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Summer Newsletter 2015

Message From The Chair



Dear Section Members:

As your newly elected Chair, I look forward to serving you and helping you enhance your business law practice in Texas. This year we will be working to enhance the capabilities of our Section website at <u>www.texasbusinesslaw.org</u>. We will also be monitoring any Legislative Interim Studies that impact business in Texas that come out of the 84th Legislative Session which recently concluded. Our Section will continue to sponsor several Continuing Legal Education courses with Texas Bar CLE and our Section members can receive a discounted rate for those courses. I

want to remind our members that the website contains the CLE materials from many of the courses we sponsor for your reference, so please look at the many resources that are available to our members. Finally, I urge our members to visit the website and review the various committees of our Section - if you find a committee that you are interested in joining, please contact the Chair of that Committee to get involved in your Business Law Section.

Very truly yours, F. John Podvin, Jr. Chair of the Business Law Section, 2015-2016

2015 Texas Legislative Update on Entity Law



2015 TEXAS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON ENTITY LAW By Daryl B. Robertson, Copyright Reserved 2015 Hunton & Willimas, LLP Business Organizations Code Committee Chair

I. Introduction

This article summarizes several bills passed by the Texas Legislature in its 2015 Regular Session that affect entity law and does not purport to describe all passed bills affecting entity law. This article contains summaries only and should not be relied on as a complete description of any bill. Interested parties should review the actual bills. All bills are effective on September 1, 2015, unless otherwise indicated. Many of the changes are based on provisions in the Model Business Corporation Act ("MBCA") or the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL").

II. Corporations and Fundamental Business Transactions Bill (S.B. 860)

SB 860 amends various provisions of the Texas Business Organizations Code (the "Code") relating to corporations and to fundamental business transactions, which include mergers, conversions or interest exchanges. The more significant amendments are summarized below.

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Fundamental Business Transactions

Combined Tender Offer and Short-Form Merger. SB 860 authorizes the acquisition of a Texas public for-profit corporation through a "two-step" tender offer and merger process. The process consists of a "front-end" tender offer for the public corporation's shares by the acquirer followed by a "back-end" merger between the acquirer and the public corporation. If the specified conditions are met, the back-end merger may be effected without shareholder approval but remains subject to dissenters' rights. The provisions are derived from the DGCL.

Owner Liability. SB 860 clarifies that an owner or a member of a domestic entity cannot become subject to owner liability as a result of a merger, conversion or interest exchange transaction without the consent of that owner or member. A new definition of "owner liability," which is based on the MBCA, generally refers only to personal liabilities imposed on owners or members pursuant to statute or the governing documents and not pursuant to independent contracts with the owner or member, such as a guaranty or promissory note.

Use of Formula. SB 860 clarifies that a formula can be used (1) to determine the manner and basis of converting or exchanging ownership or membership interests (a) in a plan of merger, (b) in a plan of exchange, or (c) in a plan of conversion, and (2) by the board of directors of a for-profit corporation to determine the amount of consideration to be received for the issuance of shares in the corporation.

Interests Can Remain Outstanding. SB 860 clarifies that the ownership or membership interests of an organization that is a party to the merger can remain outstanding rather than being converted or exchanged as part of the merger if the organization survives the merger.

Plans can be Dependent on Outside Facts. Based on the DGCL, SB 860 clarifies the terms of a plan of merger, plan of exchange or plan of conversion may be made dependent on facts ascertainable outside of the plan if the plan clearly and expressly states the manner in which those facts will operate on the terms of such transaction.

Amended and Restated Certificate of Formation in Plan or Certificate of Merger. Substantive amendments authorize (1) a plan of merger to include restatements, or amendments and restatements, of governing documents and (2) a certificate of merger to have as an attachment a restated certificate of formation containing amendments or a certificate of amendment.

Certificated and Uncertificated Ownership Interests

SB 860 clarifies that a for-profit corporation, real estate investment trust or professional corporation may issue and have outstanding both certificated and uncertificated ownership interests of the same class or series at the same time.

Ratification of Void or Voidable Corporate Acts or Share Issuances

SB 860 adds new Subchapter R to Chapter 21 containing provisions that specify procedures for ratification of void or voidable corporate acts or share issuances by for-profit corporations. These provisions are modeled on relatively new provisions added to the DGCL. A defective corporate act or putative shares are not void or voidable solely as a result of a failure of authorization if the act or shares are ratified in accordance with Subchapter R or validated by the district court in a proceeding brought under Subchapter R.

Ratification Procedures. Ratification of the defective corporate act or putative shares requires that the board of directors first adopt a resolution containing specified information. The board's resolution must be approved by shareholders if shareholder approval of the defective corporate act to be ratified was required either at the time of the defective corporate act or at the time when the board adopts the required resolution. The procedures for submission of the resolution to shareholders and the notice, quorum and voting requirements are specified in detail. The filing of a certificate of validation with the filing officer containing specified information is required if the defective corporate act being ratified would have required the filing of a filing instrument with the filing officer.

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Validation Procedures for a District Court. A corporation or any of various other interested parties may apply to a district court to determine the validity of various matters relating to any defective corporate act or to modify or waive any of the foregoing ratification procedures. The court may take any of several specified actions, including declaring effective any defective corporate act or putative shares. An action challenging a ratification by the board of directors must generally be filed within 120 days after the ratification becomes effective.

Term of Shareholders' Agreements

SB 860 removes the antiquated ten-year time limit on the valid duration of shareholders' agreements under Subchapter C of Chapter 21, subject to grandfathering of pre-existing agreements.

Authorizing Shareholder Access to Proxy Statements

SB 860 authorizes bylaws of for-profit corporations to allow shareholder access to proxy statements. The bylaws of a for-profit corporation may contain a provision requiring the corporation to include in its proxy statement, when soliciting proxies for the election of directors, the nominees of a shareholder.

III. Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies Bill (S.B. 859)

SB 859 amends various provisions of the Code relating to partnerships and limited liability companies. The more significant amendments are summarized below.

Replacement of Annual Registration Requirement for LLPs

In substantive amendments effective January 1, 2016, SB 859 eliminates the antiquated requirements for a limited liability partnership ("LLP") to file an annual renewal of registration. An LLP will be required to file an annual report. The fees payable with the annual report are the same as for the annual renewal of registration. The due date for filing of the annual report is June 1 of each year. The failure to file the annual report and pay the required fee by May 31 of the year following the year in which the annual report was due will result in automatic termination of the LLP's registration. To mitigate potential liability problems arising from minor compliance errors, SB 859 clarifies that the acceptance by the Secretary of State of an application for registration is conclusive evidence of the satisfaction of all conditions precedent to an effective registration and that the registration remains effective so long as there is substantial compliance with the registration and annual reporting requirements.

Enforceability of Powers of Attorney in Governing Documents

Powers of attorney are frequently included in limited liability company agreements, partnership agreements and related documents. SB 859 clarifies the enforceability of these irrevocable power-of-attorney provisions for a limited liability company, general partnership or limited partnership. A power of attorney is irrevocable for all purposes under the new provisions if the power of attorney is coupled with an interest sufficient in law to support an irrevocable power and states that it is irrevocable.

IV. Series of Entity Treated as Person Under Texas UCC (S.B. 1077)

Effective May 23, 2015, SB 1077 amended the Texas Business and Commerce Code ("TBCC") to clarify that the term "person" includes a particular series of a for-profit entity. This change confirms that a series of a Texas limited liability company or a series of a foreign for-profit entity can independently engage in the sale and lease of goods and other transactions that are subject to the Texas Uniform Commercial Code as contained in the TBCC.

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2015 Texas Legislative Update on Entity Law (Continued from Page 3)

V. Notarized Consent to Use of Similar Name (S.B. 1313)

SB 1313 amended the Code, effective June 19, 2015, to specify that the prohibitions against reservation or registration of a name with the Secretary of State when a similar name is already reserved or registered by another entity or person do not apply if that other person or entity provides to the Texas Secretary of State a notarized written consent of such entity or person to the use of the similar name.

VI. Public Information Reports for Professional Associations and Limited Partnerships (H.B. 2891)

HB 2891 amends the Code and the Tax Code, effective January 1, 2016, to require professional associations and limited partnerships to file the same annual public information report that corporations and limited liability companies are required to file with the Texas Comptroller.

A CLOSER LOOK

Legislative Update: A Series LLC Is Now Included Under The Texas UCC's Definition Of Person, Removing Uncertainty For Secured Lending Transactions



SERIES LLC IS NOW INCLUDED UNDER THE TEXAS UCC'S DEFINITION OF PERSON, REMOVING UNCERTAINTY FOR SECURED LENDING TRANSACTIONS By James H. Leeland, Copyright Reserved 2015 Hoover Slovacek, LLP Commercial Code Committee Chair

S.B. 1077 passed the Texas Legislature and was recently signed into law by Governor Abbott. This bill is intended to fix a gap in the Texas Uniform Commercial Code to clarify that a particular "series" of a limited liability company is to be treated as a "person" for purposes of Article 9 secured lending transactions.

The origins of the bill came about when Texas attorneys were reporting that some banks were reluctant to lend money to their Texas Series LLC clients, even though a Series LLC has the power to borrow money and separately own and pledge assets under the Business Organizations Code. *See* Tex. Bus. Org. Code § 101.605, General Powers of Series. Under Tex. Bus. Org. Code § 101.605(2) and (4), a Series LLC has the power to contract and to "grant liens and security interests in assets of the series."

But banks were still uncertain as to whether a Series LLC could borrow money and have the loan secured by personal property assets of the Series under a UCC Article 9 secured transaction. This is because the definition of "debtor" in Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 9.102(a)(28) defined a debtor as a "person." And under § 9.203(b)(3), a security interest is created by the debtor's security agreement. Inferentially, an article 9 security interest has to be created by a "person." The issue, then, was whether a Series LLC was a "person" under the Texas UCC.

Under Tex. Bus. Org. Code § 101.622, a "series" is specifically excluded from being "a separate domestic entity or organization." Thus, uncertainty existed in the business and financial industry as to whether a particular "series" within a Series LLC is truly considered to be a "person" for purposes of the UCC.

To fix this problem and promote lending to a Series LLC, the Commercial Code Committee proposed a simple amendment

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A Series LLC Is Now Included Under The Texas UCC's Definition Of Person, Removing Uncertainty For Secured Lending Transactions (Continued from Page 4)

of Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 1.201(b)(27), the definition of "person," to include for-profit LLCs, and their Series, within the definition. This provided needed clarity to the lending industry for an LLC Series to create a valid, enforceable security interest under Chapter 9. The substantive amendment, as underlined, is as follows:

1.201(b)

(27) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, public corporation, or any other legal or commercial entity, <u>or a particular series of a for</u> profit entity."

Because this definitional change applies to the UCC in its entirety, and not just with respect to Article 9, the expanded definition to include a particular series within the definition of "person" also clarifies that the duties and obligations applicable to "persons" described in the other articles of the UCC also apply to a particular series within a series LLC (such as, for example, the ability to sell, lease, execute notes and other negotiable instruments).

With the amendment, banks should be able to freely make loans to a Series LLC, secured under UCC Chapter 9. The proposed amendment is intended to clarify secured transactions law under UCC Chapter 9 but will not change existing law under the Texas Business Organizations Code.

Legislative Update: Power of Attorney Bill (HB 3095)



POWER OF ATTORNEY BILL (HB 3095) By Jacqueline Akins, Copyrights Reserved 2015 USAA FSB Commercial & Consumer Financial Services Committee Chair

At the request of the Real Estate, Probate, and Trust section of the State Bar (REPTL), a bill was introduced to make additional changes to the provisions of the Probate Code dealing with powers of attorney. The bill contained provisions mandating acceptance of a durable power of attorney, provided a method of execution of such a document by an individual who is mentally competent but physically unable to sign it, add provisions specifically dealing with mineral interests, and made revisions to the medical directives section.

Prior to the introduction of the bill, the Business Law section presented its concerns to REPTL and also attempted to work with REPTL during the session to address those concerns in hopes of reaching a compromise bill. Specifically the Business Law section was concerned that mandatory acceptance would conflict with provisions in business entity organizational documents including provisions for succession or incapacity of managing individuals. It was also concerned that it would require entities to do business with individuals considered high risk due to past unsatisfac-



Securities Committee

<u>Chair:</u> John Fahy

<u>Current Projects</u>: Regulation A Plus was effective June 19

Texas Crowdfunding Exemption is now effective

DOL's Broker Fiduciary Duty Rule Proposal

SEC Rule Proposal on Executive Compensation Clawback for Listed Companies

SEC Rule Proposal on Pay for Performance

Get Involved:

If you would like to help with the projects or join the Securities Committee, please contact John Fahy, at

jfahy@whitakerchalk.com

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Power of Attorney Bill (HB 3095) (Continued from Page 5)

tory business interactions, money laundering issues, law enforcement watch lists or businesses deemed inappropriate for the business to provide services to, and the inability to, in some instances, such as Suspicious Activity Reports, to explain the reasons for non-acceptance. Additionally, because there was no limitation on the format of the power of attorney (a statutory format was provided), an entity would be required to accept any form of a power of attorney as long as it contained durability language. This lack of clarity also exposed businesses to risks of interpretation and unresolved questions concerning the authority of the agent.

A revised bill was ultimately submitted by the sponsor but ultimately failed to complete the legislative process prior to the end of the session. It is expected some form of this bill will be introduced again in the 2017 session.

Confidentiality of Email – The Changing Consensus



CONFIDENTIALITY OF EMAIL – THE CHANGING CONSENSUS By Ronald Chichester, Copyrights Reserved 2015 Law Office of Ronald Chichester, P.C. Immediate Past Chair, Business Law Section

Sixteen years ago, the American Bar Association ("ABA") issued its first Formal Opinion about email, which approved the use of unencrypted email for the transmission of client confidences. The only caveat mentioned by the ABA was that, under circumstances where the information to be communicated is highly sensitive, the lawyer should forgo email, just as s/he would from making a phone call or sending a fax, and consult with the client about the best way to transmit the information.

In the 1990's, the legal profession was adopting email rapidly as the standard means of communications with clients. At that time, the first ABA opinion merely echoed a string of state bar opinions concerning the privacy of email. These opinions tended to rely on the fact that the Federal Government had, in 1986, enacted the Electronic Communications Privacy Act that prohibited access to stored electronic communications, which suggested a reasonable expectation of privacy. Most attorneys, however, began to add caveats to their emails claiming that the email transmission was attorney work product, privileged and/ or confidential. While many states and the ABA found unencrypted email acceptable, some states (notably Arizona and Missouri) encouraged the use of encryption. Most states, however, cautioned their attorneys to look at all the factors (particularly the sensitivity of data and the downsides associated with compromise) before electing to use email.

Since the 1990's, The ABA and other states have addressed email communications, most notably in the ABA Ethics 2000 Commission ("E2K") and the Ethics 20/20 Commission. The latter commission went so far as requiring the lawyer to understand and appreciate the technology behind email so that they could make an informed judgment themselves provide reasonable guidance to clients about email communications.

When the opinions identified above were promulgated (in the 1990's and early 2000's), the implicit assumption was that the attorney and client would send and receive emails from their respective offices. With the advent of laptops, cell phones and cloud computing in general -- not to mention the use of unsecured networks at coffee shops - the assumptions taken in earlier opinions are outdated. Consequently, various states (including Texas) and the ABA are taking a fresh look at email confidentiality. This year, the State Bar of Texas issued Opinion 648, which concerns the use of email. That opinion identified several instances where encryption or some other method of security may be appropriate, including:

- 1. communicating highly sensitive or confidential information via email or unencrypted email connections;
- 2. sending an email to or from an account that the email sender or recipient shares with others;
- 3. sending an email to a client when it is possible that a third person (such as a spouse in a divorce case) knows the password to the email account, or to an individual client at that client's work email account, especially if the email relates to a client's employment dispute with his employer;

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Confidentiality of Email – The Changing Consensus (Continued from Page 6)

- 4. sending an email from a public computer or a borrowed computer or where the lawyer knows that the emails the lawyer sends are being read on a public or borrowed computer or on an unsecure network;
- 5. sending an email if the lawyer knows that the email recipient is accessing the email on devices that are potentially accessible to third persons or are not protected by a password; or
- 6. sending an email if the lawyer is concerned that the NSA or other law enforcement agency may read the lawyer's email communication, with or without a warrant.

Conclusions

While state bars and the ABA may not have settled opinions regarding email, the trend is clear – email communications are coming under increasing scrutiny, and attorneys may well be called upon to encrypt their communications with their clients. Consequently, we will all have to familiarize ourselves with encryption and master the mechanics of that.

Texas Crowdfunding Portals Provide Texas Businesses New Access to Investment Dollars



TEXAS CROWDFUNDING PORTALS PROVIDE TEXAS BUSINESSES NEW ACCESS TO INVESTMENT DOLLARS By R. Jason Pierce, Copyrights Reserved 2015 Whitaker Chalk Swindle & Schwartz PLLC, Ft. Worth Securities Law Committee

It is no secret that for many small businesses and start-ups, raising investment capital is the single-most important step in building a business, but is also the single-most difficult step. However, the pool of investors accessible by Texas businesses has gotten a lot deeper and much easier to access thanks to new rules finalized by the Texas State Securities Board, or TSSB. Starting in late 2014, TSSB-approved Texas Crowdfunding Portals (or "TCPs") began facilitating public securities offerings by Texas businesses to Texas investors without regard to any requirement as to income or net worth and without the regulatory scrutiny that companies typically undergo in public offerings. As of July 10, 2015, the TSSB had approved eight TCPs. It has also received notice filings from eight crowdfunding issuers.

TSSB Rules 115.19 and 139.25 provide a new set of guidelines within which TCPs may operate. The new rules provide that TCPs be Texas business organizations engaged exclusively in intrastate offers and sales of securities in Texas. Texas businesses can raise up to \$1,000,000 in funds per year from Texas investors by utilizing TCPs. Any investor is able to invest up to \$5,000 per year in a company's securities through a TCP. No investment cap will be imposed on investors meeting the definition of "Accredited Investors" in Section 501, Regulation D of the Securities Act of 1933, which defines "Accredited Investors" as, among other things, investors with a net worth of at least \$1,000,000, excluding their home, or have an annual net income of at least \$200,000.

As opposed to well-known crowdfunding sites such as Kickstarter or IndieGogo, TCPs will allow a Texas company to offer actual ownership in the company. Currently, other reward-based crowdfunding sites are prohibited by securities laws from permitting companies that use their sites from offering investors true ownership.

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion in the Business Law Section's Newsletter, please email it to our Newsletter Committee Chair, Louann Fang at Iouann.fang@bakermckenzie.com

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit contributions for clarity and content.

Keeping Your Email Address Updated

With the electronic distribution of the newsletter, it will be important for every Section member to keep an updated email address with the State Bar of Texas since that agency will distribute the email on behalf of the Section. You may update your email address at the MyBarPage of the State Bar's website. Please note that the Section will not sell or distribute your email address to anyone, including the State Bar's CLE Division.



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<u>CLE Credit</u>: Don't miss the Business Law Section sponsored CLE's listed on the back cover and on the Website!



Texas Crowdfunding Portals Provide Texas Businesses New Access to Investment Dollars (Continued from Page 7)

According to the new TSSB rules, TCPs must remain neutral facilitators of securities offerings, meaning that TCPs may not offer advice to investors, be affiliated with or hold a financial interest in any company utilizing their website, receive a financial interest in an offering company as compensation for services provided, and may not hold, manage, or handle investment funds. TCPs will be required to obtain an affirmative acknowledgment from investors of the following: (1) the risks associated with purchasing a security for which there may be no secondary market; (2) the securities have not been registered under federal or state law, and therefore cannot be resold unless such securities are registered or exempt from registration under state law; (3) investors are relying on their own examination of the issuer and the offering; and (4) no state or federal authority has confirmed the accuracy of any information published on a TCP.

Companies offering securities on TCPs, must include in a summary of the offering, which must be readily available to potential investors on the website, (1) a description of the business, business plan, operating history, and planned use of offering proceeds; (2) who will manage the company, including executive officers, directors, managers, and persons owning 20% or more of any class of stock; (3) a description of the securities being sold and any other outstanding securities of the company; and (4) current financials of the company. All information about any offering must be made available to the Texas Securities Commissioner and potential investors for at least 21 days before they are sold. While the disclosure requirements under the new TSSB rules are relaxed compared to those imposed by federal regulations, offers made through TCPs are still subject to the liability provisions in federal and state statutes addressing full and fair disclosure.

TCPs are required to serve the role of "gatekeeper" for ensuring that offerings on their websites remain "intrastate" in nature and comply with the requirements of the federal exemption for intrastate offerings in the Securities Act of 1933, Section 3(a)(11), 15 U.S.C. §77c(a)(11), and Securities Act Rule 147, 17 CFR §230.147, which provide an exemption from expensive federal registration requirements for securities offered by a company that (1) are organized in the state where it is offering securities, (2) carries out its business in that state, and (3) makes offers and sales of securities only to residents of that state. TCPs must not only ensure that investors are residents of Texas, but must also ensure that the TSSB disclosure requirements are met by the offering company.

TCPs are further restricted from endorsing any particular offering over another, either explicitly or implicitly. For instance, a TCP may apply only objective criteria to which offerings it hosts, such as only facilitating offerings for certain types of securities (i.e., common stock, preferred stock, or debt securities), geographic location of the companies it hosts, or a specific industry or business sector of the companies. Such criteria must be fully disclosed, not only to the TSSB, but also to potential investors on the TCP website. Also, any communications by the hosted companies to potential investors must be made public on message boards hosted by the TCP.

Finally, the TCP may not receive, handle or manage any investor's investment funds. Instead, to avoid any risk to investor's funds, or compromising a certain TCP's neutrality in the offerings it facilitates, subscription funds must be paid directly to escrow accounts established at either stateor federally-chartered banks or depository institutions. Any fees associated with the escrow accounts must be paid directly by the company being invested in to the escrow agent, not by the investors. If an offering is terminated without being funded or closed, all money paid by investors pursuant to the offering must be returned to the investor.

The "Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012", or "JOBS Act", empowered the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate rules governing crowdfunding, but progress on such rules has been slow and up until now, has only issued proposed rules, which were released in late 2013. With the finalization and enactment of TSSB Rules 115.19 and 139.25 in November 2014, Texas became the thirteenth state in the United States to pass its own regulations concerning

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Texas Crowdfunding Portals Provide Texas Businesses New Access to Investment Dollars (Continued from Page 8)

crowdfunding. As of the date of this article, a total of twenty-four states have enacted intrastate crowdfunding exemptions, and several more are working toward enacting similar rules. As a result, small businesses in those states with the exemption will have new opportunities to access investor dollars from in-state investors that, until recently, would have been off-limits.

Business Law Section Council Member Spotlight



Stephen C. Tarry Partner, Finance Vinson & Elkins

American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers Adds New Fellows

The American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers, Inc. (the College) is a professional organization founded in 1991 and dedicated to promoting the field of commercial finance law through education, legislative reform and the recognition of distinguished practitioners, jurists and academics. The College's mission is to bring together into an association those highly qualified members of the legal profession who, by reason of their character, skill and ability, will contribute to the goals, accomplishments and good fellowship of the College. Additional information about the College is available at http://www.accfl.com.

The College announced the election of Stephen Tarry as one of the 2015 class of Fellows on April 18, 2015.

Steve's principal area of practice is domestic and international financing transactions, including project finance and secured lending transactions. Over his 36-year career with the firm, Steve has represented numerous corporate and banking clients in United States and international project finance, asset securitization and lending transactions. He has worked on many large cross-border financings and has experience with the legal issues presented by these financings, including an extensive background in the challenges arising from cross-border collateral packages. Steve has also advised clients in many areas of the law relating to financing transactions, including derivatives and structured products, secured transactions law, legal opinions, margin regulations, usury, foreclosure, and other similar areas.

Steve is a current Council Member of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Chairman of the subcommittee responsible for, and principal draftsman of Legal Opinions Committee of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, *Statement on Legal Opinions Regarding Indemnification and Exculpation Provisions under Texas Law*, 41 Tex. J. Bus. L. 271 (Winter 2006)



Business Law Section members at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting San Antonio - June, 2015



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UPCOMING CLE PROGRAMS

*14th Annual Advanced In-House Counsel Course

Cosponsored by the State Bar of Texas Business Law and Corporate Counsel Sections

MCLE Credit: 13.5 hrs., including 2.5 ethics hrs., applies to the Texas Bar College and to the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Appellate, Civil Trial, and Labor and Employment Law

San Antonio - Live Presentation August 13 - 14, 2015 Hyatt Hill Country Resort & Spa (210-647-1234) Register by July 30 to save up to \$75! Attorneys licensed 5 years or less attend for half off! <u>More Info or Register</u>

Also, come a day early to join us for

*In-House Counsel 101

MCLE Credit: 3.75 hrs., including .75 ethics hr., applies to the Texas Bar College and to the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Appellate, Civil Trial, and Labor and Employment Law **San Antonio - Live Presentation (One site only!)** August 12, 2015 Hyatt Hill Country Resort & Spa (210-647-1234) <u>More Info or Register</u>

NOTE: Separate registration required for the 101 Course.

*State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting 2016

Fort Worth, Texas - June 16 - 17, 2016 Presented jointly by the Business Law Section and the Corporate Counsel Section



The Business Law Section is Revamping its Website

The Business Law Section is in the process of revamping its website with the goal of making it the primary delivery mechanism for **providing services to you** as a member and beyond. We believe a user friendly website will allow the Section to provide **all kinds of <u>new</u> services** as well as continue to provide existing services like the Texas Business Law Journal and the work that our committees do in monitoring legislation and rule-making across the many areas of business law. We need your input as we decide what content is most important for you to see and what website features are most important to you in making for a quick and easy user experience.

Members will be receiving our survey link by email and we would love to have your feedback. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey so that we might incorporate your needs into the design of the new website.

When you complete and return a response, you will automatically be entered in a raffle for the latest version of the Apple iPad.