taylor, and I am honored to serve as Editor-in-Chief of Volume V of the EPJ this year.

The journal is currently made up of thirty-nine members—a deviation from the usual forty, as one of our 3L members has taken a leave of absence to represent the State of Texas in the 2013 Miss America Competition this month! In addition to this impressive title, the members of the EPJ actively participate in many areas of the law school. The journal has seven members on the Board of Barristers, four members on the Student Bar Association Executive Board, three members on national advocacy teams, and two Board of Barristers' advanced competition champions. The 3L Class President and Vice-

President are also members of the EPJ, along with two other members that serve as class officers for the 2L class. Furthermore, the journal has many members that serve on the executive boards of multiple law school organizations. It is safe to say that the EPJ is composed of the leaders of Tech Law!

The members of the journal are not the only ones working hard to represent the law school to the best of their abilities! We are lucky to still call Professor Gerry W. Beyer our faculty advisor, and he, too, has been busy. In October, Professor Beyer's article from EPJ's Volume IV, *Will Contests-Prediction and Prevention*, was recognized as one of the "best works of recent scholarship relating to Trusts and Estates" in a review published in *Jotwell: The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*. For the third consecutive year, Professor Beyer's *Wills, Trusts, and Estates Prof. Blog* was named as one of the *ABA*

Journal's Blawg 100, that is, the best legal blogs as selected by the ABA Journal's editors. Furthermore, he was ranked number seven on the list of *Top 100 Web-Savvy Professors* for 2012 as compiled by BestOnlineUniversities.com. He even has found time to publish four books recently! Professor Beyer also stays very involved with the EPJ and even helped work our booth at the school's Halloween carnival!

We hope this newsletter keeps you connected with the EPJ. The upcoming semester will be busy with executive board elections, our annual banquet, and The Fifth Annual Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal Seminar. We are looking forward to another successful semester full of editing and writing, and we look forward to our next newsletter to update you on the successes of this semester!

EPJ EVENTS

To kick off our fall semester, Professor Beyer and his wife Margaret opened their beautiful home to us for a party to welcome and meet the new members of the journal.

Throughout the rest of the fall semester, our staff editors had three major deadlines for their comments. After each of these deadlines, we hosted a party for all members of the journal to celebrate everyone's hard work. Our first party was an Olympic-themed party. Reid Hudgins was kind enough to open his house for us to use and Bryan Mackay made some great burgers and hotdogs on the grill for everyone to enjoy. Lindsay Nichols was able to get us a great location for our second, superhero-themed party and we had Rudy's to grub on that night. Wonder Woman, Superwoman, and Wolverine made full costume appearances at that party! For our final deadline party, we were able to combine with the Administrative Law Journal for fajitas.

Next semester, we look forward to celebrating more deadlines for the staff editors, as well as the banquet to celebrate the journal's fifth year.

– Lauren Munselle, Events Chair



FIFTH ANNUAL ESTATE PLANNING & COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAW JOURNAL SEMINAR

The Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal is excited about its upcoming Fifth Annual Estate Planning & Community Property Law Journal Seminar. Our annual seminar has grown tremendously over the years. Originally, the seminar's speakers consisted of a small group of local Lubbock practitioners. Today professors and practitioners fly to Lubbock from across the country to give presentations about up and coming issues in estate planning and community property.

This year the seminar will be held on Friday, March 1, 2013, in the Mark & Becky Lanier Professional Development Center. Breakfast will begin at 7:30, and the speakers will present from 8:30 until 4:30. Eight speakers will be presenting at the event. Our speakers include Jim Hartnett, Jr. of the Hartnett Law Firm; Professor Stanley Johanson from

the University of Texas; Professor Linda Whitton from Valparaiso University; Professor Susan Gary from the University of Oregon; Professor John Martin from Ohio Northern; Professor Thomas Andrews from the University of Washington; Harold Evensky of Evensky & Katz Wealth Management; and our own Professor Gerry W. Beyer.

Our seminar would not have grown over the years and would not be possible without the generous donations from our sponsors. We would like to specially thank the following sponsors for their contributions to the Seminar: Field, Manning, Stone, Hawthorne & Aycock, P.C.; Cotton Bledsoe Tighe & Dawson, PC; Davis, Gerald & Cremer, PC; Jackson and Jackson; Mullin Hoard Brown; Decker & Arrott, P.C.; and Professor and Mrs. Gerry W. Beyer.

To register for this year's seminar, you may register at <http://www.law.ttu.edu/cle/>. You may also contact Lindsay Nichols to register for the seminar or with any questions regarding the seminar at lindsay.nichols@ttu.edu. We look forward to seeing you soon!

UPCOMING ARTICLES



The Future of Estate Planning: The Multigenerational Life Plan

- David Goldman & Charles Jamison

The Demise of Dynasty Trusts: Returning the Wealth to the Family

- Lucy A. Marsh

Separate but Equal: Proposal for Harmonizing the Rules for Marital Property Characterization of Beneficial Interests in and Distributions from Trusts with Those Applicable to Similar Types of Property

- James L. Musselman

Fiduciary Litigation: Avoiding (or Minimizing) the Traps, Tribulations, and Trials

- Sarah Patel Pacheco



UPCOMING COMMENTS

Choosing to be Flushed Away: A National Background on Alkaline Hydrolysis and What Texas Should Know About Regulating “Liquid Cremation”

- Kent Hansen

Careful Cutting Too Many Ties: Issues with Establishing a Parent-Child Relationship Via Adult Adoption in Texas and a Potential Solution

- Chelsi Honeycutt

Marriage and Minerals in Texas: Confronting the Community Property Presumption and Potential Improvements in California

- Bryan Mackay



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VOLUME 5

2012-2013

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