

HB Connections



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Welcome to our Summer 2022 edition of *HB Connections*. We are thrilled to give you a glimpse into the lives of some of our talented alums since they left Haynes Boone. Their career journeys are a testament to their skill, resolve and resiliency – and, we hope, the solid professional foundation that we helped them build at Haynes Boone.

In this edition, see how HB alums responded to the new normal during the COVID-19 pandemic. Read about **Pablo Sansot**, a lawyer who is helping build a clean mobility ecosystem in Mexico and Latin America; **Punam Kaji**, who provides a “podium” for Asian American women lawyers to break quarantine isolation; and **Shawn Askinosie**, a former criminal defense lawyer who runs a successful bean-to-bar chocolate factory. We are also excited to feature our friend at Frost Bank, **C.E. Rhodes**, who recounts his experience during the pandemic and discusses his road to success.

These alums are truly inspiring, and we thank them for taking time to share their stories with us. Thanks also to those of you who shared updates about your lives for the magazine’s News and Notes section.

Please continue to stay in touch and let us know where you are and what you are up to. We are proud of the alumni community we have created, we want to continue to help it grow, and we want to share many more stories about your professional successes.

Thank you for participating in our alumni program. Wishing you a safe and productive remainder of the year.



TAYLOR H. WILSON
Managing Partner

As the chair of Haynes Boone’s Alumni Program, I am honored to work with so many inspiring alumni. The lawyers featured in this issue have followed their own paths, remained resolute during difficult times, and stayed focused on their goals. I believe we can all learn something from each of them.

I hope this edition of *HB Connections* gives you a sense of pride and connectedness to our alumni community. Thank you for your time, and please remember that you always have a home at Haynes Boone.

PURVI PATEL ALBERS
Alumni Committee Chair



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SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR STORIES

Shawn Askinosie
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Shawn Askinosie

Criminal Defense Lawyer Finds Calling in Chocolate

In 2006, Shawn Askinosie left a successful 20-year career as a criminal defense lawyer to start a bean-to-bar chocolate factory.

“You can find your calling and meaningful work. My ending just happened to be the ending of a murder trial. Yours might be something else,” Shawn said during a [Tedx Talk](#), where he shared his personal story and defining moments in his life.

“Where do we find our calling? It’s often located at the intersection of our skillset, what the world needs, and our passion,” he said. “My new passion emerged – making chocolate from scratch – during those years volunteering at the (palliative care) hospital. Within three months of that, I was in the Amazon learning how farmers grow cocoa beans.”

Shawn returned home to wind down his law practice and begin building a chocolate factory. Askinosie Chocolate is a now an award-winning chocolate

factory in Springfield, Mo. that sources 100% of its beans directly from farmers that it shares profits with on three continents.

SERVICE TO OTHERS

Shawn says he found his passion in life when he created space to serve someone other than himself. He has found opportunities to help others, particularly children, in the international chocolate supply chain.

Shawn joined 18 other small and mid-sized cocoa and chocolate companies as Amicus Curiae for Respondents in *Nestlé & Cargill v. Doe.*, which went to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Respondents claimed Nestlé and Cargill knowingly bought cocoa beans from farms in Africa that used child slave labor. Askinosie Chocolate and the other small companies filed an Amicus Brief supporting the rights of child slaves to have their day in court.

The legal team argued that there are other ways to make chocolate without using slaves.

“We are trying our best to eliminate and eradicate this problem,” Shawn said during a [podcast](#) discussing the case.

In 2020, the U.S. Department of Labor estimated that 1.58 million children were working to harvest cocoa in Ghana and the Ivory Coast where Nestlé, Cargill, Hershey, Mars, Barry Callebaut and others get most of their beans. About 70 percent of the world’s cocoa supply comes from those two countries.



social justice

Askinosie Chocolate was recently named "One of the 25 Best Small Companies in America" by *Forbes* and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, on *Bloomberg*, *MSNBC* and numerous other national and international media outlets. Owner Shawn Askinosie was named by *O, The Oprah Magazine*, "One of 15 Guys Who Are Saving the World."



Shawn and Lawren at
the chocolate factory



Pablo Sansot

Helps Build a Clean Mobility Ecosystem in Mexico, LATAM

Pablo Sansot grew up in Buenos Aires, the sophisticated capital of Argentina, but he yearned to see more of the world. Through the law, especially a three-and-a-half-year stint at Haynes Boone, he got his wish.

Pablo is now a business development and structuring lawyer with VEMO, an integrated clean tech mobility company led by affiliates of Riverstone Holdings LLC based in Mexico City. The company, with an innovative model, is committed to accelerating the clean mobility ecosystem in Mexico and the region. VEMO designs and implements customized solutions that combine charging infrastructure, clean mobility fleets, and advanced management technology. Via Zoom, Pablo and **Larry Pascal**, who chairs the firm's Americas practice and co-chairs its international group, sat down recently to discuss Pablo's unique career and experiences.

Pablo's parents were involved in the business end of farming, and he grew up hearing and talking about the importance of caring for the environment. He studied law at the Argentine Catholic University, and he worked as an associate at the prestigious Argentine law firm of Brons & Salas. He then received a scholarship to study his LL.M. in mineral law and policy at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

While Pablo was studying, Larry was looking for international associates to support the firm's work on a major project for American Airlines (AA) — integrating its international operations with US Airways, with which AA had recently merged. A Brons & Salas lawyer recommended Pablo to Larry. They met in London, and Larry hired Pablo to work in Dallas.

"We needed help in over 50 countries," including almost all of Latin America and the Caribbean, said Larry.

“It's very fulfilling. I feel proud when I see VEMO electric cars and trucks on the road.”

CAREER TAKES FLIGHT

Pablo's assignment at Haynes Boone coincided with an engagement with historical significance: assisting AA's effort to initiate and provide regularly scheduled service between the United States and Cuba for the first time since the Cuban revolution. AA had been flying a few dozen charter flights yearly to the Communist island since 1991, but regular, scheduled service between the two nations hadn't been open since the U.S. embargo started 30 years earlier.

Once a month, Pablo headed to Havana for face-to-face meetings with government officials, usually in offices adorned by photographs of Fidel Castro and Che Guevara. "They liked me because I was from Argentina, which is where Che grew up," Pablo recalled.

Pablo said the Cuba project presented unique challenges due to the embargo. Pascal concurred, noting that it was nevertheless a remarkable experience.

While at the firm, Pablo also worked with his close friend César Ramirez, a foreign counsel in the Dallas office, on the AA-US Air international integration, Cuba-related work, and other projects.

American launched its Cuba service in 2016, and even though U.S. relations with the island suffered during the prior

administration (although the Biden Administration announced some recent liberalization measures as to Cuba), AA still offers scheduled service to Cuba.

Pablo moved to the firm's Mexico City office, and after he and his wife had a son, they moved back to Argentina, where he worked for an oil and gas company that expanded heavily into the "Vaca Muerta" formation, encouraged by the huge shale reserves, and in Mexico offshore blocks, motivated by the country's 2013 energy reform that opened the door to private investment in the sector. Two years later, a new professional opportunity brought the family back to Mexico City.

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Pablo says VEMO is the only fully-integrated, clean-mobility platform in Mexico and Latin America. It services high-utilization transportation modalities where clean mobility can be competitive, including public transport systems; private companies with commercial fleets; and drivers of ride-hailing and last-mile delivery platforms.

The company is growing fast, a benefit to the battle against climate change. It recently secured an agreement to purchase 1,000 electric vehicles that will be working on its ride-hailing business unit in Mexico City through a strategic partnership with Uber.

Putting these electric vehicles in the large metropolis of Mexico City and other cities around the country, Pablo said, will reduce by approximately 10,000 tons the amount of annual carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere and have the equivalent effect of planting one million trees per year.

Since its founding, VEMO has had in place an environmental, societal and governance (ESG) framework and roadmap that emphasize continuous improvement, measuring its impact against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

VEMO is the only fully-integrated, clean-mobility platform in Mexico and Latin America

"It's very fulfilling," said Pablo. "I feel proud when I see VEMO electric cars and trucks on the road."

Larry said he hopes Pablo's experience will encourage other lawyers to take advantage of international programs at U.S. law firms.

"It was a life-changer," said Pablo.

"The learning goes both ways," Larry responded. "The presence of foreign lawyers at the firm enriches us as well."

Punam Kaji

Provides The Podium for Asian American Women Lawyers

Punam Kaji was like everyone else at the beginning of the pandemic two years ago—seeking new ways to connect with family, friends and colleagues. An in-house counsel in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Punam joined a small group of other Asian American women lawyers who hopped onto Zoom calls to break quarantine isolation.

They compared notes on common concerns, such as being first-generation lawyers without a network of family and friends already in the business. This idea led them to form The Podium, a unique group supporting Asian American women lawyers in the Metroplex. Unlike a bar association that hosts programs for large numbers, The Podium is limited to seven members each year. They become one another’s personal “board of directors” to listen, advise, amplify and hold each another accountable for their career goals.

“The Podium can be that community of multigenerational lawyers that we are often missing,” says Punam, who started her legal career at Haynes Boone.

One feature of The Podium, which is registered as a 501(c)(6) nonprofit association, involves working with a co-founder who is a lawyer-turned-career consultant, Ann Sheu, to develop a 10-year plan that is assessed every quarter.

Punam says Podium members “need to think broadly about their lives.” Everyone is committed to keeping conversations confidential so that members can explore what they truly want to do. “If we didn’t do that,” Punam adds, “everyone would say their ambition is to make partner or become the general counsel.” (Naturally, this group of attorneys also developed a recusal plan in case two members find themselves or their clients in conflict.)

Punam says Asian American female attorneys still must endure stereotypes that they will always be “worker bees” and “not natural leaders.” In addition to the internal focus of their personal “board of directors” meetings, The Podium also branches out beyond its circle to spotlight the work of its members and the Asian American female legal community.

“We lean into The Podium’s core values of being authentic and bold,” she says, “with our own set of goals.”

Punam learned the significance of being true to herself when she was a Haynes Boone summer associate after both her first and second years of law school. An inveterate storyteller, she found that she preferred the human narratives in litigation to the transactions and deals of corporate law. Upon graduating, Punam joined Haynes Boone’s litigation team and carved a niche in employment law, diving

into clients’ efforts to improve their workplace cultures.

Punam grew up in San Antonio, raised by parents who had emigrated to the U.S. from India. Before turning ten, she was drawn to public speaking and, moved by dramatic court room scenes in movies like “A Time to Kill.” She thought she understood what lawyers did and contemplated joining the profession.

Punam studied government, public policy and lawmaking at the University of Texas at Austin and decided that law school was the best place to pursue her interests further. She graduated from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law in 2012 and came to work at Haynes Boone in Dallas and eventually worked in the Houston office as well.

Punam credits Haynes Boone Partners **Matthew Deffebach** in Houston and **Melissa Goodman** in Dallas with teaching her “what client service means and what being a lawyer means for clients.”

Matt, she notes, showed her how to interact with clients, especially when speaking to clients without law degrees. Punam likens the challenge of nonlawyer clients understanding their counsel to patients who can’t comprehend what their doctors are saying. She learned to explain clients’ legal matters so they understand how their businesses, employees or cultures could be affected.

“That helped me go in-house,” says Punam, who spent three years as assistant general counsel

at Ben E. Keith Company, a food and beverage distributor, and last year became senior legal counsel for labor and employment at Fidelity Investments.

At Ben E. Keith, Punam was a one-woman department, while she’s part of a team at Fidelity. But she says employment issues are consistent, as everyone must handle people taking time off work, managing performance and coordinating with a human resources department.

Punam says she is most in her element training clients’ managers to navigate employee issues—recognizing risks, catching them early and creating a setting where employees can resolve their problems internally.

She says of her field, “It’s about people and how they engage with each other and the world.”

That makes her legal practice a lot like her passion project, The Podium.



Members of The Podium

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR STORIES



By the age of 10, C.E. knew he wanted to be a lawyer because the lawyers he saw on television had one goal – to help people. He also wanted to make sure no one ever took advantage of his loved ones.

C.E. Rhodes

Life on the Inside

In the below Q&A, C.E. Rhodes discusses his road to success, the steps he took to become a member of Frost Bank's executive team as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, and the importance of relationships.

Q: WHAT LED YOU TO YOUR CURRENT ORGANIZATION?

A: In April 2021, I received a call from a friend about a general counsel position for a bank in the Northeast. After receiving the call, I contacted the only bank general counsel that I knew, James Waters, whom I met and became friends with while working at Haynes Boone. James and I spoke for two hours about banking regulations and trends. Two days later, James called to let me know that he was leaving Frost and to gauge my interest in pursuing the opportunity to be his successor. The rest, they say, is history.

Q: WHAT WAS IT LIKE FOR YOU DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

A: In February 2020, I moved to New York City to work for a publicly traded natural gas power-generation company as its first Chief Compliance Officer. Just one month later, New York City would become the epicenter of COVID-19 in the U.S. During the pandemic, I never stopped going into the office. The only real change was my commute. Instead of taking the subway, I walked to and from the office every day. It was great exercise and gave me a chance to see the city without the normal hustle and bustle. My role and responsibilities also expanded. I served as global employment counsel, worked on international project development transactions, and even created and led hurricane simulation training (as we had assets in the Gulf of Mexico).

I also traveled quite a bit during the pandemic. In 2021, I traveled to South America twice in connection with the acquisition of a foreign company. On a personal note, my father passed in May 2020. For the months that followed, I flew back and forth to Virginia every month to take care of his affairs and check on my mother.

Q: WHY IS FROST BANK'S MISSION IMPORTANT TO YOU?

A: Frost's mission is important to me because it aligns with who I am both personally and professionally. At Frost, the focus is on building and maintaining meaningful relationships by providing best-in-class service and conducting our business in accordance with high ethical standards. We believe everyone is significant and treat people with respect whether they have \$2 or \$2 million dollars in their account. In addition, there is relentless focus on providing a phenomenal customer experience.

Growing up in a small town, I learned to treat everyone with respect because news travels fast. If you are a jerk to anyone, everyone knows it. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to do business and make friends with people from all over the world and different walks of life. I have found that people across the globe have more things in common than differences – like our values. And, I believe life is really about the relationships you develop with the

FROST MISSION STATEMENT:

We will grow and prosper, building long-term relationships based on top-quality service, high ethical standards and safe, sound assets.

people you meet. My life continues to be enriched as a result of those relationships.

Q: CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT AN INITIATIVE THAT YOU HAVE WORKED ON IN YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

A: This year, I led the re-design of the company's proxy statement. This initiative gave me an opportunity to work with several of my peers in Finance and Human Resources. We were successfully able to present information clearly in a way that was most useful to our shareholders based upon the feedback received.

Q: WHAT DID YOU GAIN FROM YOUR TIME AT HAYNES BOONE?

A: I learned to practice law the right way from extremely bright and skilled lawyers. Most importantly, take the high road, do not fabricate or omit facts for any client, and always maintain credibility with the court.

Q: WHAT IS THE MOST FULFILLING PART ABOUT YOUR JOB AS GC AND CORPORATE SECRETARY OF THE BANK?

A: I enjoy being a true *counselor at law*. I serve as a trusted advisor to the CEO and the Board of Directors. I also enjoy being a leader in the company and the community.

Q: WHAT IS IT LIKE TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FELLOW ALUM JAMES WATERS?

A: It is very helpful to be able pick up the phone and discuss the background, strategy, and risks relating to a matter with which your predecessor is intimately familiar. Understanding the personalities and history of the decision-making process from a legal perspective is invaluable.

Q: WHAT IS IT LIKE TO HAVE THE NEXT GENERATION OF HB ALUMS ON YOUR TEAM – CHRIS CASTILLO?

A: In sum, very exciting. Knowing where and how someone learned to practice law contributes to the speed and ease of trust. Having trained at the same place (albeit different times), there is a high level of trust between us.

The Lawyer, The Legacy, The Legend

*Below, a few Haynes Boone colleagues share thoughts about their friends and recent retirees, **Bill Hays**, **Jan Sharry** and **Joe Vilardo**.*

WILLIAM HAYS III, PARTNER

Bill is highly regarded as one of the top-rated securities and corporate finance lawyers in Dallas. For those who know him, it is difficult to distill Bill's many wonderful qualities into one sentence. Bill always maintains a positive outlook, manages to inspire those working for him, never appears flustered, and never raises his voice in anger, his friends and colleagues say.

"Bill's calm demeanor, acute legal reasoning, and practical leadership during stressful transactions taught a generation of lawyers how to successfully advocate for a client, lead that client through complicated negotiations, and win the respect of his peers and adversaries," said Partner **Paul Amiel**.

"Bill is an uncommonly good man and still inspires me daily," said Senior Counsel **Brian Barnard**. "Not only was he one of the best lawyers I have ever known, but he also set the best example for the kind of lawyer I wanted to be. On top of that, he loved to tell a good joke and always had the most positive attitude even in the toughest of circumstances."



JAN SHARRY, PARTNER

Jan is widely recognized as a leading corporate securities and mergers and acquisitions lawyer. She recently retired from Haynes Boone after 45 years at the firm.

Jan is also known as a trailblazer in the legal industry who has devoted countless hours to furthering the cause of women lawyers and other female professionals. "Jan has been a fierce advocate for women and has made a real difference. I know that many women in this room owe much to Jan, and I count myself among them," Senior Counsel **Nina Cortell** said during a celebration for Jan in March.



Many of Jan's friends and colleagues shared stories during the celebration and toasted her accomplishments – including the fact that she joined Haynes Boone when most Dallas firms were not hiring women lawyers. She was the first woman lawyer in the firm's corporate group and one of the first women lawyers to work at Haynes Boone while also raising a family.

"On a personal note, thank you Jan for the role you've played in my career – for being a mentor and friend," Partner **Sakina Foster** said during the celebration. "And from all of us – especially the women in the room –

thank you, Jan, for showing us how it's done – how to build a wildly successful career, maintain deep friendships while doing it, and rocking the boat a little (or a lot) to advocate for ourselves."

JOSEPH VILARDO, SENIOR COUNSEL

Joe retired as a top-rated banking and finance lawyer in Houston, where his practice focused on representing financial institutions and energy companies.

"Joe was the guy to go to if you had a particularly difficult issue on energy finance," said Partner **Buddy Clark**.

He explained that Joe had: an engineering background working for a large interstate pipeline analyzing gas reserves – and for an energy bank analyzing producers' oil and gas reserves; a banking background working for Continental Illinois Bank & Trust making energy loans; and experience as a workout banker in the '80s when the market turned upside down. It was in the '80s, working with lawyers on energy loan workouts, that Joe decided to get a law degree.

"Joe was like the Farmers Insurance™ ad: 'He knew a thing or two, because he had seen a thing or two,'" Buddy said.

Partner **Brad Richards** added: "Joe has qualities we all want in a good lawyer: absolute attention to detail, a keen and discerning eye, and a commitment to the truth. His insights on legal matters were legendary in the energy section."

Colleagues also describe Joe as a humble fellow. For example, "Many people never knew that he played with a cover band to make money during school, with concerts all around New Jersey," Brad said.

Joe was also proud of being "an ex-Con," Buddy jokes. "He had a network of other ex-Con energy bankers with whom he shared a common background. They all were bankers let go after Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Company failed in the late 1980s."



Haynes Boone Recognized for Diversity Efforts

Haynes Boone has earned a 100 percent rating in the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation’s Corporate Equality Index (CEI) and the distinction of being one of the “Best Places to Work for LGBTQ Equality” for four consecutive years.

The CEI is a national benchmarking tool that measures policies, practices and benefits provided to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) employees.

“Earning a perfect score in the CEI for four consecutive years is evidence of the firm’s sustained work to create a supportive and inclusive environment for all of our lawyers and professional staff,” said Partner **Sharon Jones**, the firm’s Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Officer.



Introducing Christopher Orford



We chatted with **Christopher Orford** about his experience as Haynes Boone’s first Trainee Solicitor in our London office. Over the past two years, Chris has worked on interesting assignments ranging from arbitrations to IPOs.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE?

A: Being the first of anything is always interesting as it’s a learning

experience for everyone. To then do this in the middle of a pandemic makes it even more challenging. I have really enjoyed the experience though, and having somewhat restricted access to colleagues has meant that I have had to develop a degree of “independence” – and that’s something which would normally take longer to develop. I have been able to experience a range of different practice areas and have been given some incredibly interesting work to get on with.

Q: WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE ON A CAREER IN LAW?

A: It is a career I have always been interested in. I developed a real interest in school where I first had an opportunity to study law (albeit in a limited capacity). Reading law at university reaffirmed my interest – and particularly as I began to understand that legal systems really underpin everything that goes on around the world.

Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST FULFILLING PART OF YOUR TIME WITH THE FIRM?

A: While I have been fortunate to work on a number of interesting matters, one highlight was the pro bono work I completed in helping a client claim unpaid wages against a former employer.

Q: WHAT IS A FUN OR INTERESTING FACT ABOUT YOURSELF THAT OTHERS MAY NOT KNOW?

A: I have two miniature dachshunds, Zeus and Kleio.

Q: HAVE YOU EVER VISITED THE UNITED STATES? IF SO, WHAT WERE YOUR TAKE-AWAYS FROM YOUR VISIT?

A: I have been to the U.S. a few times, although only to Florida and L.A. and all for holidays. I have always felt that the U.S is just so massive and I know that I have only really scratched the surface in the short visits I have had so far.

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Dan Geyser SUPREME COURT PRACTICE CHAIR

Partner **Daniel Geyser** is considered one of the nation’s leading Supreme Court and appellate lawyers. As chair of Haynes Boone’s U.S. Supreme Court Practice, Dan secured an 8-1 win this April in *Badgerow v. Walters*, a landmark arbitration case he argued for the petitioner, Denise Badgerow, back in the Court’s November sitting.

Also in April, Dan again presented oral argument before the Court in *Siegel v. Fitzgerald*, a constitutional challenge to a federal statute increasing quarterly trustee fees in large Chapter 11 bankruptcies. Dan argued on behalf of Alfred Siegel, the trustee of the Circuit City Liquidating Trust. Dan and the firm’s appellate team convinced the Court to grant review earlier in January, his second cert. grant of the Term.

With these two cases, Dan has now argued 13 U.S. Supreme Court cases in private practice, more than any other active Texas or Colorado lawyer. And in the past half-decade, Dan ranks among the top five lawyers nationwide for total U.S. Supreme Court arguments in private practice.

“I have seen firsthand the extent to which companies crave the unique insights Dan can offer about how to distill and craft arguments so that they win the day on appeal,” said Appellate Partner **Ben Mesches**, co-chair of litigation at the firm.

Dan and the firm have three more cert. petitions pending (in high-profile disputes involving the False Claims Act, federal tax penalties, and the Speedy Trial Act), among other major cases pending in federal courts of appeals across the country.



Haynes Boone Partner Dan Geyser with his wife, Cara, on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Haynes Boone Promotes 13 Lawyers to Partner in 2022

Haynes Boone promoted 13 lawyers to partnership in January 2022, creating the most diverse partnership class in the firm’s history. The new partners are **Raquel Alvarenga, Robert Bruner, Jamie Carter, Matt Costello, Tiffany Ferris, Maria Hopper, Mini Kapoor, Jennifer Kreick, Kim Mai, Kinne Manente, Arsalan Muhammad, Courtney Smith, and Alan Wang.**



“The class is a byproduct of our sustained commitment over many years to recruit and train associates in a fair and equitable manner, providing them with meaningful client and leadership responsibilities so that they are well-equipped to represent our clients and lead us into the future,” said Haynes Boone Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer **Sharon E. Jones**.



In addition, in March 2022, the firm promoted 11 lawyers to counsel: **Kelli Bills, Calmann Clements, Emily Fuller, Daniel Kwok, Taryn McDonald, Nick Monier, Kristin Santamaria, Hong Shi, Michael Smith, Robin Smith, and Michael Stoner.**

The new partnership class includes 69% women and 62% racial and ethnic minorities. The new counsel class includes 55% women and 27% racial and ethnic minorities.

KERRY ALEXANDER

(Dallas / LIT / '89)
After leaving HB in 1991, Kerry practiced law in Santa Barbara and San Diego until 1998, when he returned to his home state of Oklahoma to manage a friend's campaign for state treasurer. In 2001, he joined TIAA's college savings division and is now a senior director who has managed state 529 plans across the country for the past 21 years. He married his college sweetheart, Carol, in 2002 and founded and still chairs the Remember the Ten (10k/5k) Run (honoring 10 members of Oklahoma State's basketball team that died in a 2001 plane crash). He and Carol spend their time raising their four sons, traveling, playing tennis, and attending as many Oklahoma State events as possible.

ZACH ALLEN

(Dallas / FT / '88)
Zach is a member of Crowe & Dunlevy's real estate practice group in Oklahoma City. He

and his wife Lisa have three grown daughters and two granddaughters (note the pattern) and are enjoying empty nester life. While not working or paying for weddings, he serves as alumni advisor for his fraternity at OU (26 years and running), runs, enjoys watching OU beat Texas and drinks excellent craft beers and fine bourbon.

ALTRESHA Q. BURCHETT- WILLIAMS

(Dallas / LIT / '04)
Altresha is now the vice president - compliance oversight for AT&T's chief compliance office. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing 16 compliance programs as well as open and emerging risks spanning AT&T Communications, AT&T Latin America and AT&T Corporate. Additionally, she is responsible for advancing data analytics, machine learning and use of key risk indicators and collaborating with senior leaders regarding the risk profile for each business unit.

CHIP COE

(Dallas / FT / '85)
Chip relocated from Colorado to London, and then to Michigan, where he serves as senior vice president - mergers and acquisitions for Wolverine Worldwide Inc. Chip lives in Grand Rapids with his wife, Dr. Jeanne Eyde, and her children. Chip's sons continue to live in Colorado (Vail and Steamboat Springs), so he and Jeanne are frequent visitors to the mountains.

THERESA EINHORN

(Houston / FT / '77)
Theresa served this year as co-chair of the annual Greater Houston Conference for Women sponsored by the Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce (GHWCC). Theresa serves on the Board of the GHWCC, a nonprofit business organization dedicated to the advancement and empowerment of women through avenues of leadership, education, advocacy and mentoring. Haynes Boone is a member of the GHWCC,

and HB Partner Ann Al-Bahish was recently inducted into the GHWCC Hall of Fame, recognizing her service to the Houston community.

LAWRENCE "LARRY" FINDER

(Houston / LIT / '76)
Larry appears in the three-part Netflix documentary, "Conversations with a Killer: The John Wayne Gacy Tapes," which premiered on April 20, 2022.

GARY FINIGUERRA

(New York / FT / '05)
After celebrating a year working at Mint House, a leading tech-enabled residential hospitality start-up, Gary was promoted to director of legal. Mint House recently completed a \$35 million Series B round of funding. Gary still loves living in New Jersey and traveling to New York City to visit his old friends at HB.

HENRY FLORES

(Houston / FT / '92)
Henry has practiced law with fellow HB alum Ken Krock and more recently Brian Antweil at the law firm Rapp & Krock in Houston. He has had no big personal milestones or interesting international trips since the fall of 2019, when he and his wife Alicia saw mountain gorillas in Uganda and lions and other amazing wildlife on a walking safari in a remote part of Tanzania.

JESSICA FREEDSON

(Houston / LIT / '02)
Jessica's daughter, Amara, is graduating high school in June and heading to Texas A&M University in the fall to study animal science. She'll be the first Aggie in the family, and her parents are very proud.

JENNIFER GREENLIEF

(Houston / LIT / '08)
Jennifer serves as the assistant commissioner and general counsel to the West Virginia Department

of Agriculture. She has worked in state government in West Virginia for the past nine years, most recently serving as counsel to the Senate Judiciary and Government Organization committees. She recently began pursuing her MBA through the Wharton MBA For Executives Program at the University of Pennsylvania. She is expected to graduate from that program in May 2023.

NOEL HENSLEY

(Dallas / LIT / '78)
Noel has been taking classes to become a master naturalist so she can better appreciate the unspoiled property she bought last year in Williamson County.

PATRICIA HUBBARD

(Dallas / LIT / '95)
Patricia serves as vice president, general counsel, health system operations for Baylor Scott & White Health, the largest fully-integrated nonprofit health system in Texas. Patricia and her husband, Marc, have two sons.

THE FUN NEVER ENDS



ALUMNI AROUND THE GLOBE



Continued from previous page

Charlie is a junior at UT studying mechanical engineering, and Plan II Honors. John is a freshman at Sewanee, where he recently joined the Sewanee Volunteer Fire Department. The whole family dotes on their Shepherd mix, Howard.

LARRY HUELBIG

(Houston / LIT / '69)
Larry married Carol Trout on November 26, 2022. (Larry's first wife, Carol Huelbig, passed away in July 2020.)

JENNIFER INGRAM

(San Antonio / LIT / '02)
Jennifer joined the San Antonio Water System in February 2022 as senior corporate counsel overseeing litigation and employment. Her Zoom meetings continue to feature her six dogs in the background.

STACEY JERNIGAN

(Dallas / FT / '89)
Stacey became chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas on June 1, 2022. On March 22, 2022, she

published her second legal thriller novel, *Hedging Death* (White Bird Publications LLC), available on Amazon or anywhere books are sold.

ELISABETH (RAIN) KINCAID

(Dallas / LIT / '05)
Elisabeth was recently appointed to serve as the Legendre-Soulé Chair in Business Ethics & Director of the Center for Ethics and Economic Justice at the College of Business at Loyola University New Orleans. As director, she will be developing programs focused on ethical formation and service for graduate and undergraduate business students.

KENNETH KROCK

(Houston / LIT / '96)
Ken and law partner Brad Rapp celebrated the 12th year of their firm, Rapp & Krock, in 2022. It grew from four lawyers and six overall employees to 13 lawyers (including two HB alums, Brian Antweil and Henry Flores) and 21 employees. Personally, Ken is about to celebrate his daughter graduating from high school and heading off to college in the fall.

CHRISTINA MARKELL-BALLEZA

(Dallas / BT / '03)
Christina was recently promoted to managing director for CAPTRUST, where she also serves as general counsel and a member of the company's board of directors.

WOLF MCGAVRAN

(Houston / LIT / '10)
In January 2022, Wolf was promoted to partner at McGuireWoods LP, where he continues to practice commercial litigation with a focus on technology, banking, energy and trade secret matters. Wolf lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Krista, and two young boys. He misses Houston real estate prices.

JULIAN MITHANI

(Houston / FT / '07)
Julian runs strategic initiatives for SmartAC.com, an IOT tech startup, and also recently launched a retail energy brokerage platform called Energy Bill Rewards. He still lives in the Houston Heights with his wife, Katie, and 3-year-old son, Noah, and enjoys playing in a weekly tennis league.

AUDREY MROSS

(Dallas / LIT / '94)
Audrey is still co-chairing the employment & labor group at Munck Wilson Mandala LLP with fellow HB alum Michael McCabe. Audrey recently bought a condo in Manhattan, Kansas, as a landing pad for K-State meetings, football games and (eventually) retirement. Direct flights from DFW to MHK make it easy to serve on four K-State boards (College of Business Administration dean's advisory, Foundation Trustees, Pre-Law advisory and Athletics National Leadership Circle). And Audrey continues to lead the K-State alumni club (7,000+ strong) for the DFW area. Go Cats!

BRENNA NAVA

(San Antonio / BT / '07)
Brenna was promoted to vice president & deputy general counsel, chief privacy officer at Rackspace Technology. She is no longer trying cases against her husband, who has his own litigation boutique firm in San Antonio, A Nava & Glander. Now, they enjoy drinking wine in the Hill Country, providing free ride share services for their three kids and traveling when they can.

ABIGAIL OTTMERS

(San Antonio / FT / '02)
In July 2021, Abi joined Port San Antonio as chief legal officer. Port San Antonio is a dynamic hub of aerospace, cybersecurity, robotics, defense, entertainment and education housed on the former Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio. Abi also proudly serves on the City Year San Antonio board.

STAN PERRY

(Houston / LIT / '90)
In addition to his Reed Smith roles as energy and natural resources vice chair and global pro bono director, Stan is an adjunct professor at Baylor Law School's Executive LL.M. in Litigation Management. Since 2019, Stan has co-taught a class on alternative fee agreements.

MELINDA RICKETTS PHELAN

(Dallas / BT / '94)
Melinda was elected to the global executive committee at Baker McKenzie, where she has been practicing tax law since 1996.

J. DAVID ROWE

(Austin / LIT / '95)
David joined Munck Wilson Mandala as a commercial litigation partner in November 2021. He works in the firm's South Austin office, and the firm includes HB alumni Michael McCabe and Audrey Mross.

FRANCES SMITH

(Dallas / FT / '01)
Frances is the chair-elect of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Texas. She is a partner at Ross & Smith, PC, a bankruptcy boutique firm. She and her husband John are enjoying their new home in Ellis County.

RICHARD STROHMENGER

(New York / BT / '10)
Richard was promoted to chief counsel - global funds at Värde Partners in January 2022, and he and his wife, Bari, are expecting their second child in September!

MARCELO DEN TOOM

(Houston / BT / '98)
Marcelo has been working for 29 years at Bomchil, a well-known law firm in Argentina. He runs the firm's antitrust department. His



ALUMNI IN THE COMMUNITY



18-year old daughter is making her way as a pop singer, and dad is happy she did not decide to pursue a legal career!

KELLY TURNER

(Dallas / FT / '95)
Kelly is serving as the current president of the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel.

JASON VILLALBA

(Dallas - North / BT / '96)
Jason has been appointed general counsel and senior vice president of Associations Inc. (Associa), a Dallas-based property management company with communities in over 35 states and in Canada. Jason and his wife have three children: Sophia attends Booker T. Washington High School, and Elena and George attend Dealey Montessori International School. Jason enjoys coaching George's soccer team and being let down annually by the Dallas Cowboys.

ROBERT WILSON

(Dallas / BT / '05)
Robert was recently promoted to senior associate general counsel at the University of Central Florida, where he is responsible for research transactions and compliance. His wife, April, currently a registered nurse, will graduate in August with her doctorate in nursing and will become a nurse practitioner. They are busy raising their two daughters and son.

VICTOR WRIGHT

(Houston / LIT / '98)
Victor has accepted a new job position with Baker Hughes as vice president, global labor and employment law. He began his new position in June 2022.

JAMES WYSS

(Fort Worth / BT / '96)
James was promoted to managing director at JP Morgan Chase in 2020. His oldest daughter graduated from UT Austin McCombs School of Business in May 2022 and will finish her master's degree in accounting in May 2023. She will be starting with Deloitte tax in Austin in the fall of 2023. His wife, Carla, is cancer-free after battling cancer from 2012 to 2018. Their other two children, Morgan and Preston, will be a senior and junior, respectively, in Aledo High School next year.

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In Memoriam

We remember our friends and colleagues who have passed away – they will be missed. We send our condolences to their families.



SHARON FREYTAG
(Dallas / LIT)
May 11, 1943 –
January 24, 2022



ANDREW WEISSMAN
(Washington, D.C. / BT)
February 17, 1949 –
September 5, 2021

BOOMERANG EFFECT

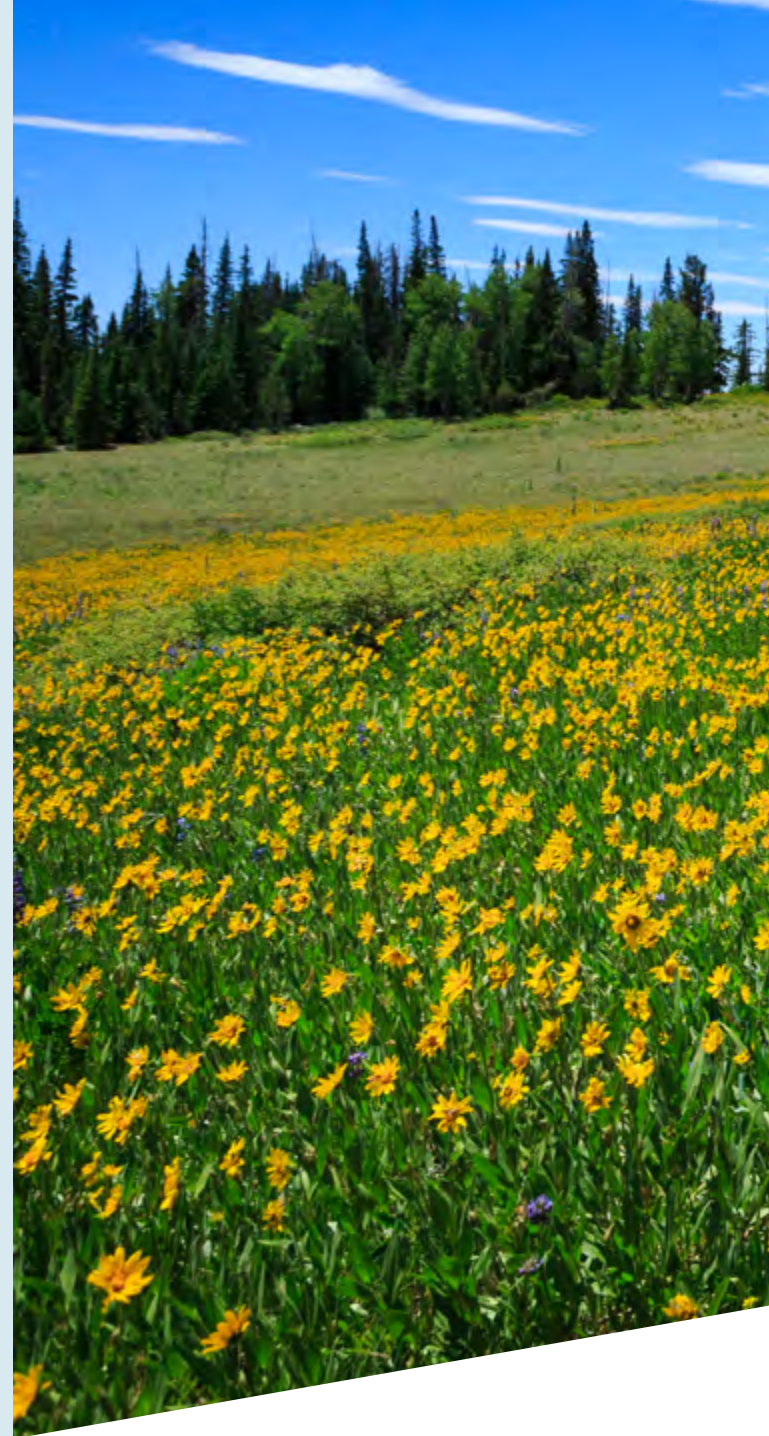
Ken Parker

(ORANGE COUNTY / LITIGATION/ '85)

In February, Partner **Kenneth Parker** rejoined the firm's Intellectual Property (IP) Litigation Practice after spending two years at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP.

"It's great to be back home," Ken said. "Haynes Boone's deep IP litigation bench, culture, and strong presence in California and in other major markets nationwide positions the firm for continued growth and success, and I am excited to be a part of that."

Ken previously served as chair of the firm's IP Litigation Practice. A first-chair trial lawyer who has tried patent, trademark, and business cases to verdict, Ken is also known for leading cohesive and dynamic trial teams, often built across offices and practices, to best serve clients.



A NOTE FROM ALUMNI RELATIONS

Upon returning from maternity leave, I got to review an initial draft of the *HB Connections* issue you have just read. My colleagues seamlessly took over the task of reaching out to gather the connections made, dinners shared, and stories told since our last issue and turned them into this visually compelling story. I hope you enjoy the fruits of their labor. It's a truth of our alumni community, and it's also a truth of the team which serves you: when we come together in community, we push the limits of what is possible individually. Because I cannot take credit for this magazine, I've replaced my headshot below with a picture of the fruit of my efforts over the past five months, introducing, Faith Michele Higgins, born February 17, 2022.

As always, if we can serve you or a community you serve through our alumni relations efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

With gratitude,
Laura

FAITH HIGGINS
Born February 17, 2022



CONNECT

Get connected to your next job opportunity with our alumni job board at haynesboone.com/alumni.

GROW

We offer regular CLE opportunities, both live and pre-recorded. For more information contact AlumniCLE@haynesboone.com.

SHARE

Join our LinkedIn Alumni Group and share your story about why giving back to the community is important to you.

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