



Denton County Lawyer

Volume 122, Issue 3

July/August 2012

www.dentonbar.com

Dedicated to Someone We Love

By Julia Kerestine, DCAP Mediator and Board Member, www.juliakerestine.com.



If any of you have recently sensed a shift in the universe, you are not alone and you are not imagining things. On June 28th, our beloved Michelle Houston moved on from her position as Executive Director of the Denton County Bar Association (DCBA) and Denton County Alternate Dispute Resolution Program (DCAP) to take a position as Community Resource Manager for Denton County Friends of the Family.

We will miss her work and efforts on behalf of DCBA and DCAP, and we will especially miss her presence, her smiling face, her positive attitude, and her enthusiasm for DCBA, DCAP, and for life. Our loss is definitely a gain for Friends of the Family, and if we have to lose her, then we can be comforted to know that she will be working with for a most worthy local cause.

When asked to write this article, I found myself overwhelmed for I believe that I am impotent to sufficiently describe Michelle's talents and gifts that she most graciously and generously shared with our bar association and individual members. I am grateful for the

opportunities I have had to work with her and for the gift of her friendship.

Regardless of the difficulty and challenges of her job, Michelle has always created the perception that it is fun and easy, even when it is not. This gift of hers invites others to participate, contribute, and to bring their best game to the table.

Michelle first started working for DCAP and DCBA in 2004. She was here for the ribbon-cutting of DCBA's first office at 525 N. Locust Street and administered DCAP's first mediations there. That first year, DCAP averaged about 168 mediations a year; for this upcoming year, DCAP's goal is to host 275 mediation sessions.

When Michelle was first hired, she was given no official title, but soon her unofficial title became "Calendar Girl" based on her role as mediation administrator for DCAP. Her unofficial title while tending to DCBA bar duties became "Bar Tender." Both titles are

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From the President

Since I took office, many members have asked what they could do to be more involved in our DCBA. Active, involved members are the best way to ensure the continued growth and success of our organization. Since learning that our beloved Executive Director, Michelle Houston, was leaving us, even more people have approached me to learn how to help.

Our Bar association is led by its officers and directors. Most of our directors chair one, if not more, of the committees that actually take care of the day-to-day functions of our organization. I believe that every one of these directors/chairpersons would love to have members help them, but here are some of our immediate needs:

Membership Committee

Our goal this year is to increase our membership to more than 400 members by the end of September. Our membership committee chairperson, Leah Harbour, is well on her way to that goal. We already have the highest participation percentage of lawyers located within its county boundaries in the entire state. Leah would appreciate

any help she could get in reaching our goal, and, hopefully, even exceeding it.

Social Committee

Brent Hill, with Leah Harbour's assistance, chairs our social committee. We host more bar-sponsored events than just about any bar association in the state. Our kick-off party this past month was a blast, and we have many new and exciting events calendared for this upcoming year. Contact Brent if you're interested in helping make sure that the upcoming events continue to be as successful as those in the past.

Pro Bono Committee

Vicki Isaacks is coordinating a number of subcommittees this year all centered around the idea of lawyers giving back to the community. These include our Pro Bono Committee, Wills for Heroes Committee, and Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans, among others. Please contact Vicki if you would like to assist in any of these projects. Many of these have earned statewide recognition.



Duane L. Coker, President

CLE Committee

CLE committee members work together and with co-chairs, Julia Kerestine and Virginia Moore, to identify appropriate speakers for monthly bar meetings and work hand with peers, speakers and judges to plan and present courses sponsored by DCBA. Please email Julia with "I VOLUNTEER" in the subject line to assist with this committee.

Our other fine committees would never turn down extra help as well. Talk to a committee chairperson at the next meeting in August and find out how you can get more involved! It's up to all of us to make our bar association the best it can possibly be.

DCBA Officers

President, *Duane L. Coker*
Immediate Past President,
Dena A. Reecer
President-Elect,
Theodore D. Ogilvie
Vice President, *Amie Peace*
Treasurer, *Travis Biggs*
Secretary, *Vicki Isaacks*
CLE Director, *Julia Kerestine*

DCBA Directors

Leah Harbour, Brent Hill, Fon Laughlin, Andrew M. Lloyd, Virginia Moore, Jill O'Connell

DCBA Committee Chairs

Courts Committee,
Theodore D. Ogilvie
Library Board of Governors,
Andrew M. Lloyd
Social Committee, *Brent Hill*
CLE Committee, *Julia Kerestine*
Communications Committee,
Andrew M. Lloyd and Jill O'Connell
Fee Dispute, *John Rentz*
Pro Bono, *Cynthia Burkett and Vicki Isaacks*

Membership Awards, *Travis Biggs*
Planning Committee, *Dena A. Reecer*
Local Rules, *Theodore D. Ogilvie*

DCBA Sections

- Trial Lawyer's Association
- Family Law Section
- Greater Denton County Young Lawyers Association
- Real Estate, Trust, and Probate Law Section
- Criminal Law

DCBA Membership Your DCBA Membership includes

- Free and discounted CLE programs
- Monthly luncheon & happy hour
- Networking opportunities
- Listing on the bar website, including photo, two practice areas, and a link to your website.

For more information see our website: www.dentonbar.com.

Changes in DCAP Policies

By Darcy Loveless, Attorney at Law, Loveless & Loveless; www.cmloveless.com.

The DCAP Board of Directors has been gathering feedback from our volunteer mediators and reviewing our procedures. In order to address the feedback we received, the Board has adopted a new set of DCAP orders, applying to all cases filed in District Court, County Court, and Probate Court. The orders are available on the

- DCAP website: www.dentonadr.com/Forms/
- Denton Bar website: www.dentonbar.com/forms.shtml.

An issue that has been brought to our attention consistently since DCAP's inception is the fact that some cases are identified in the initial court order as a Level 2 mediation (\$150.00 per side), where the volunteer mediator does not get paid for his/her time, but is, in fact, a true volunteer for the day. Then, at mediation, it becomes apparent that actually, the case should have been identified as a Level 3 or 4 mediation (\$900.00 or \$1,500.00 per side), where the volunteer mediator should be getting paid a fee for his/her time spent at DCAP that day. This situation becomes frustrating for everyone concerned.

The New Order

Therefore, our new orders have the following safeguards that address this issue:

- If your case is brought under the Family Code, a summary inventory (attached to the DCAP order) must be completed and submitted to DCAP at least five days before mediation. Failure to

submit the summary inventory is grounds for the mediation to be cancelled and the \$150.00 cancellation fee assessed.

- If the summary inventory indicates a higher mediation level than the mediation level originally ordered, DCAP is granted authority to assess the appropriate (higher) mediation fee.
- The order clarifies that, in a divorce, a valuation dispute on the summary inventory means that the case will be considered to fall in to the highest level identified by a party on his/her summary inventory, and the appropriate mediation fee will be assessed.
- The order ratifies long-standing DCAP policy that if a mediator discovers during mediation that the wrong level has been assessed, DCAP shall assess the appropriate fee at that time. Since this becomes awkward for clients who expected to pay \$150.00 only to find they must pay \$900.00 to move forward with mediation, we strongly encourage attorneys to familiarize themselves with the appropriate level of the case before ever submitting a DCAP order to the Court for signature.
- The certification at the end of the order remains where—as the attorney—you must certify to the best of your knowledge, what level the case falls into.

Things to Know

Additional things you should know about the DCAP orders are:

- If your case has any issue of

domestic violence, it is incumbent on you to notify DCAP at least 21 days prior to mediation (or immediately, if the DCAP order is signed less than 21 days before mediation).

- DCAP requires payment for mediation at the scheduling of the mediation.
- Your mediation will not be set without the completed—including page 5—Order.

Although notice was previously sent out to all DCAP and Bar Association members, we also want to reiterate that the cancellation policy at DCAP has changed. In order to avoid the cancellation fee, your mediation must be cancelled 10 days prior to mediation. The deadline was shorter, but we were finding that it was impossible to use those cancelled dates to set other mediations on such short notice. We want to provide the best service to you, and we think that this longer cancellation time will allow us to fill in cancelled dates with other mediations, thereby handling more of your cases each month.

Please feel free to contact me (darcy@cmloveless.com) or any DCAP board member with questions.

Reminder!

DCAP will now be charging for DCAP Mediation reschedulings or cancellations that fall within 10 days of the scheduled date of mediation, starting immediately.

Supervised Visitation More Than Just Being There...

By Aaron Robb, M.Ed., NCC, LPC-S; www.texascounseling.org.

Recently I've received a number of orders for supervised visitation where the court has gone into great detail about what "supervised" means, including that the supervisor will be continuously present within line of sight and earshot of the parent and children in question. As I have always advocated for this as the basic definition of supervised visitation, it was odd but somewhat refreshing to see this specificity showing up in orders. That is, it was until I started hearing from my attorney colleagues about cases where the "supervisor" had been in another room, asleep, or otherwise not actually supervising a visit. It seems rather than a growing understanding of best practices in supervised visitation, it is the failures on the part of supervisors (professionals and lay persons alike) that are driving these improved orders. With that in mind I wanted to touch on a few tips, guidelines, and best practices for attorneys who are dealing with supervised visitation issues.

To start with, the paramount issue for any family assigned to supervised visitation is safety.¹ While this axiom might be self-evident, the implications are often lost in practice. Whether concerns over possible child abuse, family violence, substance abuse, or other problems have resulted in the court ordering supervised visitation, it is important for supervisors to be aware of why supervision has been ordered. Once alerted to these issues, supervisors can be more attentive to areas of greatest concern. For some

professionals this may also allow them to decline cases that might be outside their ability to provide services.² For non-professional supervisors (usually a relative or family friend), making sure they understand the court's concerns is the first step in assessing their ability to supervise. The non-professional who cannot at least acknowledge the concerns regarding a parent's behavior may be less likely to recognize if that parent is exhibiting those behaviors with the children. Worse, The supervisor who takes the "the parent would never..." approach may be blinded by bias and legitimately be unaware of transgressive behaviors even when they occur in the supervisor's presence.

Safety is more than just a physical consideration. Indeed, physical safety is often the easiest part of a supervised visit—it is unusual for a parent to be so impaired that they act out in such an obvious manner in front of a supervisor. Emotional safety is the more subtle, and often the more common, consideration at issue in supervised visits. Many parents do not understand how discussions regarding the court or ongoing litigation are inherently not child-friendly topics.

Discussion of parenting time arrangements with the children in question may inadvertently place them in the middle of their parents' conflict. When such communication is intentional, the goal is often to sway the children, placing an even greater

emotional burden on them. The parent who bemoans to the children how unfair it is that the other parent has "made this happen" or how it is the other parent's "fault" that they cannot take the children to Six Flags or other interesting destinations is clearly behaving inappropriately. Supervisors have to be able to recognize this behavior and intervene to protect the children involved. Recognition begins with observation, being able to hear what is being said and see what is being done during the course of interactions.

Additional Resources

- For non-professional supervisors the Tarrant County Domestic Relations Office has developed a Statement of Responsibility which they've kindly allowed me to repost: <http://bit.ly/OdGXNq>.
- For a quick review of expectations of professional supervisors see the Supervised Visitation Network's standards for supervision practice: <http://bit.ly/OdHoXV>.

More on expectations and outcomes next time....

1. "...the safety of all participants is a precondition of providing services. After safety, the well-being of the child is the paramount consideration at all stages and particularly in deciding the manner in which supervision is provided." (from the *Supervised Visitation Network Standards of Practice*)
2. I was once asked to supervise a visit for a CPS case where the parents had assaulted two uniformed police officers during their first visit at a metro-area CPS office. I declined.

Working Smarter Through Technology in Family Law

By Aaron Robb, M.Ed., NCC, LPC-S; www.texascounseling.org.

The difficulties for judges and family law attorneys in keeping up with therapists, social workers, and parent educators are clear. Providers change addresses and practice groups; it's hard to learn about new quality providers who are entering the field; and your "go to" providers may not always have openings in their schedules.

Traditionally, the solution has been old-fashioned directories, either printed and handed out at Family Law Section meetings, or more recently, distributed electronically as PDF files. However, these directory projects are time and labor intensive, and what's worse, they're often out of date the moment they go to press. Static directories are also no good when you're in the middle of mediation or a hearing and you need to find out if a particular provider is available for new clients—but the provider is booked all day and won't be able to call you back!

The obvious solution in the age of social media is using technology to aggregate information about providers and disseminate such a listing as widely as possible. Web-based interfaces also allow providers to offer day-to-day updates to their information, such as services offered and their current availability. Realizing we could make this dream a reality, several local professionals got together with a web designer and database programmer to produce the first iteration of such a resource:

www.CoParentingTexas.com. CoParentingTexas.com provides a searchable online database of common service needs, such as anger management, child custody evaluations, counseling/therapy, divorce recovery groups, parent education, parenting facilitation, substance abuse services, and supervised visitation, amongst others. The hope is that such a database will be something that attorneys and judges can use in many contexts, but in order to make this resource truly comprehensive, we also need your help in gathering information regarding providers. If you know of highly skilled therapists, insightful social study evaluators, tenacious parenting facilitators, or any other high quality forensic service provider, please pass this information along to them and ask them to register on the site.

The site is also a volunteer effort supported entirely by donations. There are no charges to get listed or to search for providers. Ultimately, we hope we can all benefit from improving connections between attorneys and other professionals serving family law clients. The more people using the site, the more useful it becomes to all of us! We are also open to additional suggestions and input from as many sources as possible. Please pass this information along to anyone you think may be able

to benefit (either by registering as a provider, searching the database for services, or both). If there are any groups you think we should be contacting directly, please let us know. We can also send fliers, provide live demonstrations, or follow up in any number of ways in order to get the word out.

Email the CoParentingTexas.com administrative team at admin@coparentingtexas.com.

Ever wish there was one comprehensive site you could visit to find local family law mental health resources?



**Us too.
So we made one.**

CoParentingTexas.com

Fond Farewell

Someone We Love continued from page 1. appropriate descriptions of Michelle's duties and a product of her great sense of humor.

In 2004, our DCBA bar membership was 199 and today we are over 300 strong. In 2005, Michelle attended her first Bar Leader's conference, knowing no one there. Today, Michelle is known throughout the state bar as Executive Director extraordinaire of DCBA and DCAP; and both DCBA's and DCAP's reputations have grown as a result of her efforts. As a result of Michelle's leadership and hard work, DCBA has been graced with numerous awards and recognitions, and she has gained a reputation statewide that exceeds some county bar associations with considerably greater numbers of members. We have become an example to many bar associations for our ability to grow and to offer services to our membership and our community. DCAP is the envy of many community based mediation programs. Our success is intertwined with hers.

Michelle has been involved in all DCBA and DCAP activities and accomplishments during her tenure. She has her finger on the pulse of the State Bar of Texas, the Denton County legal community, and the needs of DCBA membership.

In her role, she has been responsible for:

- office operations (staff supervision, office management, program administration, budgeting, scheduling mediation sessions, keeping mediation records, among other responsibilities)
- monthly lunch meetings
- training sessions

- growing membership
- managing over 100 events (Bench Bar Conferences, Water Park Swim Parties, DCBA Kickoff Parties, DCAP Sign-up Parties, DCAP Appreciation Events; Skeet and Meet Parties; Christmas Parties, County Bar Tours,) every DCBA and DCAP board meetings.

Michelle has moved our bar association and DCAP forward while answering to and gaining approval of lawyers, and let's face it; we can be a challenging opinionated bunch.

Michelle is proudest of those programs that serve the Denton County Community, especially DCAP, Adoption Day, Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans, and Wills for Heroes. She is also pleased to have been a part of the Denton County Bench Bar Conference and to work with so many talented people to grow that conference.

In her new position, Michelle will be responsible for relationship building, volunteer coordination, and fundraising for Friends of the Family. She will surely be successful there and I hope that she will be appreciated for all that she brings. I believe my thoughts and feelings about Michelle are shared by our membership. I hope that she will always know how much she is loved and appreciated for what she has done and who she is. I admire her loyalty, dedication, honesty, diplomacy, initiative and ability to bring joy to challenging situations.

I sincerely hope that Michelle knows that though her smiling face will no longer be ours, we hope to see it as much as possible. In my mind she will continue to be the heart of DCAP and DCBA for a long time to come.



From Michelle to the Bar

I'm sorry but, Goooooood Byeeeeeeeeeee doesn't have quite the right Michelle-ring to it, as I prefer Helloooooooooooooos. I asked Julia if I could write a "good-bye hug" to each of you. As I sit here and reflect on all the heartfelt wisdom and laughs you have graced me with, I am humbled. You are all so important to me. I am honored and proud to have worked side by side with you! I feel like you are my best friends! I feel so fancy with your cell numbers in my phone! Don't expect me to erase your numbers now, ain't gonna happen! ;O) However, you won't be receiving any more late night/early morning DESPERATE pleas from me asking you to mediate "in the morning, yes... THIS morning" in exchange for a free lunch and a Hero cape. Now we will just have to have our lunches without having to work through them, is that even possible??? Let's make that our goal! So call me, baby - not "maybe" as that new pop song says. In the meantime I want you to know that I appreciate you and think your entire profession is undervalued. I will continue to sing your praises in other arenas, as each of you deserve it for your intelligence, dedication, ability, and commitment to do the right thing while guiding people through the toughest parts of their lives. I will miss you very much.

ALL MY LOVE, Michelle =0)

Fond Farewell



Michelle is the soul behind DCAP. For the last eight years, and from DCAP's inception, Michelle's boundless energy, involuntary charm, endless and automatic patience, foundational support and parental guidance have been in the possession of the DCBA and DCAP. I am honored and greatly appreciative of her time she gave to us. An old sailor once told me, 'when the sails are trimmed right, the boat sails itself'. I want to thank Michelle, for myself and all the people that were given the helm of the Bar and DCAP, for trimming the sails right."

David S. Bouschor II, (President Denton County Alternative Dispute Resolution Center, Helmsman 2004-present, Past President Denton County Bar Association, Helmsman 2004-05)



Michelle was the perfect fit to be our 'Bar Tender'. She has been so instrumental not only in the growth of DCAP, but our Bar Association as a whole. Her enthusiasm, creativity, and professionalism will be hard to replace. I wish her well in her new position, but I will miss her.

James Ashmore (DCBA President – 2006-2007)



We will miss Michelle Houston who was truly cut from a different cloth and has been blessed with the best personality of anyone I have ever known. She made the job fun and always had a smile on her face in spite of what adversities we were dealing with at the time.

Don White (DCBA President – 2010-2011)

Michelle, your tireless devotion and magnetic enthusiasm will be sorely missed. We wish you luck and good fortune wherever you go and in all that you do.



Brian Cartwright (DCBA President – 2005-2006)

Michelle you are an amazing and fun person. You played a significant role in the success of DCAP and so many bar events. Thank you for everything you have done. You will be truly missed!



Tiffany Haertling (DCBA President – 2007-2008)

I loved working with Michelle. She helped the bar grow and made everything fun!



Hugh Coleman (DCBA President 2008-2009)

As DCBA President, I was fortunate to have Michelle on our team. She helped out in so many ways, big and small, that the impossible became the possible, then the probable, and then the definite. I wish her all the happiness in the world as she embarks on this new adventure, but she will be missed.



Darcy Loveless (DCBA President – 2009-2010)

"There are no good-byes, where ever you'll be, you'll be in my heart." – Ghandi



I've had the pleasure of working with Michelle since DCAP came into being. She's incredible, will be impossible to replace, and will be sorely missed. Luckily for us, she's used her strengths to help build our bar so that we can live, albeit a little less vibrantly, without our 'Bar Tender.' However, I expect we'll need to take advantage of her remaining in Denton to get a frequent and regular dose of her can-do attitude and unfettered spirit!

Duane L. Coker (DCBA President 2012-2013)

Michelle was a huge source of help and support to me during my year as President. The energy and enthusiasm she brought to the job was contagious. She will truly be missed. Thanks.



Dena Reecer (DCBA President - 2011-2012)

From Our Sponsors

Texas Advanced Paralegal Seminar | A Three Day Multi-Track CLE Seminar sponsored by the Paralegal Division State Bar of Texas

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- Professional development opportunities
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Register Early and Save!

Early registration deadline is Friday, August 24, 2012. Register at www.txpd.org/taps in June 2012.

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GDCYLA Facebook Page

By Mike Upshaw, Attorney at Law; Law Office of Michael A. Upshaw, www.upshawlegal.com.

The Young Lawyers section of the Denton County Bar is now on Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/MFUpX4>. This will allow those who follow us to keep abreast of our events and happy hours. We are calling on all bar members to “like” the Greater Denton County Young Lawyers Association on Facebook. This will help us to get information out about our happy hour events and CLE opportunities to the larger bar association.

We are also calling on the larger bar membership (i.e. you) to make a strong effort to attend the Young Lawyer happy hours. In a world where it is increasingly difficult for new lawyers to find jobs, there will be a directly proportional increase in inexperienced solo practitioners in our courtrooms, carrying the mantle of our profession. The value of a monthly opportunity for young solo practitioners to network with more experienced lawyers cannot be overstated. It is the duty of us all to promote professionalism in our field.

The Young Lawyer happy hours are a place where a green attorney knows that he or she can have a conversation about that a banal issue and not feel dumb, and know that he or she is welcome. Moreover, it's a place learn who's who, to meet judges, to meet experienced professionals, and mostly, it's a place learn to relate to the profession socially.

So “like” GDCYLA on Facebook today. Make a commitment to regularly attend our events. Make a commitment to sponsor an event. And make a commitment to reaching out to younger attorneys—they will be the face of our profession, and your outreach can help ensure that our profession remains collegial and excellent.

Transitions to Practice Mentoring Program

DCBA's Transitions to Practice Mentoring Program will kick off in September 2012.

Information and applications to participate (either as a mentor or mentee) can be secured from Virginia A. Moore at vam@vamlawfirm.com.

The program will feature three types of activities: topical group meetings, individual one-on-one mentor-mentee visits and judge-hosted roundtable and courtroom tours.

Requests on topics of interest for the group meetings can be made on the application form. Deadline for applications is September 1, 2012.

This program is free to DCBA Bar Members.

TexasBarCLE

34th Annual
Advanced Real Estate Law
COURSE

Limited to the first 30 to register!	Only \$360.00
Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ebb and Flow of Texas Water Law and Rights 2012• Internet Contracting Issues: Jurisdiction, Terms of Use, and Formation of eContracts• Pipeline Easements: Protecting the Landowner in Negotiations with Common Carriers and Producers• What Title Companies Won't Insure• Stuck in the Middle: The Upside and Downside of Being a Sublandlord• Hydraulic Fracturing Panel	Sponsored by the Denton County Bar Association Hosted by The Law Office of Ruth Brock September 12-14 <i>Sessions begin at 8:30 am daily.</i> MCLE Credit: 19.25 Hours Ethics Credit: 3.25 Hours DVD CLE Course #: 901246851
<small>Mall payment (payable to "Law Office of Ruth Brock") to 4880 Long Prairie Road, Suite 110, Flower Mound, Texas 75028.</small>	<small>Lunch Box Sandwiches available for \$15 additional/day.</small>
<small>Please provide your email address for future correspondence and your preference of USB Drive or Hard-Copy (2 notebooks).</small>	<small>We'll contact you via email before Aug. 22 with choices for your order.</small>

Announcements and Events

August Bar Luncheon

Date:

Friday, August 3

Location:

Oakmont Country Club

Program:

Giving Back: Denton County Pro Bono Opportunity Seminar

No CLE

Speakers:

Representatives from Adoption Day, Kinship Fair, Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans and Wills for Heroes will be describing their programs, volunteer needs and inviting pro bono participation.

September Bar Luncheon

Date:

Friday, September 7

Location:

Oakmont Country Club

Program:

Texas Foreclosures: Facts or Fallacies

0.75 hours CLE, TBLS approved for 0.75 hours in Real Estate Law

Speaker:

Tommy Bastian
www.bdfgroup.com

Announcing!

Welcome McKinney Connaster!
Born on 2/19/12 at 7 lbs. 1 oz. and 19.5 inches to Adam, Aubrey, and big sister, Mary Katherine Connaster.



Save the Date!

Denton County Probate-Guardianship Ad Litem Seminar.

October 5, 2012,
Oakmont Country Club

More information coming soon!

Monthly Meetings

Collaborative Professionals

DCCP will meet at **12:00 PM** on Tuesday, **July 3 and August 7**, at Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Dr. in Corinth.

Family Law

Family Law will meet at **12:00 PM** on Thursday, **July 19 and August 16**, in the Central Jury Room, 1450 E. McKinney St. in Denton.

Paralegals

DCPA will meet at **12:00 PM** on Thursday, **July 26 and August 30**, at Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Dr. in Corinth.

GDCYLA

GDCYLA will gather for their monthly:

- Meeting at **11:45 AM** on Thursday, **July 5 and August 2**, at Greenhouse, 600 N. Locust St., in Denton.
- Happy Hour at **5:00 PM** on Thursday, **July 12 and August 9**, location to be determined in Denton.

REPTL

REPTL will NOT meet during the summer months of June, July, or August. Regular meetings will resume at **11:45 PM** on Wednesday, **September 26**, at Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Dr. in Corinth.

2012-13 Member Application

Required Information (for directory, membership, and website use)

Name: _____ Texas Bar Number: _____

Business Phone: _____ Facsimile: _____

Firm/Company: _____

Business Address (including City & Zip Code): _____

Email/Web Address: _____ Keep my email private.

Texas Board Certifications (TBLS): _____

Law School/Graduation Date: _____

List All Other Degrees: _____

If you are younger than 37 years OR have practiced in Texas for less than 5 years, please check here

Primary Areas of Practice* (select two):

** Having two areas of practice listed in the web directory is included in the fee for bar membership. If you would like three to five areas of practice listed, there is an additional \$75.00 posting fee. Choose from the following:*

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative & Public | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADR | <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor-Employment | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust | <input type="checkbox"/> Creditor-Debtor | <input type="checkbox"/> Government/Administrative | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Office Management | <input type="checkbox"/> School Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBT Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Securities Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aviation | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> Litigation: Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Litigation: Personal Injury | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics-Legal Malpractice | <input type="checkbox"/> International | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil & Gas | <input type="checkbox"/> Wills-Trusts-Probate |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation |

Optional Information

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Birthdate: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Number of Attorneys in Firm: _____

Date Licensed in Texas: _____

Other State Bar Admissions/Dates/License Numbers: _____

Do you speak a foreign language? _____ If yes, what language: _____

If you would like to post your photograph on the DCBA website, email your photo to Michelle Houston at mhouston@dentonbar.com. The website will be updated periodically throughout the membership year.

Application Certification

I, the undersigned, do hereby make application to the Denton County Bar Association for membership and, in making such application, I certify that I am validly licensed to practice law or am a law student of an accredited law school, that I promise to uphold and support the By-Laws of the Association and the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct in all respects and to the best of my personal and professional ability, that all information provided by me in this application is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Application Submission

Please mail this application along with a check made payable to **Denton County Bar Association** in the amount of **\$195.00** or **\$150.00** (licensed in Texas less than two years) to DCBA at 512 W. Hickory, Suite 202, Denton, TX. 76201. Please DO NOT include Collaborative Law, Family Law, Criminal Law or REPTL (Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law) Section dues with your DCBA payment. The DCBA membership year runs from May to May and dues are not pro-rated.

If you have any questions about the DCBA, please call the Denton County Bar Association at 940-320-1500; Duane Coker President at 940-566-6649, duane@cokerlegal.com or visit our website at www.dentonbar.com/membership.shtml.