



DALLAS LGBT
BAR ASSOCIATION

Sponsorship Packet

2022



DALLAS LGBT BAR ASSOCIATION

April 4, 2022

Re: 2022 Sponsorship Request

To whom it may concern:

The Dallas LGBT Bar Association (“DLGBTBA”) is the only group focused on fostering a supportive community and advancing the careers of LGBTQ+ attorneys and allied professionals in North Texas. Our network is comprised of over 150 dues-paying members across the Dallas–Fort Worth metroplex, an email distribution list of almost 500 subscribers, and a social media following exceeding 1,700. We are from all walks of life: solo practitioners, government attorneys, corporate counsel, “big law” attorneys, academics, judges, non-profit advocates, and paraprofessionals. While the DLGBTBA celebrates the diversity and successes of its membership, we recognize that many barriers remain for LGBTQ+ professionals, who still experience high risks of workplace bias and fears that coming out could damage their careers—particularly in a state that was, and at times still is, hostile to the LGBTQ+ community.

Nearly 20 years after the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Lawrence v. Texas*, LGBTQ+ Texans still face legal and social challenges not faced by others. While Texas has a hate crime statute covering sexual orientation, successful prosecutions are rare and the statute offers no protections for gender identity or expression. We firmly believe that any policies implicitly condoning anti-LGBTQ+ violence or devaluing the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals foster an environment of hate and violence even further. Indeed, the levels of violence and harassment affecting LGBTQ+ people—particularly transgender people—reveal an ongoing national and statewide crisis. In 2021, Texas led in murders of transgender and gender non-conforming people and saw triple the number of anti-trans bills of any other state. This year, state officials have taken the extreme position that providing lifesaving gender-affirming health care to transgender children should be criminalized as a form of child abuse.

Even though marriage equality is the law of the land, and the law now prohibits employment discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, Texas has yet to adopt a blanket prohibition on anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination. Without explicit, universal protections for the LGBTQ+ community from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations, organizations like the DLGBTBA are often the only accepting place our members can genuinely be themselves. All of this, however, is only possible with support from institutions like yours.

To that end, we ask that you to show your support by sponsoring the DLGBTBA at any level for 2022. Included in this packet is more information on the DLGBTBA and our sponsorship levels. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the DLGBTBA’s President, Nadia Haghghatian, by contacting her at info@dlgbtba.org or by phone at (214) 969-1261.

We look forward to hearing from you, and thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

*The 2022
Board of Directors*

2022 Board of Directors

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The Dallas LGBT Bar Association

Mailing Address:
Sean Buckley
c/o Dykema Gossett PLLC
1717 Main St., Ste. 4200
Dallas, TX 75201

www.DLGBTBA.org

info@dlgbtba.org



The Dallas LGBT Bar Association (“DLGBTBA”) is comprised of lawyers, law students, para-professionals, and related professional allies who share an interest in the laws that affect and protect the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

In January of 1992, Lee Taft asked Ed Ishmael to lunch. It was at that lunch that the topic of a gay and lesbian bar association was first discussed. Both men thought it was long overdue.

At that time, several of the gay and lesbian attorneys in Dallas were infrequently meeting in private homes as part of a group called The Stonewall Legal Society. The idea was to formalize the group’s existence and eventually gain a voice in the legal community for issues affecting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender attorneys and their clients. As Mr. Taft recalls, “It was our intention to see that the phrase ‘gay and lesbian’ became a part of the vernacular at the DBA.” Mr. Ishmael and Mr. Taft decided that their best option was to create the Gay and Lesbian Study Group. As a study group, they could meet at the Arts District Mansion and have the group’s name appear in the monthly announcements of the Bar Association’s “Headnotes.” The first meeting

packed the room at the Arts District Mansion with over 20 attendees, and the Gay and Lesbian Study Group was born.

The Study Group continued in existence through 1999. In 1999, Robert Wiley believed that Dallas ought to have a full-fledged Gay and Lesbian Bar Association. Mr. Wiley incorporated the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Bar Association (“DGLBA”) and served as its first president.

In 2001, the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Bar Association hosted the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association’s Lavender Law Conference. The conference was one of the NLGLA’s most successful. Texas’s own Phyllis Randolph Fry received an award for her work as a transgender legal activist.

The Dallas LGBT Bar Association has evolved and changed from its humble beginnings, but it continues to play an active role in the legal communities of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas.

Programming Supported by You!

Continuing Education

Continuing legal education (“CLE”) courses on pressing legal issues for the LGBTQ+ community.

Networking Events & Socials

Regular community networking events that foster fellowship among LGBTQ+ legal professionals and allies.

Law Student Mentorship

A mentorship program that pairs senior attorneys with law students for professional development and guidance.

Community Service

Volunteer opportunities for community service to the greater LGBTQ+ population in the Dallas–Fort Worth metroplex.

Job Postings

A job posting board to promote employment opportunities to LGBTQ+ legal professionals and increase representation in the profession.

Justice Award

The *Justice Award*, presented annually at the Visibility Ball, recognizing leaders who advance our local LGBTQ+ community by fighting injustice.

2022 Sponsorship Levels

Rainbow

Cost: \$5,000

Benefits:

- ✓ 8 tickets to Visibility Ball
- ✓ 4 tickets to “Theys, Gays, and Baes” Party
- ✓ Option to include items in swag bag at Visibility Ball
- ✓ Option to add the Title Sponsor for Visibility Ball for \$5,000 (\$2,500 off regular price)
- ✓ Selection as Title Sponsor of a CLE, service project, or social event (excluding Signature Events) of your choice. First come, first served.
- ✓ Included on at least 8 social media posts related to event announcements
- ✓ Included on DLGBTBA website
- ✓ Included on banner at events

Pride

Cost: \$2,500

Benefits:

- ✓ 4 tickets to Visibility Ball
- ✓ Selection as Title Sponsor of a CLE, service project, or social event (excluding Signature Events) of your choice. First come, first served.
- ✓ Included on at least 8 social media posts related to event announcements
- ✓ Included on DLGBTBA website
- ✓ Included on banner at events

Ally

Cost: \$1,500

Benefits:

- ✓ 2 tickets to Visibility Ball
- ✓ Included on at least 8 social media posts related to event announcements
- ✓ Included on DLGBTBA website
- ✓ Included on banner at events

Promotional Booth Add-On for Any Level Above

Cost: \$500

Benefits: Promotional booth at “Theys, Gays, and Baes” Party held in October 2022. Booth space is first come, first served (capped at 5 booths).

Signature Event Sponsorships

Presenting Sponsor for the 2022 Visibility Ball (December 2022)

Cost: \$7,500

Benefits:

- ✓ Inclusion on all promotional materials for the 2022 Visibility Ball, including emails, social media posts, and printed materials.
- ✓ 8 tickets to Visibility Ball
- ✓ Opportunity for a representative to provide a brief statement to Attendees during the Awards portion of the festivities
- ✓ Option to include items in swag bag at Visibility Ball
- ✓ Inclusion on all posts related to the 2022 Visibility Ball on the DLGBTBA website
- ✓ Featured on banners and/or screens at the 2022 Visibility Ball

Contact us to inquire about other sponsorship tiers for the Visibility Ball, including:

- Toast Sponsor
- *Justice Award* Sponsor
- Food/Beverage Sponsor
- Entertainment Sponsor

Signature Event Sponsorships (page 2)

Title Sponsor for “Theys, Gays, and Baes” Party (October 2022)

Cost: \$5,000

Benefits:

- ✓ Inclusion on all promotional materials leading up to the event, including emails, social media posts, and printed materials.
- ✓ 4 tickets to “Theys, Gays, and Baes” Party
- ✓ Promotional booth
- ✓ Inclusion on all posts related to the 2022 “Theys, Gays, and Baes” Party on the DLGBTBA website
- ✓ Opportunity for a representative to provide a brief statement to Attendees

Ready to Support the DLGBTBA?

We hope so!

Checks should be made out to **“The Dallas LGBT Bar Association”** and delivered to:

Sean Buckley
c/o Dykema Gossett PLLC
1717 Main St., Ste. 4200
Dallas, TX 75201

Please send your institution’s logo and any preferred language regarding your support of the LGBTQ+ community in Dallas to media@dlgbtba.org

Thank you in advance for your support!