

Debbie McComas to Receive 2020 United Way GIVE Award for Support, Advocacy

February 27, 2020 Debbie McComas

PRACTICES Litigation, Appellate

Haynes Boone Partner [Debbie McComas](#) will receive the 2020 United Way GIVE Award at the organization's awards luncheon on April 30 in Dallas. The award is given to an individual who inspires others to contribute resources to United Way programs.

The United Way of Metropolitan Dallas (UWMD) will recognize McComas for her support and leadership of the firm's annual United Way Campaign last fall and her involvement in the organization's Women of Tocqueville Society, a group of dynamic leaders from all sectors of industry work together to create positive, long-term change. Members volunteer as youth mentors, meet with Texas legislators about improving childcare standards, and travel to Washington, D.C., to advocate on Capitol Hill.

"Debbie was nominated by our United Way staff for her commitment to moving the needle at Haynes Boone and for her continued support, advocacy and leadership of United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and the employee giving campaign," said Jennifer Hilton Sampson, president and CEO of UWMD.

McComas is a partner in Haynes Boone's Business Litigation and Appellate Practice Groups and a dedicated community servant. She has been involved in the Tocqueville Society for several years and said the group opened her eyes to United Way charities that she did not know existed.

"If I were just making donations on my own, those unknown but important organizations might not see the funding they need to survive. Through my involvement with the Tocqueville Society, I have also witnessed how the United Way brings together those with the means to make a difference and motivates them to affect positive change in our community," McComas said. "So, when [Managing Partner] [Tim Powers](#) asked me to take up the reigns of our annual funding campaign, I was thrilled by the opportunity to share my experiences with the United Way with my colleagues and to hopefully have some fun along the way."

Under her leadership, Haynes Boone's 2019 United Way Campaign raised \$109,237 with the help of a \$25,000 contribution from the firm and a six-week schedule of fundraisers that included an on-site craft fair, a holiday party, breakfasts and lunches and off-site events that McComas helped organize and promote. In addition to the fundraising activities, firm employees were encouraged to give their time through participation in volunteer opportunities for United Way charities. The firm typically raises more than \$100,000 each year during the campaign.

McComas, who previously served as co-chair of the firm's Pro Bono and Public Service Committee, has received a number of accolades for her pro bono work, including the Texas Defender Service Light of Justice Award for providing pro bono representation in death penalty cases. She is also listed in the 2020 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* directory published by Woodward/White, Inc.