



Cameron County Young Lawyers Association

SIDEBAR



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The CCYLA Officers and Board of Directors Would Like To Wish Everyone A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year!



Noemi Garcia
President



Patricia Garza
President- Elect



Chris Pineda
Secretary



Philip Snyder
Treasurer



Donny Delgado
Board Member



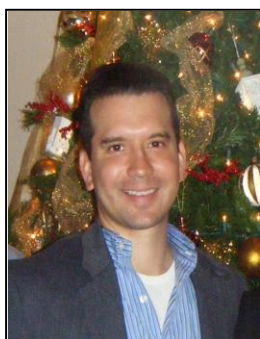
Albert Rodriguez
Board Member



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Board Member



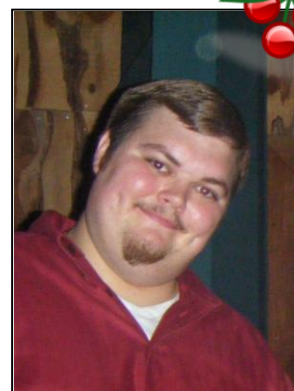
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Mauricio Chavez
Board Member



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Board Member



Rene Oliveira, Jr.
Board Member



Mario Cisneros
Board Member





Message from the President....

It's that time of year again to hang your stockings and light up your tree, or menorah whatever you practice. Yes, it is time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It is also that time to look back and reflect on CCYLA 2010.

This year CCYLA has continued with the Sidebar, its website and Facebook page. We have introduced new officers, board members as well as more than a dozen new members. It has been a great year; and CCYLA will only get better. Next year CCYLA will introduce the 2011 Trial Skills Workshops and projects. So resolve to get involved in CCYLA.

To all of those newly licensed attorneys, CONGRATULATIONS!! Let out that sigh of relief the exam is over but the roller coaster ride has just begun. Remember, CCYLA is here to help you anyway possible therefore get involved, attend a mixer, free CLE and become part of CCYLA.

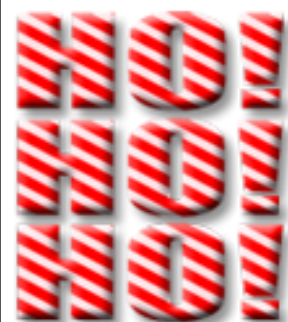
From my office to yours have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Noemi Garcia



Comic
Relief





Holding True To Its Mission Statement

By Donny Delgado

Part of the Cameron County Young Lawyers Association's Mission Statement affirms that CCYLA will "*participate and volunteer in community service projects.*" This year will be no exception as CCYLA members will fulfill their commitment to Cameron County by offering two different community service projects.

CCYLA's first project is titled "**R U SAFE—Protecting Yourself In Cyberspace.**" The R U Safe program is designed to educate students and their parents about online dangers while also providing tools for protection. Armed with the R U SAFE video produced by the Texas Young Lawyers Association, CCYLA will visit various schools in Cameron County and present the R U Safe video and conduct a question and answer session with the students, teachers and/or parents. The topics covered in the video and presentations include cyber bullying, dangers of social networking sites, chat rooms, "sexting," and online predators. Each presentation and video is designed with the audience in mind, so elementary students will not be presented with the same in-depth video information as high school students. CCYLA will enlist the help of law enforcement personnel and the Cameron County District Attorney's office to help shed light on the dangers and consequences of such online activities. The goals of the program include, providing students with the skills necessary to protect themselves while online, teaching the students how to report suspicious online activities, informing the students of the legal consequences for inappropriate online actions and teaching parents how to implement successful safety plans for their children. This is a wonderful program for elementary, middle school, high school and even for Parent-Teacher Organizations as well.

CCYLA will also continue with its award winning project "**Lawyers Lending Hands.**" The goal of this project is to benefit the victims of domestic violence and their children in Cameron County. During the week of Valentine's Day, CCYLA will visit the Friendship of Women and Family Crisis Center safe-houses and meeting groups. CCYLA will present the "Healing the Wounds" video, produced by the Texas Young Lawyers Association, and give presentations on various legal issues affecting victims of domestic violence, such as how to obtain a temporary restraining order, protective order and a divorce. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, CCYLA will also provide Valentine's Day care packages to the shelter residents and group meeting participants. The care packages will include toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothpaste and other items that these domestic violence victims may be without and desperately need. CCYLA will also provide toys and gift certificates to the children who are also residents at the safe-houses or who attend the group meetings. CCYLA hopes to empower the victims of domestic violence with knowledge and to comfort them with some of the necessities of daily living that they may lack.



Profile in Professionalism



Juan Valerio Antonio

William A. Faulk, P.C.

185 East Ruben M. Torres

Brownsville, Texas 78520

Phone: (956) 546-5304

juanvalerioantonio@gmail.com

Juan Valerio Antonio (*Val* to his friends and *Juan* to his creditors) was born in San Benito, Texas. Val attended Hanna High School in Brownsville and went on to graduate from the University of Texas at Brownsville with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a minor in Mathematics. Val then moved to Austin where he worked as a computer programmer. While living in Austin, Val wanting a new challenge and decided to attend the University of Texas School of Law where he graduated and was licensed to practice law in 2006.

He has since returned to Brownsville and currently works with William A. Faulk, P.C. His work includes an emphasis in Estate Planning and Real Estate. Still a technology enthusiast, he is hoping to apply his tech skills to his law practice management.

Val recently joined Leadership Brownsville, Class XXVI. He is interested in urban development and hopes to make a contribution to the development of Brownsville. He would like to help implement some of the initiatives that he has seen in other cities in the Valley. Val loves to stay active and enjoys mix martial arts. He is currently enrolled in the Gracie-Barra RGV Academy where he trains in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Glad to see you back in the Valley Val and good luck with all of your future endeavors.



**Congratulations
To All Of The
Newly Licensed
Attorneys Who
Passed The July
2010 Bar Exam!**



Donations Needed

By David Irwin

We are very blessed to have food, clothes and shelter. We should not take these items for granted as many people in the Rio Grande Valley are not fortunate to have a place to stay for the night or food to eat for the day. With the holidays upon us, I urge you to help those who are not as fortunate. Below is a list of shelters and organizations that could use your help. Please consider donating can foods and new or slightly used toys or clothes. No donation is too small, as all help is greatly appreciated. Remember it is better to give than to receive.

Good Neighbor Settlement House

1254 East Tyler Street
Brownsville, Texas 78520
(956) 542-2368

Friendship of Women, Inc.

302 Kings Hwy #113
Brownsville, Texas 78521
(956) 544-7412

Ozanam Center

656 North Minnesota Avenue
Brownsville, Texas 78521
(956) 831-6331 Tel:

La Posada Providencia

1610 Marydale Road
San Benito, Texas 78586
(956) 399-3826

Loaves & Fishes

514 South E Street
Harlingen, Texas 78550
(956) 412-3790

Family Crisis Center Inc.

616 W Taylor St
Harlingen, Texas 78550
(956) 423-9304

Mujeres Unidas/ Women Together Foundation Inc.

111 East 5th Street
Weslaco, Texas 78596
(956) 969-0729

CCYLA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The CCYLA is in need of volunteers to help with the publication of the Sidebar, updating the CCYLA web page, Facebook page and most importantly upcoming CCYLA projects. If you are interested in volunteering, or for more information, please e-mail Noemi Garcia at Noemi@ngarcialaw.com.



Profile in Professionalism



Erin Ann Hudson

Rodriguez & Nicolas, L.L.P.

50 W. Morrison Road

Brownsville, Texas 78520

Phone: (956) 574-9333

EHudson@rodrigueznicholas.com

Erin Ann Hudson was born in Dallas, Texas and later raised in Ovilla, Texas. After graduating from Red Oak High School, she enrolled at Abilene Christian University during which time she spent a semester at the University of Grenoble in Grenoble, France. Erin graduated from Abilene Christian University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Thereafter, she enrolled at Baylor School of Law where she graduated in 2007. Erin became the first attorney in her family when she became a licensed Texas attorney in 2007.

After clerking for Judge Andrew Hanen and working for Akin Gump in Dallas, Texas, she joined the firm of Rodriguez & Nicolas where she specializes in litigation.

She enjoys the beach, scuba diving, biking, and cooking. She proudly belongs to Leadership Brownsville and the Surfrider Foundation. Before moving back to the Valley, Erin spent a couple of months in Costa Rica not only learning Spanish, but also rappelling down waterfalls, ziplining, running horses across beautiful beaches, going deep sea fishing, diving with stingrays and sharks, and surfing. She also enjoys playing tennis and is working on her advanced diver certification.

Glad you are a CCYLA member Erin. Best of luck!

Happy Birthday

Jonathan Gracia - October 3

Arturo Iniguez - October 3

Arturo Teniente - October 5

Brandy Bailey - November 2

Stephanie Allsup - November 11

Korina Barraza - November 11

SalandLiz Valdez Garza - November 11



CCYLA Holiday Mixer

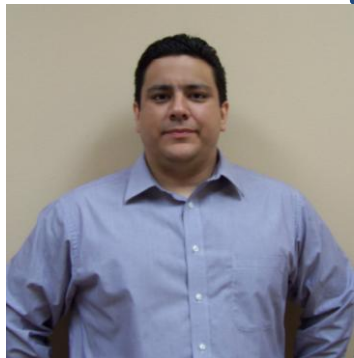
Thank you all for attending the Holiday Mixer. A special thank you to the Honorable Judge David Sanchez for attending.

Our mixer would not have been possible without our sponsors:
State Representative Rene Oliveira, Royston Rayzor, Colvin Chaney Saenz & Rodriguez, Law Office of Trey Martinez and Rimkus Consulting Group.





Profile in Professionalism



Rigoberto Flores, Jr.

Cameron County District Attorney's Office
964 East Harrison Street
Brownsville, Texas 78520
Phone: (956) 544-0849
rigobertoflores@gmail.com

Rigo, as he is known to his friends, was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas. He graduated from Los Fresnos High School in 2001. He then went on to attend the University of Texas at Austin where he graduated in 2005 with his Bachelors in Business Administration. He majored in Corporate Finance with a minor in International Business. He is a member of the Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity and the Texas-Exes. He attended St. Mary's University School of Law where he graduated and became a licensed Texas attorney in 2010.

Rigo is currently employed with the Cameron County District Attorney's office where he is an Assistant District Attorney for the Honorable Judge Laura Betancourt in the Cameron County Court at Law No. 2.

Rigo loves playing the guitar, messing with sound systems and working outdoors. He actually used to be a mariachi. He chooses to return and practice in Cameron County to be near to his family and the beach. He believes family is the single most important blessing a person can possess.

Most importantly, Rigo is excited to become active in CCYLA and he plans to participate in the upcoming CCYLA projects. We are glad to have you back Rigo and congratulations on passing the July 2010 bar exam!

Happy Birthday

Mauricio Chavez - December 1
Mario Cisneros - December 1
Monica Padilla Gonzalez - December 2
Cynthia Jezek - December 6
Juan Mendiola - December 7
Eddie Lucio, III - December 19
Estella Vasquez-Chavez- 22



We Want To Hear From You.

The Sidebar newsletter is dedicated to publishing CCYLA member articles, accomplishments and informing members of local news and events. The Sidebar is your newsletter.

So we need to hear from you. If you have changed offices, expanded your practice or had a baby, let us know. We want to share in your joy and let other CCYLA members know about your accomplishments.

Or if you have an article you want to see publish in the Sidebar or in the Cameron County Bar Association "For the Record Newsletter" let us know. Please e-mail Noemi Garcia at noemi@ngarcialaw.com or David Irwin at david@danielrentfro.com with your news, articles and pictures.

Coming up in January....


**Trial Skills Workshop with the
Honorable Judge Rolando Olvera
445th Judicial District Court**

Free 1 hr. CLE and lunch for all paid CCYLA members





2010-2011 CCYLA Membership Application / Renewal

<p><u>President</u> Noemi Garcia</p> <p><u>President-Elect</u> Patricia Garza</p> <p><u>Secretary</u> Chris Pineda</p> <p><u>Treasurer</u> Philip Snyder</p> <p><u>Board Of Directors</u> Mauricio Chavez Mario Cisneros M. Lou Costilla Donny Delgado David Irwin Abbas Mahvash Rene Oliveira, Jr. Albert Rodriguez</p>	<p><u>Why Join The Cameron County Young Lawyers Association?</u></p> <p>CCYLA provides its members an opportunity to become leaders in their community, network in both professional and social atmospheres and experience all that the practice of law has to offer. From fun mixers to mentoring students, CCYLA has something for all its members. We encourage you to join and experience the tradition that has become CCYLA. Visit our website for more information at http://affiliates.tyla.org/cameron/.</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Firm/Office Name: _____</p> <p>Work Address: _____ _____</p> <p>Work Telephone: _____ Fax Number: _____</p> <p>Cell Phone: _____ DOB: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Practice areas: _____</p> <p>I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SERVING IN THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:</p> <p>____ Mixers ____ Membership ____ Projects ____ Web & Facebook Page</p> <p>____ Sidebar Newsletter ____ Awards</p>
	<p>CCYLA dues: Government/ Non-profit employees: \$25.00 Solo/Private Firms: \$35.00</p> <p>Please make your check payable to:</p> <p>Cameron County Young Lawyers Association</p> <p>Mail Payment & Application to:</p> <p>Attn: Philip Snyder Cameron County Young Lawyers Association 55 Cove Circle Brownsville, Texas 78521</p>