



Campus Crises: *Balancing Safety, Privacy, Due Process, and the Public's Right to Know*

28th Law & the Media Seminar

The program is co-sponsored by the **Houston Bar Association**, the **Society of Professional Journalists** and the **Houston Press Club**.

Saturday, January 25, 2014 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. • South Texas College of Law

The 28th Law and the Media Seminar will explore the legal, ethical and professional issues faced by journalists, educational institutions, and affected students and families in the aftermath of school violence. The program will include perspectives of a former school board member and parent who endured a campus hostage-murder crisis, school communicators, a lawyer who focuses on school law, a juvenile court judge, veteran reporters and editors, a law school professor, and a law enforcement communicator.

The first panel – “Anatomy of a School Crisis” – will examine the practical realities of responding to and managing campus crises and real-world challenges for schools, the news media, and families -- including competing demands for

information and resources.

The second panel – “Immediacy, Accuracy and Privacy in the Social Media Era” – will offer legal, ethical and best-practices guidance for journalists, school communicators, and parents. Issues will include the emerging role of social media in a 24/7 news cycle and relevant laws, such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Journalists, communication professionals, law students and journalism students attend at no charge. The cost for attorneys is \$50 with advance reservations and includes 3.0 hours of MCLE credit, including 1 hour ethics credit. Door registration for attorneys is \$55, space permitting. Continental breakfast is included. **See page 2 for agenda and bios.**

REGISTRATION FORM

Saturday, January 25, 2014 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

South Texas College of Law, Fred Parks Law Library, 1303 San Jacinto, 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002

Name

Firm/Organization

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email

Please check the area of media in which you are involved		
<input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney - State Bar No. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Radio	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> Student - School _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Send registration to the Houston Bar Association, 1001 Fannin, Suite 1300, Houston, Texas 77002 or call (713) 759-1133 for more information. Members of the media and students may email form to BrookeE@hba.org or fax to (713) 759-1710.

There is no charge for this seminar for members of the media, communication professionals, journalism students and law students.

Registration fee for attorneys: \$50.00 in advance; \$55.00 at the door (space permitting) 3.0 hours MCLE credit, including 1.0 hours ethics credit. Make checks payable to HBA.

Note: Pre-registration must be received at the HBA office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2014.

2014 Law & the Media Seminar Agenda

8:00-8:55 Registration and Continental Breakfast

10:30-10:45 Break

8:55-9:00 Welcome and Introductions

10:45-12:15 Immediacy, Accuracy & Privacy in the Social Media Era

9:00-10:30 **Anatomy of a School Crisis**
Erin Powers, Powers MediaWorks (moderator); **Alan Bernstein**, Harris County Sheriff's Office; **Michael Graczyk**, Associated Press; **Ron Schindler**, Pioneer Natural Resources; **Hon. Michael Schneider**, 315th District Court; **Marney Collins Sims**, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD; **Laura Morris**, Lone Star College

Phil Archer, KPRC-NBC 2 (moderator); **Alan Bernstein**, Harris County Sheriff's Office; **Josh Blackman**, South Texas College of Law; **Mike O'Neill**, KHOU-TV; **Christopher Trifico**, Trifico Rainey, PLLC

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Panel I: Anatomy of a School Crisis

Erin Powers is principal of Houston-based Powers MediaWorks LLC, which provides public relations, crisis communications and media training services to law firms, businesses and nonprofits. A former journalist and law firm communications director, Erin is a multi-term member and former co-chair of the HBA Law and the Media Committee.

Alan Bernstein started his reporting career in Nashville, Tennessee, followed by 29 years as a political reporter at the Houston Chronicle. In 2009 he became the Director of Public Affairs for Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia, the first Latino elected to head the agency that patrols an area of 1.5 million people, runs the nation's third largest jail and has 4,000 employees, with a \$392M budget.

Michael Graczyk has been with The Associated Press since 1972, starting in his hometown of Detroit. Among stories he handled are the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa and the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald. He transferred to Houston in 1983 and since then has been involved in coverage of nearly all major stories in Southeast Texas. He is a winner of the Texas Headliners Star Reporter award, the top journalism award in the state, for reporting on the Jasper dragging death case and has developed a specialty in reporting on capital punishment.

Ron Schindler, of Justin, Texas, is Vice President - Legal and Chief Compliance Officer of Pioneer Natural Resources. Before relocating to Texas, he served as president and treasurer of the Platte Canyon School District in Bailey, Colorado. He has taught as an adjunct professor at the Colorado School of Mines. His community service activities include the Boy Scouts of America and the South Jeffco Youth Orchestra.

Judge Michael Schneider was elected judge of the 315th Juvenile District Court in 2006, months after he was appointed to the bench by Gov. Rick Perry. He joined the staff of the Harris County Attorney's Office in 1999, serving as chief civil prosecutor in the 313th Juvenile Court, where he handled scores of cases involving abused and neglected children. He was later named Deputy Division Chief of the Children's Protection Division and general counsel to the Children's Assessment Center. Since taking the bench, he has handled a number of high profile cases involving juvenile justice issues.

Marney Collins Sims is the General Counsel for Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District in Houston, the third largest district in Texas, with over 13,000 employees and over 110,000 students. Before joining Cy-Fair in 2005, she was an associate with Bracewell & Giuliani LLP in the Education & Public Law Section for seven years. Marney is active in the School Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Laura Morris is the Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing & Communications for the Lone Star College System. Laura has more than 30 years of experience as a communications specialist and brand strategist. She joined Lone Star from CBS Radio, where she was Senior Vice President and General Manager of several Houston stations, including KILT-FM, SportsRadio 610, CNN650 Radio News and the Houston Texans Radio Network. Laura also was the principal architect of the NewsRadio 740 format in Houston, where her team won regional and national awards for journalism and investigative excellence.

Panel II: Immediacy, Accuracy & Privacy in the Social Media Era

Phil Archer, an award-winning reporter at KPRC-NBC 2 in Houston since 1976, has covered fires, floods, foreign wars, and fugitives, along with the Houston legal beat. He majored in journalism at the University of Houston, and later was a University of Chicago William Benton Fellow in Broadcasting.

Alan Bernstein, Director of Public Affairs, Harris County Sheriff's Office. Please see bio on first panel.

Josh Blackman is an assistant professor at South Texas College of Law who specializes in constitutional law, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the intersection of law and technology. He clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Josh is the founder and president of the Harlan Institute; the founder of the Supreme Court Fantasy League, FantasySCOTUS.net; and blogs at JoshBlackman.com.

Mike O'Neill has been working in television for 20 years. He started in Great Falls, Montana, then moved through Colorado Springs, Austin and is currently an Executive Producer at KHOU-TV in Houston. He is the Vice-President of the Houston Press Club and the head writer for the club's Gridiron Show, the annual variety show which raises funds for journalism scholarships. He also can be seen in his weekly online movie preview show, Movie Minute With MikeO.

Christopher Trifico of Trifico Rainey, PLLC has been a criminal defense attorney his entire career, representing numerous high profile clients including professional athletes and Timothy McVeigh. Since 1988, he has represented the Houston Federation of Teachers, the largest teachers' union in Texas with more than 5,000 members. He also represents the North Harris Montgomery County Community College District. Chris is the legal analyst for News Radio 740 KTRH and for KRIV-Fox 26.

Law & the Media 2014 Planning Committee

Co-chairs: **Carrie Criado**, UH Law Center; **Pam Easton**, Vinson & Elkins LLP

Attorneys:
Gerald Birnberg
Erma Bonadaro
Lauren Chapman
John Driskill
Scott Durfee

Mary Flood
Hallie Gill
Sheila Hansel
Stephanie Hay
Robin Klein
David T. Lopez

Aileen Meador
Jane Mumey
Crystal Parker
Amanda Patrick
Stephen Smith
Paul Van Slyke

Media:
Phil Archer
Tracee Evans
Ken Fountain
Mike Graczyk
Juan Lozano

Jim Magill
Eileen O'Grady
Mike O'Neill
Erin Powers
Richard Stubbe
Laura Tolley

Dianna Wray
Tara Shockley
*HBA Communications
Director*