



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW

# MENTORING PROGRAM 2010-2011

The Tech Law Mentoring Program is designed to assist students by pairing them with Tech Lawyers to enhance Tech Law students' professional development.

### Purpose of the Mentoring Program

The purpose of the Tech Law Mentoring Program is to identify career options and expand a student's knowledge beyond the classroom by engendering relationships between practicing attorneys and Tech Law students.

### Mentoring Program Guidelines

The mentoring program is designed to provide a network of support to Tech Law students and to reconnect alumni with their alma mater. The program provides an organized means by which alumni can share insight and experiences with current students.

Mentors and proteges will be paired based on the information provided on the Mentor Registration Form and Protege Registration Form. As much as is practicable, we will match law students' interests in an area of practice with a practicing attorney in that area.

Contact between mentor and protege will be primarily via telephone and email. Most students carry their cell phones with them and check email many times throughout the day.

*Talking Points:* Describe the area of law in which you currently practice. Describe how you came to settle on that particular area of law. Was your career path out of the ordinary? Did you complete a judicial clerkship? How did you find your first job? Ask the student which area of practice interests them, and why.

Further contact is left up to you. Although frequent contact is encouraged, every mentoring relationship is different. As long as both individuals are satisfied with the experience, the mentoring relationship is a success. We would hope that you would have contact with your protege at least once a month, via email, phone or face-to-face. Consider inviting your protege to the following:

- A bar luncheon or civic club meeting
- A court hearing, trial, or any other proceeding that does not require confidentiality
- A Continuing Legal Education event
- A "shadow" morning, afternoon or day where your protege can experience a typical work experience
- A tour of your office where your protege can see what type of facilities

and resources your practice requires

- A meeting to discuss course work, professors, or the balance of healthy living in the legal profession

The program is designed for the mentor-protege relationship to last for both the Fall and Spring semesters. However, it is possible for a protege to be reassigned after one semester. For example, the protege may decide that he/she is not as interested in the mentor's area of practice as once thought. The protege may determine that his/her workload does not allow for the time required to develop a fulfilling mentor-protege relationship.

While mentors may provide information on professional opportunities, mentors are not expected to find jobs for proteges. Mentors should not feel any pressure to provide proteges with internships, clerkships or permanent positions. Likewise, mentors should not ask proteges to perform free legal work. Additionally, the mentor should not feel obligated to tutor proteges in academic topics.

#### Qualities of a Mentor

- Commitment to a mentor relationship
- Patience and understanding
- Good listening skills
- Knowledge of people, networks, career options, technical expertise
- Role Model
- Encouraging

#### Qualities of a Protege

- Motivated
- Open-Minded
- Flexible
- Responsible

Interested in becoming a mentor?

Call Casey Carson at (806) 742-3990 x. 315.

## MENTOR REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Address is       Home       Business

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone is     Home     Business     Mobile

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email is       Home       Business

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I attended law school:     Immediately after college

2-5 years after college

6-10 years after college

10+ years after college

While in law school I was:     Single

Married without child(ren)

Single parent

Married with child(ren)

My gender is:                     Male                     Female

Please identify your area(s) of practice/association based on the list below. You may select up to three (3) areas of law:

Appellate Law

Bankruptcy

Business/Transactional

Civil Litigation

Commercial Law

Corporate Law

Criminal Defense

Education Law

Entertainment Law

Environment Law

Estate Planning

Family Law

Intellectual Property

International Law

Judge

Labor & Employment Law

Prosecution

Public Interest

Taxation

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special requests for a protegee?

Additional information you believe would be helpful in selecting the right protegee for you?

*Please return a completed registration form to Casey Carson, Texas Tech University School of Law, 1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, Texas 79409 or casey.carson@ttu.edu.*

# PROTEGE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Address is  Home  Business

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone is  Home  Business  Mobile

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email is  Home  Business

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I attended law school:  Immediately after college

2-5 years after college

6-10 years after college

10+ years after college

I am:  Single

Married without child(ren)

Single parent

Married with child(ren)

My gender is:  Male  Female

Please identify up to three (3) areas of practice/association in which you are interested:

Appellate Law

Bankruptcy

Business/Transactional

Civil Litigation

Commercial Law

Corporate Law

Criminal Defense

Education Law

Entertainment Law

Environment Law

Estate Planning

Family Law

Intellectual Property

International Law

Judge

Labor & Employment Law

Prosecution

Public Interest

Taxation

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like to practice law?

Do you have any special requests for a mentor?

Additional information you believe would be helpful in selecting the right mentor for you?

Please return a completed registration form to Casey Carson, Texas Tech University School of Law, 1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, Texas 79409 or [casey.carson@ttu.edu](mailto:casey.carson@ttu.edu).