

SHELBY JEAN-NOMINATION FOR MEDIUM SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS – BY THE POVERTY LAW SECTION

- 1. SHELBY JEAN, ATTORNEY AND DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS, 1711 AVENUE J, LUBBOCK , TEXAS 79401
TEL: (806) 763-4557 EXT. 6007 FAX: (806) 765-7201
EMAIL: jeans@lanwt.org.**
- 2. I , MARIA LUISA MERCADO, CHAIR OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION, AM NOMINATING SHELBY JEAN AS A MEDIUM SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STATE BAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**
- 3. SHELBY JEAN IS A MEMBER OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION, A FORMER CHAIR OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION AND CURRENTLY SERVES AS A COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE SECTION.**
- 4. SHELBY JEAN HAS BEEN WITH LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS SINCE 2005, SERVING AS STAFF ATTORNEY UNTIL 2010 WHEN SHE WAS PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS IN FEBRUARY OF THAT YEAR. SHELBY'S UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE WAS IN JOURNALISM AND WORKED AS A REPORTER, WRITER, EDITOR, AND GRANT WRITER SINCE THE MID 1980'S. SHE RECEIVED HER LAW DEGREE IN 2000 AND HAS WORKED IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION SINCE THEN. SHELBY HAS BEEN ACTIVE WITH THE POVERTY LAW SECTION SINCE 2008. HER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES HAVE INCLUDED VOLUNTEERING WITH THE ANIMAL SHELTER AND AS A LITERACY CENTER TUTOR. SHELBY IS ONE OF THE MOST GENEROUS PERSONS WITH HER TIME BY CONTINUING TO NURTURE THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE POVERTY LAW COUNCIL. WHATEVER PROJECT SHE TAKES ON, SHE DOES QUICKLY AND WILLINGLY. WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE HER IN THE SECTION AND COUNCIL.**

5. SHELBY HAS BEEN CHAIR OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION, COORDINATOR FOR OUR 1ST FRIDAY CLE, CHAIR OF THE NEWSLETTER, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WEBSITE SINCE 2001, AND ALL AROUND MENTOR TO ALL OF THE NEW OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION. SHE IS TIRELESS IN TAKING ON TASKS THAT NEED TO BE DONE IN CARRYING OUT THE WORK OF THE POVERTY LAW SECTION. IN HER ROLE AS AN ATTORNEY AT LANWT , SHE IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH AND ON BEHALF OF LOW INCOME PEOPLE WHO NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE. SHE FREQUENTLY SETTLES MATTERS THROUGH NEGOTIATION IN ORDER TO WORK OUT THE BEST OUTCOMES FOR CLIENTS WHO OFTEN NEED A QUICK RESOLUTION TO THEIR LEGAL PROBLEMS. SHELBY WOULD BE A GREAT ADDITION TO THE STATE BAR OF DIRECTORS IN REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF THE POOR WHO NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE .
6. SHELBY HAS BEEN AN ASSET TO THE POVERTY LAW SECTION SINCE SHE STARTED WORKING WITH THE SECTION IN 2008. HER WILLINGNESS TO TAKE OVER THE WEBSITE, PREPARE THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE SECTION, AND HANDLE THE 1ST FRIDAY CLE IN ADDITION TO MENTORING THE COUNCIL MEMBERS IN THE VARIOUS ROLES AND DUTIES THAT A POSITION REQUIRED HAS BEEN INVALUABLE.
7. MARIA LUISA MERCADO, LONE STAR LEGAL AID, 2200 MARKET ST., SUITE 301, GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550
TEL: (409) 763-0381 EXT. 1323 CELL: (409) 789-4216
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8. I HAVE DISCUSSED THE DUTIES AND PURPOSE OF THIS POSITION WITH SHELBY JEAN AND HAVE PROVIDED HER A COPY OF THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE POSITION'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. SHELBY UNDERSTANDS THE DUTIES AND IS WILLING TO CARRY THEM OUT IF ELECTED.

MARIA LUISA MERCADO, CHAIR, POVERTY LAW SECTION

SHELBY JEAN

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

Legal

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, February 2010-Present. Responsible for overseeing all communications activities of 15 branch office nonprofit law firm. Serve as media liaison and primary media contact. Represent organization at public events and firm-sponsored workshops. Meet with legislators to share information re the nonprofit's activities on behalf of low-income clients.

STAFF ATTORNEY, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, Lubbock, TX, September 2005-Present. Manage sizable caseload, mainly nonfamily law, including public benefits, consumer, education and employment law; and contract actions. Have engaged in extensive community outreach, including local homeless and veterans' organizations.

MANAGING ATTORNEY, Mitchell Williams & Associates, Lubbock, TX, January 2004-September 2005. Managed small law office with one other attorney. Primary areas of practice: general civil, including family, consumer and employment.

LAW CLERK/RESEARCH ATTORNEY, Judge Michael E. Dodge, 43rd Judicial Circuit Court, Cass County, MI, July 2000-July 2002. Performed research on broad range of civil and criminal topics and drafted judicial opinions.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Professor Mae Kuykendall, Michigan State University College of Law, March 1999-June 2000. Provided research assistance to Prof. Kuykendall, Co-Reporter of the state Business Corporations Act.

LAW CLERK, Legal Aid of Central Michigan, Lansing, MI, May 1998-January 1999. Focus: family, general civil law.

Other

ADJUNCT FACULTY, Texas Tech University, Political Science Department, August 2004-May 2005. Courses taught: Constitutional Law, Judicial Process.

INTERIM DIRECTOR, Center for Public Service, Texas Tech University, August 2002-July 2005. Program Manager for Certified Public Manager (CPM) Program. Facilitated CPM program and taught several components. Responsible for organizing and coordinating annual CPS/MPA Symposium, preparing press releases, and designing/maintaining website.

WRITER/MARKETING SPECIALIST, CH2M Hill, Milwaukee, WI, April 1995-June 1997. Responsible for business development efforts at environmental engineering firm. Researched technical issues and wrote proposals in response to public and private sector bid requests. Supervised and coordinated development activities among engineers and four departments.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

State Bar of Texas, Poverty Law Section, 2008-Present—Chair, 2012-14; Vice Chair, 2010-14; Treasurer 2009-10; Councilmember 2008-2009, and 2014-Present. Newsletter Editor 2008-13. Head of Section's monthly CLE program, 2012-Present.

State Bar of Texas (24041181) since November 2003;

State Bar of Michigan (P57475) since November 2000; resigned in good standing 2013

EDUCATION

Legal

Michigan State University College of Law, *J.D.*, cum laude, May 2000

Honors Three Jurisprudence Achievement Awards: Domestic Relations, Law and Gender, White Collar Crime
Dean's List: 2000, 1999, 1997

Activities *MSU Law Review*, August 1998-May 2000, Managing Editor, Articles, May 1999-May 2000
Tax and Estate Planning Society, 1998-2000—Vice President, 1999-2000; Women's Law Caucus,
1997-2000—Vice President, 1999-2000; Treasurer, 1998-1999

Publication "Peer Sexual Harassment Since *Oncale* and *Davis*: Taking the 'Sex' Out of 'Sexual Harassment,'" 2000 L.Rev. MSU-DCL 485

Graduate

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Public Administration (6 credits graduate)
Technical Writing (3 credits undergraduate)

Undergraduate

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Bachelor of Arts, Journalism. Minor: Political Science