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EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Readers:

Because *Texas Lawyer* has been covering the legal community for the past 22 years, we feel uniquely qualified to select and recognize some of the Lone Star State's top lawyers. When the editorial department began the selection process, however, we realized what a daunting task we had before us. There are so many outstanding lawyers throughout the state that paring them down to a notable few wasn't easy. Nevertheless, we had our own history to fall back on. *Texas Lawyer* published its first *Go-To Guide* on Oct. 15, 2002. It included 135 lawyers in 27 practice areas. Now, five years later, the 2007 *Go-To Guide* includes 145 lawyers in 29 practice areas.

For the 2007 *Go-To Guide*, *Texas Lawyer* researched attorneys in private practice as well as state and federal prosecutors. We posted a nomination form on our Web site and used the nearly 750 nominations we received to assist with our research. (Inclusion in the magazine was not based on the number of nominations a lawyer received.) Most important, *Texas Lawyer* spoke to hundreds of attorneys across the state and asked them who they would turn to — based on firsthand knowledge — if they needed representation in particular practice areas.

From start to finish, *The Go-To Guide* took us eight months to complete. It lists the name, title, firm/prosecutor's office, city and age of 145 lawyers. Each of the 29 practice areas has one go-to lawyer and four top-notch lawyers. The magazine includes a profile of each go-to lawyer; next to each top-notch lawyer are two comments from his or her peers. With the exception of the criminal prosecution category, *The Go-To Guide* does not include government, in-house or legal services lawyers. *Texas Lawyer* published its list of Texas' 50 top in-house lawyers in a November 2005 magazine titled *The In-House Crowd*.

We trust you will enjoy *The Go-To Guide* and we congratulate the fine lawyers who appear in these pages. Special thanks to award-winning freelancer Bill Jeffreys of Houston, who helped research and write these pieces.

Colleen Bridget McGushin

Editor in Chief

Texas Lawyer

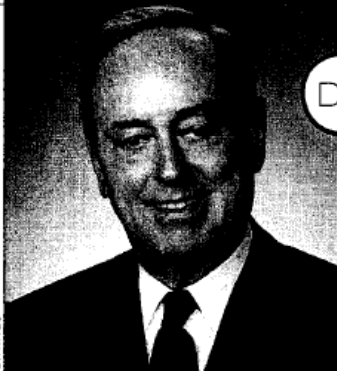


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OWNER AND PARTNER
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"When she needs to be, she'll just grind you up like dirt. . . . Yet always collegial to work with."

"She's fabulous. A very intelligent lawyer. . . . I'd hire her, I'll tell you that."



Donn C. Fullenweider

PRINCIPAL ATTORNEY
THE FULLENWEIDER
FIRM
HOUSTON
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"He's a real scholar. . . . Cutting edge."

"He is so resourceful and creative. I've always admired that about him."



Michael Geary

SHAREHOLDER
GEARY, PORTER
& DONOVAN
ADDISON
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"He's always very well prepared, he's always very professional. . . . Geary does everything that he does right."

"He's real intelligent in the numbers part of divorce. He's a real numbers guy."



Mike McCurley

PARTNER
MCCURLEY ORSINGER
MCCURLEY NELSON
& DOWNING
DALLAS
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"Mike McCurley, hands down is the best family law attorney in Texas."

"In the courtroom, Mike is just incredibly good."