University of Oklahoma Black Law Students Win “Chapter of the Year” (2021-2022)

The Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Black Law Students (BLSA) Chapter recently won “Chapter of the Year” for the National Black Law Students Association’s Southwest Region, which includes the 18 law schools of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. For the school year of 2021-2022, OU College of Law is the best!

Chapter President Camille Burge, in her excitement, stated: OU’s ultimate goal is to win “Chapter of the Year” at the national convention in March! The OU College of Law group has won national chapter of the year once before and has been runner-up several times.

The Southwestern Regional Convention was held in Houston this year. OU sent twelve students to participate as well as to compete in Moot Court and other competitions. Jordan Murray was named “Best Oralist” in the Region. Alyssa Sloan and Mylon Smith were awarded the “Best Brief” award. The OU chapter won the “Southwestern BLSA Regional Community Service Award” for donating over 275 items to the Oklahoma Homeless Alliance as well as the overall regional commendation.

The law school administration under Dean Katholeen Guzman, and Dean of Students Mary Sue Backus have been very supportive. The deans stated that the energy found among students of this year’s chapter enormously support the university’s and the law school’s goals in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The chapter has been extremely team-focused and worked together to support community support activities.

Some of the chapter’s accomplishments included being a campus leader in the collection of items for the Oklahoma Homeless Alliance. BLSA sponsored an incredible list of speakers for the law

See CHAPTER, page 11
From the President

Even now, as a firmly entrenched office-dweller, when I’m able to be outside for longer stretches of time, I find myself gauging the time of day by the position of the sun more often than I do by looking at a clock.

TIME AFTER TIME

The vernal equinox will be upon us before we know it. The days where highs reach Spring-like temperatures are beginning to outnumber those that don’t and trees will soon be budding. Spring Break is here for those still in school (and their teachers!) and now, the internal changing of the clocks is just in the rearview mirror. Growing up in rural Oklahoma, almost every aspect of my life as a kid revolved somehow around the season of the year and/or the level of daylight outside. Thanksgiving sometimes took a backseat to the opening of deer season. School let out before Memorial Day because that’s when the custom cutters started heading for Texas to work their way north. Church congregations regularly prayed for rain in the Spring (just no hail, Lord!) and for the rain to stop toward the end of June so the crops could be harvested.

Our local Dairy Queen was only open during the warmer months because it only sold ice cream, and during Summer many friends became unavailable during daylight hours because of farm work. We were required to be home for the evening before it was dark enough for the streetlights to come on, and under no circumstances would the air conditioner be used until the mercury hit 90 degrees. Aside from the Vitamin D one may get outdoors as often as possible (bringing your laptop is discouraged but optional). Despite the occasional severe storm, Spring is an outsized importance in life, as compared to my childhood. There is a set time I need to wake up in order to get my kids to school at a set time, and then get myself to work as scheduled. My work day is delineated by meetings at set times on my calendar, punctuated by a “lunch hour” and then “quitting time.” And for many of my legal colleagues, every waking hour of every day is divided up, if not defined by, the almighty “billable hour.”

It is no wonder, then, that this artificial changing of the clocks nonsense completely throws me off. Whether it is arriving to work, feeding my dogs, or going to bed, every mundane time-related task in my daily life is shifted just enough to be completely disruptive to my internal clock. Twice each year, I experience the tinge of nostalgia associated with the simpler times of my childhood, before the clock and calendar started ruling my existence. I suspect that Judges and lawyers in particular, who tend to be ridiculously over-dependent on the clocks of this world, share in this sentiment. This Spring, as we change our clocks, in addition to checking the batteries in your smoke alarms, make a commitment to yourself to get outdoors as often as possible (bringing your laptop is discouraged but optional). Despite the occasional severe storm, Spring is arguably the most enjoyable season of the year to be outside in this part of the country, as the daytime hours warm sufficiently so as not to require a jacket, while the evenings still cool enough to justify not yet turning on the air conditioner. Aside from the Vitamin D your body will enjoy, perhaps you will reawaken your innate child- love of being outdoors and set aside your preoccupation with the clock. At the very least, it will provide you with a legitimate excuse to take a break from the tick-tick of artificial time and allow you to reconnect with your internal clock. I will be making my best effort at this, but if you encounter me bleary-eyed and confused, at least you will understand why.
By Roscoe X. Pound

Dear Roscoe:

Is prefacing my words with the statement “in my opinion” still a solid defense to defamation? M.P., Norman OK

Dear M.P.:

Still? In my opinion it never really provided as solid a defense as many seem to think. I make this statement on the basis of the many programs I’ve attended away in a tommari of “in my opinion” disclaimers. I emphasize the line between protected opinion and actionable defamation, in my opinion, is razor thin.

In Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc., 418 U.S. 323, 94 S.Ct. 2997, 41 L.Ed.2d 789 (1974), the United States Supreme Court remarked, “Under the First Amendment there is no such thing as a false idea. However pernicious an opinion may seem, we depend for its correction not on the conscience of judges and juries but on the competition of other ideas. But there is no constitutional value in false statements of fact.” Id. at 339-40, 94 S.Ct. 2997 (footnote omitted). This brings us to the heart of the issue. Post-Gertz, SCOTUS handed down Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co., 497 U.S. 1, 110 S.Ct. 2695, 111 L.Ed.2d 1 (1990). Milkovich reasoned that, read in context, “the fair meaning of the [Gertz] passage is to equate the word ‘opinion’ in the second sentence with the word ‘idea’ in the second sentence; and that ‘the language was merely a repetition of Justice Holmes’ classic ‘marketplace of ideas’ concept.” Id. The Court concluded:

[We] do not think this passage from Gertz was intended to create a wholesale defamation exemption for anything that might be labeled “opinion.” Not only would such an interpretation be contrary to the tenor and context of the passage, but it would also ignore the fact that expressions of ‘opinion’ may often imply an assertion of objective fact.

If a speaker says, “In my opinion John Jones is a liar,” he implies a knowledge of facts which lead to the conclusion that Jones told an untruth. Even if the speaker states the facts upon which he bases his opinion, if those facts are either incorrect or incomplete, or if his assessment of them is erroneous, the statement may still imply a false assertion of fact. Simply couching such statements in terms of opinion does not dispel these implications; and the statement, “In my opinion Jones is a liar,” can cause as much damage to reputation as the statement, “Jones is a liar.”

Id. at 18-19, 110 S.Ct. 2695 (citation omitted).

In short, “a statement of fact is not shielded from an action for defamation by being prefaced with the words ‘in my opinion,’ but only if in the context of the statement, there is no reasonable basis for believing that the speaker is expressing a subjective view, an interpretation, a theory, conjecture, or surmise, rather than claiming to be in possession of objectively verifiable facts, the statement is not actionable. Evanger’s Cat & Dog Food Co. v. Trection, 412 F. Supp. 3d 889 (N.D. Ill. 2019), I can’t think of a single recent decade for a person engaged in public speaking for a living for carefully weighing their words and their likely effect.

Dear Roscoe:

So one guy seeks $ revenge from another guy; decides to blow up his enemy’s car. He doesn’t want to get hurt and he does it on a cold night when few people are around. Car blows up and happens to have sleeping passenger. Murder or negligence? E.K., Metu

Dear E.K.: Deliberately blowing up someone’s car seems to go beyond mere negligence and carelessness and right into felony territory. Most courts, I believe, would answer whether a homicide could arise out of ordinary negligence in the negative. Sending someone to prison for ordinary negligence would strike many as unduly harsh. However, we do have exceptions such as the so-called “depraved heart” prior killings.

Some frame it as to whether defendant would have acted as he did, knowing that his actions would cause death. For example, if an individual wants to burn down an old barn on his premises that nobody ever sleeps in, he may, in fact, not care if anyone is there, and if they are, too bad. Yet if, objectively speaking, the chance of someone being in the barn was extremely small, but at the time of the burning, someone was in fact sleeping in the barn and was killed, I do not think the defendant should be guilty of murder.

Depraved heart murder has been described as “one of the ‘unintentional murderers’... that is punishable as murder because another element of blameworthiness fills the place of intent to kill.” “The critical feature of ‘depraved heart’ murder is that the act in question be committed ‘under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life.’ “As to involuntary manslaughter, the Court of Appeals has recognized three varieties: (1) unlawful act endangering life but which does not amount to a felony”; (2) gross negligence manslaughter, which is “negligently doing some act lawful in itself”; and (3) “the negligent omission to perform a legal duty.”

Depraved heart murder requires the act in question be committed “under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life. Thus, fact issues come into play. Not every case provides a simple evaluation like the time-honored examples of dropping a brick form a 20-story building on to a sidewalk full of pedestrians or firing a rifle at a moving passenger train. The question is whether the defendant engaged in conduct that created a very high risk of death or serious bodily injury to others. The murder may be perpetrated without the slightest trace of personal ill-will. Intentionally doing a dangerous act with wanton indifference substitutes for malice.

In addition, in most States vehicular arson is a felony and, as you describe our hypothetical vengeance seeker, felony murder would likely come into play.

We parked across from Sweezy’s. I hesitated trading the warm car for the frigid night air. Tommy, who would remain in the vehicle, smiled and spread his hands. “You wanna make an omelette you gotta break the eggs right.” Too much good cheer.

The TV above the bar showed North Carolina at The Citadel. At the other end of the room WWE Raw had just begun. I took a seat in a back booth. I looked like the only one not accompanied by one or more friends or companions. Then a guy came in wearing a military parka over blue jeans and work boots. He looked more like a biker than the usual vet or first responder who frequented this place. He had allowed his beard to take over most of his face, and his shark-dark eyes testified to an implacable attitude and a vacant soul. In fact, despite the overgrowth, some act lawful in itself”; and (3) “the negli- gence manifested by the deliberate indifference to a substantial risk of death or serious bodily injury.”

It broke over me suddenly and chillingly. “Enver Kaleka,” I said.

He nodded and bade me sit down again, for I had a risen to draw my gun.”

“No need for weapon Mr. I am here to deliver news. Good news for you.”

“Last I heard from you it was a threat.”

“Nobody ever gets the advantage.”

And that is the good news,” he said with faux bonhommie. “I am no longer going to kill you for things you did in past. I grant an amnesty. So long as you don’t trouble me again. Besides you will prove helpful. Just keep doing as you are doing.”

“Doing what?”

He drained his mug. “You may finish the pitcher on me,” he said. His voice remained amiable. He stood as if to leave. “I have a one beer limit. I must go, but I’ll be in touch.”

“I’m not just going to let you walk out of here,” I said.

“No?”

He took what looked like a key fob from his pocket and pressed a button. An explosion shattered the winter stillness outside and triggered patrons and staff in a rush out the door.

“It’s a good thing you brought no one with you like I instructed,” he said. “Otherwise your companion might be badly hurt or worse.”

He took a couple of steps backward and then rushed toward the back door. I went a few steps after him then thought “Tommy!”

“Mr. Pound, good to see you again. And this time face-to-face,” he said.

“You have the advantage,” I replied.

“Any would you be?”

“The last time I spoke I was an ER physician. Last time I saw you I wore SWAT uniform in Big Apple.”

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By: Rex Travis

David Kisner died. He was 81 years old. He practiced law in Oklahoma County for 54 years. Dave was born in Tahlequah, where his father (Jack) was a professor at Northeastern State College, now Northeastern University.

His father also was the tennis coach and was very good at it. (His father retired from the University and moved to a lake house where he built a tennis court and played every day he could, until he died in his late 80’s. So, Dave grew up playing tennis and became very good at it too.

Dave played on the high school tennis team which went in 48 consecutive dual meets and were unbeaten from 1956 through 1958. His high school team won the state tennis championship and was inducted into the Tahlequah Athletic Hall of Fame.

He went on to play tennis successfully at Northeastern State, where he got his undergraduate degree. In addition to coming from a family of tennis players, Dave came from a family of lawyers. His grandfather was a long-time lawyer in Tahlequah and his uncle was O.B. Martin, a long-time lawyer in Oklahoma City.

So, while Dave worked in Tulsa for Retail Credit (as I recall) Dave worked his way through night law school at Tulsa University. Upon his graduation, he came to Oklahoma City and practiced with his uncle, O.B. Martin. That’s when I met Dave. He and O.B. had a general practice but did a fair amount of personal injury practice. I did defense work then, representing insurance companies. (I switched sides after 25 years to the plaintiffs’ side).

In a way that most people who don’t do a litigation practice don’t understand, Dave and I became good friends for the remaining years of his life. Dave was as athletic as I was sedentary. Besides continuing to play tennis for all but the last years of his life, Dave played basketball at every opportunity. He was instrumental in setting up a series of basketball games which came to be known as the “Sawbones v. Jawbones,” featuring the lawyers against the doctors of Oklahoma City. Unfortunately, both the lawyers and the doctors came to take the game too seriously and it was discontinued.

Dave continued to the end of his life his strong interest in tennis. He and a long-time friend and tennis player went fairly regularly to New York for the U.S. Open Tennis Tournament. They even made a pilgrimage to Wimbledon for the Tournament there. Dave loved and enjoyed life. Dave was a voracious reader of all kinds of books. At one point he accumulated some 3,000 to 6,000 books!

Dave was a Hearing Examiner for the Oklahoma Real Estate Commission for over 45 years. It was said that David held a position with the State of Oklahoma the longest continual service of any lawyer in Oklahoma.

For about the last 25 years of his life, Dave practiced with Jim Lee in the firm Lee and Kisner. After many years of an active trial practice, Dave utilized the experience of those years of practice and his placid and patient manner to serve as a mediator. He was a great lawyer, an even better mediator and, above all, a thoroughly decent man.

Jim delivered a thoughtful eulogy at Dave’s funeral in which he recalled Dave was known as a “guy who got things done.” He would, as early in the mediation as possible, get a feel for how it should settle, if it could be settled, and not waste the time of the lawyers and their clients. Jim recalled that Dave mediated about 3,000 cases, a remarkable record.

Dave did not “go quietly into that good night,” as the poet, Dylan Thomas said. Dave had a heart condition, that required open heart surgery, which did not go well. As soon as he felt able, he started back to work at his office a couple of hours a day. On his way home from the office, he lost consciousness, ran off the highway and hit a utility pole. He did not recover.

Dave had a son with special needs from whom he was very attentive. He predeceased Dave. He and his wife, Janie, have a surviving son, Drew, who has Dave’s only granddaughter, Penelope, to whom Dave was devoted. They, and we, will miss him greatly.

The family has suggested that, in lieu of flowers, donations would be appropriate to Special Olympics Oklahoma, 6835 S. Canton Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74136. Or online at support.specialolympics.org.
We Support Judge Richard Kirby for Re-Election:

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Approved and Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Judge Richard Kirby 2022
2022 YLD CHILI COOK-OFF & SILENT AUCTION BACK IN ACTION!

1st Place Hottest Chili – Mazaheri Law
Marquita Bailey, Shelly Statham, Charlie DeWitt, Katherine Mazaheri, Mary Rahimi & Kass Quintela

2nd Place Non-Traditional Chili – Elias Books Brown & Nelson
Braden Hogue & Michael Brady

1st Place Non-Traditional Chili – Wiggins Sewell & Ogletree

Tied for 1st Place Traditional Chili & Most Spirited Team – Parrish DeVaughn
Nate Rex, Barrett Fuller, Murry Parrish, Will Emig, Greg Keogh & Caleb Redman

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Assistant Nicole Jones, Judge Richard Kirby, Judge Richard Ogden, Judge Aletia Timmons, Judge James Siderias, Judge Katherine Savage, Judge Noma Gurich, Judge Sheila Stinson & Judge Don Andrews
BEST OVERALL CHILI TEAM – Dunlap Codding
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By William G. Paul

The House of Delegates of the ABA met in Chicago on February 4 and 5. A major item of business was nomination of officers of the association, which is tantamount to election at the annual meeting in August. David R. Brink of Minneapolis was nominated as President-Elect, to serve as president in 1981-82, and Eugene C. Thomas of Boise, Idaho was nominated for a two-year term as Chairman of the House of Delegates. John C. Deacon of Jonesboro, Arkansas, was nominated to the Board of Governors for a three-year term to represent a district including Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas.

Perhaps the most significant action at an otherwise uneventful meeting was passage of a resolution supporting Congressional enactment of a statutory charter for the FBI, which if passed by the Congress, would strengthen the charter for the FBI, which if passed by the Congress, would strengthen the investigatory powers of the Bureau.

The House reviews all proposed Uniform laws. The Uniform Metric System Procedure Act was reviewed in process in the ABA which affects the profession is the proposed new Rules of Professional Conduct, commonly called Professional Responsibility. This will be considered by the House at the 1981 Mid-Year Meeting. President Thomas is appointing a special committee to review this new proposal in order that the lawyers of Oklahoma County will have appropriate input in the deliberations.

Under the Rules of the House, our County Bar may propose a resolution for ABA action. If we wish to influence ABA action on any matter, we should ask our OCBA Board to pass an appropriate resolution and I, as your Delegate, can then have the item set on the House agenda for debate and action.

By: Todd Blasdel

Many of us have been in a pinch and needed help filing something last minute at the Oklahoma County Court Clerk’s office. Thankfully, the Oklahoma County Law Library offers a service to file pleadings for a small fee.

The filing service is limited to pleadings that do not require filing fees, and the complete filing must be e-mailed to lawlibrary2@oklahomacounty.org and received before 4:30 p.m. on the day it is to be filed. Each document to be filed must have its own e-file cover sheet.

The filing cost is $1.00 per page for the first ten pages, $0.50 for pages 11-45, and $1.00 for pages beyond 45. There is a charge of $10.00 for a rush filing that is received at the law library between 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Additionally, the law library offers to deliver and pick up pleadings and orders to and from the assigned judge for $3.00. There is a charge to have the documents returned to the attorney via regular mail is $3.00 for documents less than 30 pages, and $6.00 for more than 31 pages. To return the documents via e-mail is $0.50 per page. After using the court services, you will receive an invoice in the mail for the total charges.

The law library offers other helpful resources, including public computers with free internet and access to Westlaw, Lexis, and HeinOnline.
As has been written many times, the JNC was created after one of the worst judicial scandals in American history. Out of that stain arose a model system where judges are selected based upon qualifications, not on their political connections. The JNC is made up of 15 members: 9 of these members are non-attorneys with various appointments from the Governor, the Senate Pro Temp., and the Speaker, the remaining 6 are attorneys who are elected from districts by the 13,832 in-state attorneys.

Ironically, proponents of SJR43 argue that the current system lacks transparency, yet the proposal would make the selection process less transparent. Under the current JNC system Oklahomans know who is in consideration, who reviews the applications, and what the top three candidates were. That is not true under the federal model. Think about every U.S. Supreme Court nomination you can remember. As has been written many times, the JNC was created after one of the worst judicial scandals in American history. Out of that stain arose a model system where judges are selected based upon qualifications, not on their political connections.
MAHAFFEY & GORE ANNOUNCE NEW SHAREHOLDER
The law firm of Mahaffey & Gore, P.C., is pleased to announce that Lincoln C. Hatfield has been elected as a new shareholder.

Mr. Hatfield, a native of Hydro, Oklahoma, joined the firm in 2016. His legal practice primarily focuses upon matters relating to the oil and gas industry. He has substantial experience in litigation and appeals, class actions, energy law and natural resources law. Both of Mr. Hatfield’s parents were educators and his first degree was a B.A. in Education. He chose to pursue law to make a lasting impact and to hold people accountable. Mr. Hatfield is a 2014 graduate of Oklahoma City University School of Law, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He also has a B.A. in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, Oklahoma. Mr. Hatfield is a resident of Oklahoma City.

FIELD TO CHAIR CROWE & DUNLEVY’S TAXATION PRACTICE GROUP
Attorney Jordan K. Field has been named chair of Crowe & Dunlevy’s Taxation Practice Group, the law firm recently announced.

A firm director specializing in business transactions, Field’s experienced tax law practice includes tax planning and tax controversy matters relating to federal and state income taxes for entities and individuals, as well as estate and gift tax planning and tax-exempt entity matters. His diverse range of experience includes aviation, commercial space, corporate securities, employee benefits and health care law.

A recipient of the Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize, Field graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law, received his L.L.M. in Taxation from New York University School of Law, one of the nation’s most prestigious tax programs, and holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from Oklahoma State University.

DREW PALMER RETURNS TO CROWE & DUNLEVY
Attorney Drew Palmer has rejoined Crowe & Dunlevy as a director in the firm’s Oklahoma City office.

Palmer returns to the firm bringing his prior experience in the software and energy industries to the firm’s growing Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice. His principal focus will be on the evolving regulatory frameworks surrounding data privacy, information security and intellectual property, specifically as they relate to the energy and natural resources industries. Palmer plans on leveraging his experience to advise and assist businesses as they traverse the exceedingly complex intersections between technology and the law. Palmer will join the firm’s Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice Group and is also expected to actively contribute to the firm’s Intellectual Property and Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Practice Groups.

Palmer is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Law. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Brown University.

RIGGS ABNEY SHAREHOLDERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Shareholders of Riggs, Abney, Neal, Turpen, Orbison & Lewis have elected new leadership for the regional firm operating in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Denver.

Kristopher E. Koepsel was re-elected as the firm’s President and CEO for 2022. George M. Emerson was re-elected vice president and assistant secretary. Lisa Riggs was re-elected as secretary and treasurer and Thomas M. Askew will serve as treasurer and assistant secretary for the second year. These four officers are also members of the Firm’s Board of Directors.

The executive committee is responsible for managing the firm’s business operations. Kristopher E. Koepsel is based in the Tulsa office and his practice involves advising clients on business and commercial law, civil litigation, civil rights, employment and labor law, government and politics, insurance and “bad faith”, medical and professional negligence, personal injury, product liability, real estate and transportation law matters. He holds a Juris Doctor and Certificate in Resources Energy and Environmental Law from The University of Tulsa College of Law.

George M. Emerson practices in Oklahoma City in the areas of bankruptcy, estate planning, wills, trusts and probate, government and politics, insurance receiverships, personal injury and real estate. He holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Oklahoma College of Law and is actively involved with the Oklahoma Bar Association where he serves as a fellow.

Lisa Riggs practices as a civil litigator in Riggs Abney’s Tulsa office and focuses on representing clients with injuries resulting from accidents, including victims of medical mistakes and medical or pharmaceutical products. Before joining the firm, she served as a mediator in the District of Columbia Superior Court and the Tulsa County District Court. She earned her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center.

Thomas M. Askew litigates business disputes, insurance matters, transportation liability cases, “bad faith” cases, business torts, contract disputes and personal injury matters in the firm’s Tulsa office. He obtained his Juris Doctor from The University of Tulsa School of Law and is admitted to the Oklahoma State and Federal courts, as well as numerous federal appellate courts and the United States Supreme Court.

The shareholders also re-elected as additional members of the 2022 board of directors include Bob Nance, David Riggs, Mary Rounds, B.J. Sommers, Rex W. Thompson, Harley Thomas, Mike Turpen, and Sharon Weaver. In addition to those returning directors, Scott Kirtley was also elected as a director for 2022.

Scott Kirtley practices in Tulsa, handling banking, bankruptcy, and real estate law. Mr. Kirtley earned a Juris Doctor from the Oral Roberts University O. W. Coburn School of Law, where he graduated in the top five of his class. He is an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, Tulsa Bar Association and Oklahoma Bar Association.

HICKEY JOINS MCAFEE & TAFT’S TOP-RANKED TAX & FAMILY WEALTH GROUP
Mcafee & Taft has expanded its top-ranked Tax & Family Wealth Group with the addition of Matthew B. Hickey, an experienced tax and business lawyer with 15 years’ experience providing sophisticated tax analysis and advice as it relates to business entity selection and organization, complex business transactions, general operational matters and tax efficiency, and the use of tax-advantaged activities as a means to lower overall transaction costs and tax liability. His broad-based tax and business planning experience includes assisting high net worth clients in achieving their estate planning objectives and advising non-profit organizations on the specific tax and regulatory requirements necessary for them to maintain their tax-exempt status.

Hickey’s expertise and experience have earned him recognition and inclusion in the prestigious Chambers USA Guide to America’s Leading Lawyers for Business, The Best Lawyers in America, and Oklahoma Super Lawyers.

The Ohio native holds a master of laws degree in taxation from the New York University School of Law and graduated with highest honors from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
Notice of Grant Funds Available for Calendar Year 2023
The Legal Services Corporation (LSC) announces the availability of grant funds to provide civil legal services to eligible clients during calendar year 2023. In accordance with LSC’s multiyear funding policy, grants are available for only specified service areas. The list of service areas (and their descriptions) where grant opportunities are open are available at https://www.lsc.gov/grants/basic-field-grant/lsc-service-areas/2023-service-areas-subject-competition. The Request for Proposals (RFP), which includes instructions for preparing the grant proposal, will be published at https://www.lsc.gov/grants-grantee-resources/our-grant-programs/basic-field-grant-on or around April 11, 2022. Applicants must file a Pre-Application and the grant application through GrantEase: LSC’s grants management system. Please visit https://www.lsc.gov/grants/basic-field-grant for filing dates, applicant eligibility, submission requirements, and updates regarding the LSC grants process. Please email inquiries pertaining to the LSC grants process to LSCGrants@lsc.gov.
school and the university from among renowned lawyers and judges across the region. Several members of the chapter worked as guides and contacts for students who were interested in visiting and possibly attending OU College of Law. The chapter took advantage of opportunities to network with the law students and minority organizations across the region to build networks and connections. Individual students volunteered for pro bono activities. This year’s Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Black Law Students chapter has over forty members including all races. The current chapter has the largest membership in its history. OU College of Law has the largest number of minorities in the history of OU Law with the last two incoming classes having over thirty percent each.
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