

# MAKING *an* IMPACT



TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

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ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017

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The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) consists of roughly 27,000 Texas lawyers who are 36 years old or younger or in their first five years of licensure. As the “public service arm” of the State Bar of Texas, TYLA aims to facilitate the administration of justice, foster respect for the law, and advance the role of the legal profession in serving the public. Its programs are designed to assist Texas attorneys in their practice of law and to provide public legal education services to Texans.

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[www.tyla.org](http://www.tyla.org)

# IGNITE AND UNITE



“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” – *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Texas Young Lawyers Association is the public service arm of the State Bar of Texas. Each year, TYLA works to develop projects that benefit lawyers, law students, and the general public, and make those projects available for use and distribution across the state of Texas. In the 2017-2018 bar year, TYLA will continue to share existing TYLA programs, and introduce a number of new projects including:

- **Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.** Parents and teachers alike face many questions regarding the laws applicable to the school setting. TYLA will create a project to provide information to educators, parents, and students about their legal rights and responsibilities. Additionally, the site will serve as a platform to incorporate other TYLA projects that relate to issues of school safety. A special thank you to the Texas Bar Foundation, which has provided a generous grant to fund this project.
- **Employer Handbooks:** TYLA will create a series of handbooks to address relevant employment law issues, including FLSA, FMLA, Affordable Care Act, HIPPA, other discrimination laws and statutes, and the ADA.
- **Preserving the Right to Trial by Jury and Explaining its Importance to the American System of Justice:** TYLA will create and distribute a project that addresses the importance of protecting the civil right to the jury trial.
- **Spanish CLE/ Guide:** TYLA will develop a guide/ CLE for attorneys to use in communicating with Spanish speaking clients and witnesses. The guide will identify key terms and phrases related to legal interactions.
- **Domestic Abuse:** TYLA will create a web based project as well as guides discussing the legal avenues available to those who have suffered from domestic violence. This project is intended to serve both victims of domestic violence, and elder abuse.

My goal for TYLA this year is that we ignite and unite. By creating new, and sharing existing TYLA projects, I hope a passion for service is ignited in young lawyers across the state. We are most effective when we can bring our unique experiences and perspectives together to impact those around us, united in service to our communities. I invite each one of you to join TYLA in this commitment. We will all be better practitioners of law and members of our community if we devote time to the service of others. To learn more about TYLA, and how you can get involved, please visit our website at [tyla.org](http://tyla.org).

Sincerely,

Baili B. Rhodes

Texas Young Lawyers Association President 2017-2018





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