



CIVIL JUSTICE ADVOCATE

A newsletter of the Texas Civil Justice League

Secretary of State Pledges Governor's Support

Jack Rains, Secretary of State, pledged the governor's continued support for tort reform in a speech to the League's Board of Directors at their February 16th meeting. Rains told the directors that Texas has suffered a loss in image in recent years, partly caused by the economic downturn in the state but more directly caused by a lack of confidence in the state's judicial system.

Rains said that Texas needs to make a strong commitment to economic development and especially to tort reform and judicial reform. He said that small business accounted for 70% of new jobs in Texas and that the two biggest problems of small business are taxes and high insurance rates.

"Justice is not for sale in Texas," Rains declared as he urged the directors to actively support candidates for the Texas Supreme Court and the legislature who are committed to tort reform.

At their meeting the board of directors passed a resolution pledging a long-term financial commitment to the PAC. Each director was also asked to recruit two new members to join the League in its fight for tort reform.

Civil Justice PAC Created

In November, in response to the member survey taken last year, the League created the Civil Justice PAC for state legislative races. Although we made some significant gains in tort reform during the 1987 Legislative Session, we must help keep our legislative supporters in office to retain those gains. We've already seen one letter from our opponents, the American Trial Lawyers Association, in which state officials are urged to repeal recent tort reforms like those enacted in Texas.

One way of helping our supporters is with PAC contributions. You will be hearing more from us in the next few months as we seek your support for the PAC.

Civil Justice PAC priorities are:

*Contributions to incumbent members of the Legislature who have demonstrated support for a fair and reasonable civil justice system and the legislative goals of TCJL.

*Contributions to viable opponents of incumbent members of the Legislature who have demonstrated their opposition to the goals of TCJL.

*Contributions to candidates in open legislative races who are supportive of a fair and reasonable civil justice system and the goals of TCJL.

By the way, don't be tricked into giving money to our opponents' PAC, **Texans for Civil Justice PAC**. Just like during the legislative session, they deliberately selected a name to confuse the issue. The League's PAC is named, **Civil Justice PAC**.

1988 Officers and Board Members Elected

At the October annual meeting, League members elected officers and directors for the coming year. J.P. Word (executive director of the Consulting Engineers Council of Texas) returns as president of the League, while Bill Barton (general counsel of the Texas Railroad Association) was elected vice-president.

Members of the board of directors for 1988 are:

Bill Abington, president, Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association.

Jerry Adams, executive vice president, Texas Apartment Association.

Bob Anderson, second senior vice president, Texas Oil Marketers Association.

Gary Anderson, vice president, Texas Hospital Assn.

Bill Barton, general counsel, Texas Railroad Association.

George Christian, George Christian, Inc.

Jim Coffee, general attorney, Atlantic Richfield Co.

Luis DeLaGarza, vice president of corporate relations, Valero Energy Corporation.

Ron Dipprey, manager of government and public affairs, Dow Chemical, U.S.A.

Bill Durr, government relations manager, Ciba Geigy.

Philip Elam, executive director, Texas Rental Association.

Cathy Obriotti Green, director of public relations, H.B. Zachry.

Dick Grisham, vice president/secretary/general counsel, Otis Engineering Corporation.

Wayne Hall, executive director, Associated General Contractors—Building Branch.

Sally Hanners, director of governmental/legislative affairs, Texas Dental Association.

Lyle Johansen, executive vice president, Texas Association of Builders.

Ron Kessler, managing partner, Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue.

Larry Lockner, staff policy specialist, Shell Oil Company.

Jimmy Lee Mason, coordinating officer/governmental affairs council, Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Bob Mickey, executive director, Texas Medical Association.

Dan Moody, past president, Texas LP Gas Association.

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Michael H. Schneider, general solicitor, Missouri Pacific/
Union Pacific Railroads.

Gerhardt Schulle, Jr., executive director, Texas Society
of Professional Engineers.

Bob Sheehy, immediate past president, Texas Association
of Defense Counsel.

Dr. Bob Shull, immediate past president, Texas
Association of Obstetricians & Gynecologists.

Steve Stephens, past president, Texas Retail Grocers
Association.

Des M. Taylor, executive vice president, Texas Society
of Architects.

Gilbert Turrieta, government relations representative,
Houston Chamber of Commerce.

Tim Von Kennel, director of state relations, Enserch
Corporation.

Jack D. Wheeler, legislative consultant, Texas
Association of Public and Nonprofit Hospitals.

Harry P. Whitworth, president, Texas Chemical Council.

James L. Williams, regional director/state governmental
affairs, Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association.

Ted C. Willis, executive director, Texas Municipal
League.

J.P. Word, executive director, Consulting Engineers
Council of Texas.

Tim Word, past president, Associated General
Contractors—Highways, Heavy, Utilities and Industrial Branch.

League Gets New Head

Ralph Wayne, former legislator, former chief deputy
comptroller to Bob Bullock and Texas businessman, has been
appointed executive vice president of the League.

J.P. Word, president of the League, said of Wayne's
appointment, "The League worked hard for tort reform in the
Legislature this year and made some real progress. Our members
are committed to continuing this effort, and the appointment of
Ralph Wayne as our full-time executive is evidence of that com-
mitment."

One of Wayne's initial tasks will be membership develop-
ment, "solidifying those who have been involved and bringing in
new members to give us even greater participation in the work
ahead."

Word said that hiring Wayne is part of the process of
moving the League from an "ad hoc" association, created only
for a legislative effort, to an on-going and permanent force to be
reckoned with.

Legislative Races

Legislative primaries will be held on March 8th (Super
Tuesday). Critical races for legislative supporters of tort reform
are as follows:

***Senate.** Grant Jones (Dist. 24) and Cyndi Krier
(Dist. 26).

***House.** The following House members (who have oppo-
nents) are certainly deserving of support at the polls. They voted
in support of the League's position on the "gut" tort reform
vote—the attempt to substitute the weaker Senate version for the
House legislation:

Jerry Beauchamp (119), Bill Blackwood (105), Ben
Campbell (61), Bill Carter (91), Billy Clemons (17), Anne Cooper
(47), Renato Cuellar (42), John Culberson (125), Kent Grusendorf
(94), Chris Harris (93), Jack Harris (27), Talmadge Heflin (149),
Paul Hilbert (150), Anita Hill (101), Bill Hollowell (5), Steve
Holzheuser (32), Jim Horn (59), David Hudson (6), Bob Hunter
(79), L.B. Kubiak (13), Mike McKinney (15), Keith Oakley (4),
Pete Patterson (2), Randy Pennington (130), Nicolas Perez (74),
George Pierce (122), Tony Polumbo (128), Glenn Repp (104),
Randall Riley (52), Dan Shelley (127), Ashley Smith (136), Terral
Smith (48), Jim Tallas (26), Keith Valigura (16), Jack Vowell
(70), Brad Wright (134), and Jerry Yost (7).