

Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists

All Members are Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

“Judge of the Year” Awards

Honoring

Lee H. Rosenthal

United States District Judge, Southern District

Trial Judge of the Year

&

Harriet O’Neill

Justice, Texas Supreme Court

Appellate Judge of the Year

**T.A.C.T.A.S. Annual Meeting & Dinner
Thursday, April 20, 2006**

6:30 p.m. Cocktails – 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Four Seasons Hotel Downtown

1300 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas

Underwriters – Ten Person Table: \$1,000.00

T.A.C.T.A.S. Dinner Meetings are free to members.

\$75 (each) guest charge. Cash Bar.

[To reserve your ten person table, please contact Mary Markert, 713-387-7026]

**All certified civil trial, personal injury and civil appellate specialists are eligible
for membership in T.A.C.T.A.S. Annual Dues are \$250.**

Register by Mail or Facsimile or Phone

Complete this registration form and (1) mail with payment to Fred Hagans, T.A.C.T.A.S. Treasurer, Hagans Bobb & Burdine, 3200 Travis, Fourth Floor, Houston, Texas 77006; (2) Register by fax to Fred Hagans, T.A.C.T.A.S. Treasurer at (713) 547-4950; or (3) Register by phone (voice mail) to Fred Hagans’ Paralegal, Mary Markert at (713) 387-7026 (direct). If registering by Telephone or Fax, please forward your payment to Fred Hagans, T.A.C.T.A.S. Treasurer, Hagans Bobb & Burdine, 3200 Travis, Fourth Floor, Houston, Texas 77006 or bring payment to the Dinner Meeting. Make checks payable to T.A.C.T.A.S.

Name: _____

Telephone # _____ Fax # _____

Email Address: _____

Guest(s): _____



Accreditation

Approval pending for 1.5 Credit for MCLE and State Bar College by the State Bar of Texas



Harriet O'Neill, Justice, Texas Supreme Court Appellate Judge of the Year

Justice Harriet O'Neill was elected to the Texas Supreme Court in 1998 and re-elected to a second term in 2004. Justice O'Neill's judicial career began in 1992, when she was elected to the 152nd District Court in Houston. In 1995, Governor George W. Bush appointed her to the 14th Court of Appeals, and she won election to that seat in 1996. Justice O'Neill left the court of appeals with a 91% approval rating (1998 Houston Bar Poll), the highest rating on her nine-member court. In the 10 years before assuming the bench, Justice O'Neill practiced law in Houston, concentrating primarily in complex business and commercial litigation. She practiced with the firms of Porter & Clements and Morris & Campbell, then opened her own office when she decided to devote most of her time to mediating legal disputes. Justice O'Neill graduated in 1982 from the University of South Carolina School of Law, where she was a member of the academic honors society and served as the law school representative to the American Bar Association. She returned in the spring of 2002 as the law school's "Jurist in Residence," and subsequently received the University of South Carolina Distinguished Alumnae Award. Justice O'Neill earned her undergraduate degree, with Honors, from Converse College, and studied at University College in Oxford, England. In 2001, Converse awarded Justice O'Neill an honorary doctorate degree. Justice O'Neill is a frequent author and speaker. In 2001, she was the First-Prize Winner in the National Law Day Speech Awards for her speech entitled "Protecting the Best Interests of Our Children." She also writes and lectures frequently for continuing legal education programs. She is a member of the American Law Institute, the Robert W. Calvert Inns of Court, and a Fellow of the Houston and Texas Bar Foundations.



Lee H. Rosenthal, Judge, U.S. District Court Trial Judge of the Year

Lee Rosenthal, a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division since 1992, received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Chicago and clerked for the Honorable John R. Brown, Chief Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. She practiced with Baker & Botts, becoming a partner in 1985. Judge Rosenthal has been on the Federal Judicial Conference Advisory Committee for Federal Rules of Civil Procedure since 1996, chairing the class actions subcommittee and becoming committee chair in October 2003 and served as Liaison on the Committee on Bankruptcy Administration (2001-2003), Subcommittee on Discovery Rules, (1996-2003), Subcommittee on Rules Governing Attorney Conduct (1999-2000), and Working Group on Mass Tort Litigation (1997-1999). In 2002 Judge Rosenthal served as the M.D. Anderson Visiting Professor of Law for Texas Tech University Law School in 2002. She served as Chair for the Fifth Circuit Judicial Conference in 1999 and Chair for the Fifth Circuit Judges Workshop in 2000. Judge Rosenthal is on the Board of Editors for the *Manual for Complex Litigation*, published by the Federal Judicial Center, and a member of the American Law Institute, where she serves as an advisor for the Aggregate Litigation Project and on the consultative group for Transnational Rules of Civil Procedure. Judge Rosenthal is a Founding Member and Past President (1997-1998) of the American Inns of Court. She also is serving on the Law Review Advisory Board for the University of Chicago Law School from 1996 to present. In 1999 Judge Rosenthal received the highest bar poll evaluation for Judges in the years 1999 and 2005. She is a member of the American Bar Association, Texas Bar Foundation, State Bar of Texas, and Houston Bar Association (Council Member, Federal Practice Section 1995-2000).