

L aurels is a listing of the professional accomplishments by Texas attorneys. If you have a listing for Laurels, please fill out our online form at texasbar.com/tbj.

Bob Burton, a shareholder in Winstead, P.C., in Austin, was accepted to the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. Admission to the group is by invitation only and based on legal ability, at least 10 years' experience, and high standards of professional ethics in the practice of real estate law.

The Houston office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges, L.L.P., received the 2012-2013 United Way of Greater Houston Law Firm Initiative Lifetime Achievement Award.

Brittany K. Byrd, an associate with Winstead, P.C., in Dallas, was selected as the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers Outstanding Young Lawyer for 2013. The award recognizes attorneys who are either age 36 or younger or licensed five years or fewer for their professional excellence and service to the profession, the bar, and the community.

Gregory Chanon, a partner with McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., in Austin, received the 2013 Bruce Walcutt Spirit of Hospitality Award from the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau for his contributions to the travel industry and the city of Austin. He currently serves as chair of the board of directors of the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Judge Patrick Higginbotham, of the U.S. Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit, and Dallas attorney **Nina Cortell**, of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P., were chosen as the 2013 recipients of the Chief Justice Jack Pope Professionalism Awards. The Texas Center for Legal Ethics presents the awards each year to one judge and one attorney who personify the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in the field of law.

Carlyle H. Chapman Jr., a partner with Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell, L.L.P., in Dallas, was elected trustee to a three-year term on the Foundation of the American Board of Trial Advocates and will also serve as secretary of the foundation board. He is a longtime ABOTA member who previously served as president of the Texas region and Dallas chapter.

M.C. Carrington, a shareholder with MehaffyWeber in Beaumont, was presented with the 2012 Altec All-Star Award. The award annually honors legal service providers in recognition of excellent legal representation and outstanding results.

Greg W. Curry, a partner in Thompson & Knight, L.L.P., in Dallas, was named to the board of directors of Human Rights Initiative of North Texas, an organization that promotes international human rights through service to local refugees and immigrants who have suffered human rights abuses.

Philip A. Vickers, a partner in the commercial litigation section of Cantey Hanger, L.L.P., in Fort Worth, was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, which licenses and regulates the physical therapy profession in Texas. His term will expire in January 2019.

Chris Peterson, the owner of Peterson Law Group in Bryan, was reappointed vice chair of the board of directors of Bryan Texas Utilities, a municipally owned electric utility.

Rebecca Tillery, an attorney with KoonsFuller, P.C., in Dallas, was board certified in Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Mark Guthrie, a shareholder in Winstead, P.C., in Houston, was elected chair of the Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board, an organization that plans and oversees the delivery of employment services, education, and training in the 13-county Houston-Galveston Gulf Coast region.

Justice Gregory T. Perkes, of the 13th Court of Appeals of Texas, received the 2013 Judge Paul W. Nye Professionalism Award from the Corpus Christi Bar Association as part of Law Day ceremonies. The award is given to attorneys who are respected for their legal knowledge, professionalism, honesty, integrity, kindness, fair play, and respect for others.

Jeff W. Smith of Dallas, a Juris Doctorate recipient from Baylor University, was elected to the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children Board of Trustees. Smith, the president and CEO of the Baptist Foundation of Texas, will use his seat on the hospital board to support the hospital's mission of providing high-quality medical care for children.

Timothy Webb, an attorney with Webb and Associates of Houston, was reappointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Medical Board. Webb will continue to serve as a public member of the board for a term to expire in April 2019.

Penny Hamilton, the chief of the Rape and Child Abuse Trial Team at the 34th Judicial District Attorney's Office in El Paso, was honored as the El Paso Bar Association Outstanding State Attorney 2012-2013. Given annually, the award recognizes outstanding contributions to the El Paso judiciary and community as well as dedication to professionalism and justice. **TBJ**