



Bulletin

Texas Community Building with Attorney Resources • February 2006

McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore L.L.P. Attorneys Help Families Find Opportunity

Nonprofits in Texas have a homegrown law firm to help them build healthier communities. For more than 75 years, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore L.L.P. has been a leader in providing legal services for free to low-income families and people in Texas. **Lloyd Lochridge**, one of the firm's named partners encourages the firm's attorneys to participate in pro bono opportunities, personally recruiting associates to Volunteer Legal Services and to join nonprofit boards. States Mr. Lochridge, "I have a strong feeling that lawyers should use their special skills to help people who have problems and cannot afford legal counsel and therefore our lawyers should bear their share of this duty." Mr. Lochridge recognized the value of transactional pro bono work and was a founding board member of Texas C-BAR.


One of Texas C-BAR's most reliable volunteers is McGinnis partner, **Terry McDonald**. His usual clients are start-up companies, telecom corporations, or electric cooperatives, but he uses the same skill set and dedication to counsel nonprofits pro bono as he does with his paying clients. Through Texas C-BAR, Mr. McDonald has donated his legal expertise to nonprofits working to build affordable housing and provide job-training programs for low-income individuals.

One of Mr. McDonald's nonprofit pro bono clients is United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Texas. UCP had plans to produce accessible, affordable housing for persons with disabilities. UCP needed advice on the best corporate structure to achieve their goal of expanding their activities to include housing construction. Working

with the UCP staff and board, Mr. McDonald laid out their options and walked them through the decision-making process. Jean Langerdorf, the project's director, praised Mr. McDonald's ability to make such a complex process a smooth one for her group, "Our board is diverse—made up of both parents and practitioners—none of us are lawyers. Terry was down-to-earth and understanding as we

struggled to find the best solution for our clients. He explained our options so clearly. It helped us make the right choice." Now Mr. McDonald is helping UCP act on their decision by guiding them through the incorporation process for their new Community Development Housing Organization, "Accessible Housing Austin!" (AHA!). This new entity is eligible for federal housing funds and additional housing for people with disabilities will soon be realized.

Other outstanding Texas C-BAR volunteers from McGinnis, Lochridge and Kilgore include: **William Bingham, Christine Miller, and Leslie Varghese**. They have drafted closing documents for the sale of affordable housing in Austin, prepared by-laws for new neighborhood associations, provided

legal education workshops to nonprofit staff, and offered their tax law expertise to Texas C-BAR clients. Through its volunteers, McGinnis, Lochridge and Kilgore's commitment to pro bono makes a difference. In addition to their valuable contribution to low-income individuals, the firm has donated approximately \$30,000 in legal services to nonprofits in Texas. This home-grown law firm sets a high standard for all. 

Terry McDonald of McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore L.L.P.



A UCP client enjoys her newly-accessible home

2006 Legal Workshop Calendar

The following is a list of Texas C-BAR workshops scheduled for 2006. This list will be updated from time to time as new workshops are developed. For more information about any of these workshops or to request a workshop in your area, call (512) 374-2760, or email info@texasbar.org

Nonprofit Legal Compliance

February 28, 2006 — Lubbock

This workshop is sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Lubbock. Call (806) 747-0551 or check www.volunteerlubbock.org for more information. Nonprofits can sign up for a free attorney consultation that will follow the workshop.

March 22, 2006 — Laredo

This workshop is sponsored by the Laredo Nonprofit Management & Volunteer Center. Call 956-795-2400 for more information. Nonprofits can sign up for a free attorney consultation that will follow the workshop.

May 2, 2006 — Wichita Falls

This workshop is sponsored by the USDA. Call (432) 837-8247 for more information.

Employment Law for Nonprofits

May 2006 — Tyler

This workshop is sponsored by the Nonprofit Development Center. Call 903-581-6376x211 for more information. Nonprofits can sign up for a free attorney consultation that will follow the workshop.

September 14, 2006 — Lubbock

This workshop is sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Lubbock. Contact (806) 747-0551 or www.volunteerlubbock.org for more information. Nonprofits can sign up for a free attorney consultation that will follow the workshop.

News

Nonprofit housing developers that registered as builders/remodelers with the Texas Residential Construction Commission (TRCC) must register qualifying projects that the nonprofit has developed. The TRCC began enforcing compliance and assessing penalties for failure to register on November 1, 2005. More information is available www.trcc.state.tx.us.

Texas C-BAR opened a Houston office in partnership with Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program. For more information, contact Christina Trejo c/o Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, 712 Main Street, Suite 2700, Houston, Texas 77002. Phone: (713) 228-0735. E-mail: ctrejo@texasbar.org.

Texas C-BAR Welcomes New and Returning Attorney Volunteers

11/05 - 1/12/06

Gretchen Denum — *CenterPoint Energy*
Michael DuBose — *Vinson & Elkins LLP*
Mike Farnell — *Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP*
Mark Farrell — *SBC Communications*
Nancy Hagquist — *Winstead Sechrest & Minick P.C.*
Susan Hightower — *Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.*
Jeffrey Hitt — *Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP*
Michael Li — *Baker Botts L.L.P.*
Jennifer Lopez — *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*
Kafah Manna — *Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP*
Sarah McLean — *Thompson & Knight LLP*
Tom McNutt — *Bracewell & Giuliani, L.L.P.*
Dan Micciche — *State Bar of Texas Tax Section*
Sarah Morgan — *Vinson & Elkins LLP*
Michael Newman — *Gardere Wynne Sewell, LLP*
John Orton — *Thompson & Knight LLP*
Michael Petersen — *Carrington, Coleman, Sloman & Blumenthal, LLP*
Edd Prince — *ExxonMobil*
Debora Ramirez — *Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, P.C.*
Christopher Rimkus — *ExxonMobil*
Phillip Schmandt — *McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore L.L.P.*
Paul Skeith — *Hilgers Bell & Richards LLP*

Wachovia makes \$25,000 Gift to Texas C-BAR

In recognition of the importance of top quality legal counsel for nonprofits engaged in complex community development activities, Wachovia Bank made a \$25,000 contribution to Texas C-BAR. Wachovia understands the value to nonprofits working to revitalize low-income communities added by Texas C-BAR's legal assistance. Texas C-BAR appreciates Wachovia's commitment to pro bono legal services and community development activities.

*Thank
you!*



WACHOVIA

Special Thanks to Texas C-BAR's 2005 supporters:

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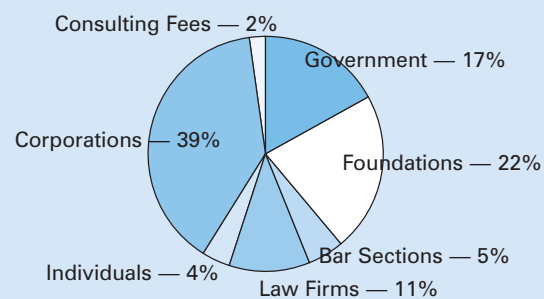
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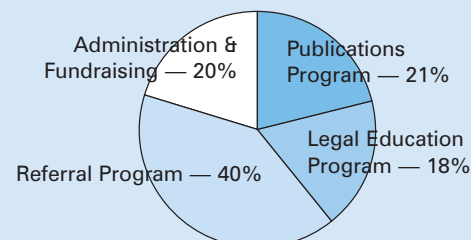
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2005 Financial Profile

Income Distribution



Allocation of Resources



About Texas C-BAR

Texas Community Building with Attorney Resources (Texas C-BAR) is a statewide business pro bono project that provides nonprofits with the legal tools they need to succeed in transforming distressed neighborhoods into healthy communities. As a special project of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Texas C-BAR currently partners with more than 70 law firms and corporations to help nonprofits build communities and ultimately better the lives of thousands of low-income families throughout the state. For more information about Texas C-BAR, or to participate in our pro bono program, please contact Texas C-BAR at our **NEW ADDRESS:**

4920 N. IH-35, Austin, Texas 78751

phone: 512-374-2710 or (800)369-9270, ext. 2710

fax: 512-447-3940

email: info@texasbar.org

web: www.texasbar.org

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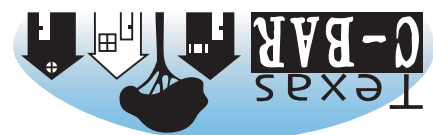
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