

Chapter 74 Elections & Officer Installations

MAY 14, 2019

Join us for our May 14th luncheon at Maggiano’s Little Italy to participate in our annual officer election and installation ceremony. Members will be able to vote in-person and meet new candidates for Chapter Secretary. See pages 10-11 for more information on candidates and on-line voting options.

Click here to [REGISTER TODAY](#) 



Bluebonnet News

About Our Chapter

Bluebonnet Chapter No. 74, is the Austin, TX chapter of the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). Our Chapter was founded in 1985 by professionals in the right of way field to unite members for education, improve service to employers and the public and to advance our members within the profession. We are part of Region 2 of the International Association. Our current membership includes professionals involved in a wide array of projects requiring real estate, right of way and utility services.

Board of Directors Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome. If you are interested in attending, please contact any of our Chapter 74 Officers.

Visit the chapter website at <http://irwchapter74.org/>



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- New Career Hotline Postings
- ELECTION ISSUE
- Symposium Photos
- A Moment for Safety

PAST PRESIDENTS

2017 Virginia Anderson, SRWA, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
2016 Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC
2015 Patti Bell, SRWA
2014 Donald C. Toner, SRWA
2013 Denise Skinner, SRWA
2012 Teri J. Morgan, SRWA
2011 Dennis Sedlachek, SRWA
2010 Lory R. Johnson, MAI, SR/WA
2009 Ron Olderog, MAI, SR/WA
2008 John Reed, SRWA
2007 Connie Real, PMP, SR/WA
2006 Tinker Cotton, SR/WA
2005 Steve Bohuslav, SR/WA
2004 Steve Beck, MAI, SR/WA
2003 Elizabeth Norris
2002 Elisa Garcia
2001 Randall Kopfer, IFA, SR/WA
2000 Laurie Park, SR/WA
1999 George Schlemeyer, SR/WA
1998 Lauraine Rizer, SR/WA
1997 Randy Williams, MAI, SR/WA
1996 Margie Hamby, SR/WA
1995 Dean Harris, SR/WA
1994 Mary Jane Amezquita
1993 Larry O'Neal, SR/WA
1992 Sandra Bishop
1991 John Baylor
1990 Cheryl Bennett
1989 Rayburn Corbitt, MAI
1988 Josie Wiltzius, SR/WA
1987 Greg Althoff, SR/WA
1986 Richard Steubing
1985 Charles Clinger, SR/WA

2018-2019 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Chapter 74,

Spring Break and Easter are over and I hope everyone was able to relax with family and friends and perhaps enjoy the nice weather between rainy days.

We have arrived to the annual occasion of electing Chapter Officers to serve for the upcoming year. The May Luncheon, being held at Maggiano's on May 14, 2019, we will not have a speaker. Instead, we will be closing nominations for Chapter Officers, voting on the nominees and finally, installing elected Officers into their new positions which begin July 1, 2019. We will also be communicating our need to know which members would like to serve on Chapter Committees for the next year. I hope those of you who are willing to volunteer on a Committee will reach out to myself and incoming, President Lori Bible to let us know of your interest.

Our Chapter successfully hosted the Transportation Symposium, Region 2 Spring Forum and 2 Courses on April 10th – 12th. I want to thank all of you who helped put this event together for everyone. We had a great turnout with over 120 registrants for the Symposium while welcoming Region 9 (Utah, Colorado, New Mexico) in holding their Spring Forum along with us.

There will not be luncheon next month as the International Education Conference is being held on June 9th – 12th in Portland, OR. In July, the IRWA/AI Joint Luncheon is in the works with more details coming soon.

I hope to see you soon at one of the upcoming events!



Thank you,

Alex Gale


2018– 2019 Chapter 74 President

Alex.gale@austintexas.gov



May 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Chapter 36 2019 Spring Seminar & Steve Baggett Memorial Golf Tournament	3	4
5	6	7 BOARD MEETING	8	9	10 San Antonio, TX - 703 Real Property Asset Management	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY	13 Houston, TX—400 Principles of Real Estate Appraisal	14 MONTHLY LUNCHEON	15 International Electric and Utilities Committee Webinar	16	17	18
19	20	21 Ft Worth, TX—503 Mobile Home Relocation	22	23	24	25
26	27 MEMORIAL DAY 	28	29	30	31	

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

✦ May 07, 2019 - Chapter 74 Board Meeting

Time: 12:00 PM—1:00 PM

Location: City of Austin, One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd, 13th Floor, Director's Conference Room

✦ May 14, 2019 - IRWA Luncheon & Installation of Officers

Time: Registration Begins @ 11:30 a.m. Presentation @ 12:00 p.m.

Location: Maggiano's Little Italy – 10910 Domain Drive, Austin, TX 78758

✦ May 15, 2019 - International Electric and Utilities Committee Webinar

Time: 1:00 to 2:00 pm CDT (see p. 14 for more details)

Registration Link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1278450946229513739>

✦ May IRWA Classroom Courses, Regional locations

(see pg. 13 for additional Region 2 course information)

Mark Your Calendar!

✦ June 9-12, 2019

IRWA International Education Conference—Portland, OR



PRESIDENT

Alex Gale, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
City of Austin
512-239-9750
alex.gale@austintexas.gov



PRESIDENT ELECT

Lori Bible, SR/WA
Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc.
512-914-2201
loribible@gmail.com



VICE PRESIDENT

Sheila Mills, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
(254) 715-8864
sheila.mills88@yahoo.com



TREASURER

Tara O'Neal
Texas Department of Transportation
(512) 832-7375
Tara.ONeal@txdot.gov



SECRETARY

Barbara Price
Capital Metro
512-658-8818
email@capitalmetro.org



DIRECTOR / 2 YEAR

Virginia Anderson SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
512-221-3798
virginia@aria-cmq.com



DIRECTOR / 1 YEAR

Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC
512-653-2783
maggieschedler@gmail.com



ASSET MANAGEMENT

Ron Olderog, MAI, SR/WA
City of Austin
(512) 974-7193

COMMUNICATIONS

AustinCh74@atkinsglobal.com

Jennifer A. Lopez
Atkins, (512) 342-3234

Lisa Cooper, R/W-RAC
HDR Inc., (512) 531-5900

EDUCATION

Richard Scholtz
JLL Valuation, (512) 459-3440

Alexis Vanzura
Cobb Fendley, (512) 646-4359

Laurie Miller, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC
Cobb Fendley, (512) 413-4012

LEGAL

Kimberly D. McClung, J.D. SR/WA
Law Office of Kimberly McClung
kimberlydianamcclung@gmail.com
(512) 289-3346

LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY

Laura Riley
TxDOT, (512) 416-2830

Kerry Fulton
LAN, Inc., (512) 585-9282

MEMBERSHIP

Leslie Persia
alterra, (512) 381-5556

NOMINATIONS

Patti Bell
Allegiant Group, PLLC
(512) 355-7197

Don Toner, Jr. SR/WA
(512) 435-7675

Maggie Schedler
R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC
(512) 653-2783

Kerry Fulton
LAN, Inc., (512) 585-9282

PROGRAMS

Lisa White
lisaann0206@yahoo.com

Max Roach, CBRE
max.roach2@cbre.com

David Baylor, LJA Engineering
(512) 439-4709

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

John Campbell, SR/WA
(512) 767-3066

RELOCATION

David Harrah
SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC
TxDOT, (512) 416-2962

SEPTEMBER EMINENT DOMAIN SEMINAR

Elizabeth Norris
Atkins, (512) 342-3443

SURVEYING AND ENGINEERING

Jesse Cooper
HDR, Inc., (512) 699-6766

TRANSPORTATION

Don Toner, Jr. SR/WA
(512) 435-7675

Stephanie Pedro, AICP, R/W-AC
JLL, (512) 806 7640

VALUATION

Catherine A. Thomas, MAI, SRA
CBRE, (512) 499-4911

Chris Hornsby
PHC, (512) 381-5510

YOUNG

PROFESSIONALS

Jim Larsen, Sendero
Jlarsen@senderotx.com

Jaylia Travis
OR Colan, (512) 903-9995

2019 SYMPOSIUM/FORUM

Alex Gale
COA, (512) 974-1416

Teri Morgan, SR/WA
HDR, (512) 421-2742

Sheila Mills, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
(254) 715-8864

Kerry Fulton
LAN, Inc., (512) 585-9282

Richard Schultz
JLL, (512) 459-3440

Leslie Persia
alterra, (512) 381-5556

Laura Riley
TxDOT, (512) 416-2830



We are excited to announce the most recent accomplishments by our Chapter 74 members in pursuit of professional excellence and the credentials that earn the public trust. Best wishes to all of our members for continued success in 2019. For more information regarding professional development please contact our Chapter's Development Chair, Mr. John Campbell at jpcampbell.jpc@gmail.com

2019 DESIGNATIONS

04.07.19: David Baylor with LJA Engineering, Inc. has submitted a completed application and is awaiting notification of the award of his Senior Right of Way Professional, SR/WA designation having successfully completed the education, experience, course requirements and examination necessary to achieve the highest level of IRWA professional designation.

03.14.19: Monique Mitchell-Evans with the Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative has submitted a completed application and is awaiting notification of the award of the Electric and Utility specialty certification with her Right of Way Associate designation, EU-RWA.

2019 RE-CERTIFICATIONS

03.08.19: Alex E. Gale, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC, R/W-URAC with the City of Austin and current Chapter 74 President, was notified of having successfully completed the requirements for re-certification of his R/W-NAC and R/W-URAC specialty certifications through February 1, 2023 and January 2024 respectively.

01.23.19: Lisa Robinson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC with Contract Land Staff, LLC was notified of having successfully completed the requirements for re-certification of her SR/WA designation through January 1, 2024.

2019 CANDIDACIES

03.14.19: Roxan Sierra with HDR, Inc. received approval of her declaration of candidacy for the R/W-RAC specialty certification. Roxan now has until March of 2024 to complete the relocation capstone exam and earn the R/W-RAC certification.

2019 EXAMINATION ACTIVITY

03.07.19: David Baylor with LJA Engineering, Inc. was advised of having successfully passed the generalist capstone examination for the SR/WA and now has five years within which to complete the application and requirements for the SR/WA , Senior Member designation.

02.28.19: Yvonne Whitmire with Lone Star Right of Way Services, Inc. was advised of having successfully passed the comprehensive capstone examination for the SR/WA and now has five years within which to complete the application and requirements for the SR/WA , Senior Member designation.



BECOME A MEMBER, JOIN IRWA!

- Installment options are available for membership fees.
- Contact your local committee chairs for more information.
- Visit the [IRWA Website](#) to submit your application electronically.

MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO OUR CHAPTER

Together we can promote growth while qualifying for the following incentives from IRWA International.

5% Net Growth

- 3 free memberships
- 1 free conference registration

10% Net Growth

- 3 free memberships
- 2 free conference registrations
- \$500 travel voucher



NEW MEMBERS

FREE LUNCH!

Please contact the [Membership Committee](#) to have your first luncheon covered by the Chapter.

We improve people's quality of life through infrastructure development

Elevate Your Professional Status with the IRWA Advantage!

For over 80 years, IRWA has been serving as the only professional association that encompasses all disciplines of the right of way industry. With over 10,000 members, our mission is to support you by providing access to the knowledge, resources and training you need to excel at your job now and at every stage of your career.

Advance your Career

Specialized education and credentialing opportunities

Discounts on online and classroom courses

Reduced rates to IRWA events, including our Annual Education Conference.

Connect with Industry

Networking opportunities at local Chapter and Region events

Access to our member directory, online discussion forum, and career center

Great volunteer and leadership development opportunities ... and more!

Leverage Our Resources

Subscription to Right of Way Magazine, the industry's leading publication.

Join one of our Industry Committees or Discipline Communities of Practice

MAY LUNCHEON EVENT

Chapter 74 Elections & Officer Installations



Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Time: Registration @ 11:30 a.m.; Program @ 12:00 p.m.

Location: Maggiano's Little Italy – The Di Carlo Room
10910 Domain Drive #100, Austin, TX 78758

Program: We will have our annual officer elections. Please be sure to attend so your vote can be counted!

Cost: \$20 via PayPal or \$25 at the door

Online registration will close Friday, May 10, 2019.

Click here to [REGISTER TODAY](#)



Contact the [Programs Committee](#) with any speaker recommendations or presentation topics.

Only 33 Days Until the International Conference Begins!

JUNE 9-12, 2019



Click here to [REGISTER TODAY](#)

CONFERENCE LOCATION:

Hilton Portland Downtown

921 SW 6th Avenue, Portland, OR 97204

For more details, visit the [IRWA International website](#)

PROGRAMS—MARCH LUNCHEON



In March, we welcomed **Ashby Johnson**, Executive Director of the Capitol Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) for our monthly luncheon presentation at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in the Domain. Mr. Johnson provided an informative overview of greater Austin area planning and development projects.





CHAPTER OFFICER ELECTIONS

Our Chapter 74 election luncheon meeting is scheduled for **May 14, 2019**, elections and officer installations will be conducted during this luncheon meeting. There will be an opportunity during this time, to make additional nominations from the floor.

To allow online voting for members unable to attend the meeting, ballots have been emailed this week with the listed nominees received to date, April 30, 2019. Additional nominees may be announced at the meeting and open to the floor until voting closes the position.

PLEASE BE REMINDED YOU CAN ONLY VOTE ONCE. CHOOSE ONLINE VOTING OR IN-PERSON VOTING. ONLINE VOTING IS TO ALLOW MEMBERS WHO CANNOT ATTEND THE LUCHEON AN OPTION TO PARTICIPATE. ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS WILL BE TAKEN FROM THE FLOOR ON MAY 14, 2019 BEFORE CLOSING NOMINATIONS AS PER INTERNATIONAL INSTRUCTION.

Please submit online ballots to the [Nominations Committee](#) which includes Patti Bell, Maggie Schedler, Don Toner, and Kerry Fulton

If you have any questions, please contact Nomination Committee Chair, Patti Bell at patti@allegiantgrp.com.

Below are the slate of officers seeking re-election and nominees to date. * See note.

Vice President	Treasurer	Two Year Director	One Year Director	Secretary
Tara O’Neal	Barbara Price	Alex Gale	Virginia Pompa	Richard Scholtz
				Shannon Gray
				Laura Nelson

** President Elect nominee has chosen not to run for the position. Amendments to the Chapter’s bylaws are currently underway to restructure the board and eliminate the position of President Elect , therefore no other nominations will be taken for this position.*

Candidates for 2019-2020 Chapter Secretary have provided information for your consideration and can be found on the following page. Members will have the opportunity to meet and hear directly from the nominees at the Chapter luncheon. Each candidate demonstrates the core competencies external awareness, vision, strategic thinking and entrepreneurship. Best of luck to our selected members.





Shannon Gray is the Program Manager of Right-of-Way for Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Cap Metro) where he manages the business operations of the real estate and right-of-way department. This includes overseeing 162 miles of commuter and freight railroad right-of-way, negotiating license agreements, approving permits and leased and owned real estate assets. Shannon has been a resident of Austin for 4 years. Prior to arriving a Cap Metro, Shannon spent over 15 years in the North Texas Region as a real estate and right-of-way professional with organizations such as Dallas Area Rapid Transit, City of Rowlett, Collin County, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and TXU Energy. Shannon and his wife Vicki live in Southeast Austin and enjoy their time volunteering in their church and local organizations such as Meals on Wheels, Central Texas Food Bank and Keep Austin Beautiful. Shannon has been an active participant of IRWA since March 2000.



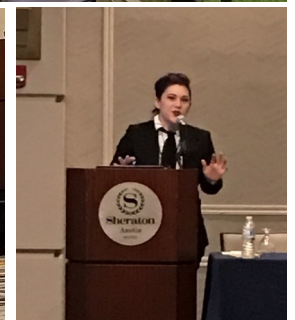
Laura Nelson spends most of her Saturday's volunteering with Mini and Friends, a unique program with tailored activities for children with disabilities, at-risk youth, individuals in transition, and elder adults to improve their motor skills, ability to connect, tactile response, use of senses and spirits through interaction with miniature horses. In addition to volunteering with Mini's and Friends Laura volunteer's in the summer months with Austin Wild Life Rescue. Professionally Laura has her Texas Real Estate License, # 655616, Texas Real Estate Easement Certified #33104, TxDOT Local Government Project Procedures Certified #69647, UPRR Certified, International Right of Way Association Member # 7894124, American Society of Notaries Member #124728125. 18 years in Right-of-Way, expert in Right-of-Way Process and Management. Skilled in RFQ/RFP coordination and proposal writing, marketing and business development, knowledgeable in Micro Station V8i. Providing Right-of-Way services for public or private entities; Route and Cost analysis, Title Curative, Negotiation, and Condemnation. Education in Texas real estate law and fluent understanding of civil engineering terminology and schematics.



Richard Scholtz has been an active member of Chapter 74 since 2005 and prior to, a member of Chapter 8 Houston, Texas. Richard currently serves as the Education Chair organizing classes and assisting the IRWA/AI Joint Luncheon. Richard has served on the Programs Committee, organizing speakers and locations for monthly chapter meetings. He serves as current co-chair for the Right of Way Professionals of Texas, which made a record-setting donation of \$15,000 for Make A Wish, through their annual golf tournament. Richard was honored to receive the Chapter's 2016 Young Professional of the Year Award. Most recently, was asked to submit qualifications for a position on the Ethics Committee for the International organization and served on the steering committee for the 2019 Transportation Symposium. Richard believes these activities have adequately prepared him to be your secretary and is proud to serve. His career in right of way began 20 years ago upon graduation from Texas A & M University. Under the tutelage of Randy Williams in Austin, Richard furthered his career as an appraiser in the right of way profession, and Randy's guidance and leadership continues to assist him in achieving this goal. Richard is currently a Senior Vice President for JLL Valuation and Advisory, LLC in Austin, Texas. If elected, Richard will use these experiences to further advance the goals and aspirations of the IRWA and looks forward giving back to our Chapter in that regard.

2019 IRWA REGION 2 FORUM & INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM HELD APRIL 10 - 12, 2019 SHERATON AUSTIN HOTEL AT THE CAPITOL 701 E 11TH ST, AUSTIN, TX 78701







MAY 15, 2019 | WEBINAR | 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. PDT

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Webinar Presenters:



Mari Davidson
Partner
Nossaman LLP



Gina Nicholls
Partner
Nossaman LLP



Willis Hon
Associate
Nossaman LLP

Join IRWA International and Nossaman LLP on May 15, 2019 for "Preparedness, Relief, and Recovery: Developments in Disaster Management for California Water Providers."

This **complimentary 60-minute webinar** will focus on the upsurge of attention to disaster management by water utilities in California. Nossaman attorneys will cover key regulatory

developments confronting water providers, including the proactive use of de-energization to power down electric distribution equipment.

Nossaman attorneys will cover key regulatory developments and challenges confronting water providers throughout California, including the proactive use of de-energization to power down electric distribution equipment.

This is a must-attend for legal, public affairs, safety, and other professionals involved with the operation and management of water utilities.

**An application for California MCLE accreditation of this program is pending.*

Questions?

For additional information please contact Janella Cordova, Senior Project Manager, Energy & Utilities at 562.304.2017 or jCordova@opcservices.com.



EDUCATION

IRWA Region 2 Local Area Classroom Education Dates

MAY

- **05.02.2019** | Trophy Club, TX
102 Elevating Your Ethical Awareness
- **05.02.2019** | San Antonio, TX
800 Principles of Real Estate Law
- **05.10.2019** | San Antonio, TX
703 Real Property Asset Management
- **05.13.2019** | Houston, TX
400 Principles of Real Estate Appraisal
- **05.21.2019** | Fort Worth, TX
503 Mobile Home Relocation



JUNE

- **06.03.2019** | San Antonio, TX
600 Environmental Awareness
- **06.04.2019** | San Antonio, TX
603 Understanding Environmental Contamination in Real Estate
- **06.05.2019** | San Antonio, TX
604 Environmental Due Diligence and Liability

JULY

- **07.17.2019** | Bellevue, WA
431 Problems in the Valuation of Partial Acquisitions
- **07.18.2019** | Oklahoma City, OK
207 Practical Negotiations for U.S. Federal and Federally Assisted Projects
- **07.22.2019** | San Antonio, TX
801 U.S. Land Titles

Get Credentialed in the Industry you serve!

Credentialing demonstrates a specialized industry based knowledge and skill set as well as a commitment to professional development and performance excellence. IRWA offers a curriculum pathway of progressive credentialing options for infrastructure professionals. <https://www.irwaonline.org/courses/>



Course Number: C207

Course Title: 207 Practical Negotiations for U.S. Federal and Federally Assisted Projects

07.18.19 Oklahoma City, OK

Course Level: Intermediate

IRWA Credits: 8 QEU / CEU

AQB Credits: Not Applicable

Prerequisites: Not Applicable



Start Date: 07/18/2019

End Date: 07/19/2019

No. of Days: 2 days

Course Level: Intermediate

CEU Credits: 16.00

Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuition: \$415.00 Member / \$520.00 Non-Member

Late registration fee of \$25.00 will be applied on June 17, 2019

Tuition may be paid by check or credit card to IRWA Headquarters in U.S. Dollars.

Sponsored By: Chapter 33

Course Description: This course reviews the Uniform Act acquisition (negotiation) requirements for Federal and federally assisted programs. During this course, participants examine negotiations styles and explore practical approaches, and are also provided with tips on how to improve settlement rates for right of way acquisitions, with adequate consideration to significant right of way elements involved in the location and design of the project, including possible social, economic, and environmental effects.

INSTRUCTOR:

Tamara G Benson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC is the owner of Aviva Learning & Consulting, LLC and specializes in delivering customized training programs for professionals involved in Real Estate Infrastructure Projects. Aviva also provides consulting services, including expert witness testimony and quality assurance services on Infrastructure related projects. Prior to starting Aviva, Tamara was the Director of Training and Development for Universal Field Services, Inc., and was responsible for the development and implementation of in-house and project specific training programs for staff and clients. Tamara has been involved in the Right of Way Industry since 1990 and has a diverse knowledge of the right of way industry having performed as a Records/Database Manager, Litigation/Title Coordinator, Acquisition/Relocation Agent, Relocation Supervisor, Quality Assurance Supervisor, Project Manager on government projects in Oklahoma and providing project oversight on projects in Virginia, South Carolina, and Pennsylvania. Tamara attended the University of Oklahoma and holds the SR/WA designation and the R/W-URAC and R/W-RAC certifications from the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). She was a contributing author to the 2012 Edition of The Principles of Right of Way and serves as the Chair to the Partnership for Infrastructure Professional Education. She is also a CLIMB Certified Instructor for IRWA courses and is a current member of the International Relocation Assistance Committee. She has served in all positions of IRWA Chapter 33 and was named the Chapter Professional of the Year in 2004 and 2010, as well as the IRWA Region 2 Professional of the Year in 2010. Tamara was also selected as the 2010 recipient of the Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year Award at IRWA's 57th Annual Education Conference held in Atlanta, GA.

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Lori A. Vernon, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
6737 X. 85th East Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133
Phone: (918) 494-7600
Fax: (918) 494-7650
Email: lvernon@ufsrw.com

SUGGESTED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

SpringHill Suites by Marriott
613 NW 8th Street, Moore, OK 73160
Phone: (800) 343-4795
Rate: Single - \$104.00 + tax per night
Contact hotel directly for reservations
Must mention IRWA class when making reservations

CLASSROOM LOCATION:

Mid-American Christian University (MACU)
3500 SW 119th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73170
Phone: (405) 692-3242
Participant Capacity: 30

Who should take this course: Ideal for both executive and entry-level professionals in the right of way profession, this course is designed for: Department of Transportation employees and other highway oriented negotiators; Land acquisition agents who have less than 5 years negotiation experience; More experienced agents desiring a refresher; Individuals seeking improved settlement rates for acquisition

Course Number: C801
Course Title: 102 801 U.S. Land Titles
07.22.19 San Antonio, TX
Course Level: Intermediate
IRWA Credits: 16 QEU/CEU
AQB Credits: Not Applicable **Prerequisites:** Not Applicable



Start Date: 07/22/2019 **End Date:** 07/23/2019
No. of Days: 2 days **Course Level:** Intermediate
CEU Credits: 16.00 **Class Time:** 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuition: Member \$415.00 Member / \$520.00 Non-Member
Late registration fee of \$25.00 will be applied on July 5, 2019.

Tuition may be paid by check or credit card to IRWA Headquarters in U.S. Dollars.

Sponsored By: Chapter 39

Course Description: Building upon prior professional knowledge, this course provides participants with information regarding the analysis of abstracts to determine who must execute a conveyance. Participants will become familiar with terminology such as title estates, covenants, liens, encumbrances, and contracts; and will also understand the preparation of chains of title from public records.

INSTRUCTOR:

Lora Gunter, SR/WA is the Project Delivery Director for the Texas Department of Transportation, where she oversees the department’s statewide right of way acquisition portfolio. She implements the policies and procedures for right of way project delivery activities. Her right of way career began at the Texas Attorney General’s Office, where she represented TxDOT in eminent domain matters across the state. She has ample experience in the eminent domain process, engaging in numerous administrative hearings, jury trials, and appellate cases. She has also worked as a Right of Way Attorney for the department and handled various matters involving property acquisition and real property disposition. Additionally, she engaged in legal work concerning the compliance and interpretation of federal and state laws, rules, and regulations (including the Uniform Act). Lora has also worked in the private sector representing large public utility companies in condemnation proceedings and other right of way issues. In addition, she has utility-related experience dealing with utility relocations, consultant contracting, and working with various project personnel.

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Joyce G. Labus, SR/WA
 213 Labus Ln.
 Floresville, TX 78114
 Phone: (210) 416-4557
 Email: jglabus64@gmail.com

SUGGESTED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

SUGGESTED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:
 Hyatt Place San Antonio Airport/Quarry Market
 7615 Jones Maltsberger Road
 San Antonio, TX 78216
 Phone: (210) 930-2333
 Contact hotel directly for rates and reservations

CLASSROOM LOCATION:

CBRE—Valuation and Advisory Services
 250 W. Nottingham Drive, Suite 115
 San Antonio, TX 78209
 Phone: (210) 253-6010
 Participant Capacity: 15

Who should take this course:

This course is recommended for right of way professionals and experienced land titles by profession individuals who are in the process of or working on title reports or abstracts of title. This course is not intended for individuals with extensive title company experience.

International Right of Way Association Weekly Update

Monday, April 29, 2019

Trump Administration

- The President will meet with Speaker Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Schumer on Tuesday to discuss infrastructure legislation.

Congress

- Both Chambers are in session this week.
- House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) will tour the Gateway Tunnel project on Thursday and Friday.

Analysis

- This could be the critical week that determines whether infrastructure legislation has a possibility of moving this year. A best-case scenario for the meeting between the President, Pelosi, and Schumer would be that they agree on a top-line funding number, generally what the scope of the legislation should cover, and how to pay for it. A worst-case scenario would be that infrastructure is only discussed in a cursory manner and that the meeting then moves to the ongoing congressional investigations into the Administration.
- How close the outcome of the meeting is to either of these two extremes will give us a sense of the odds of congressional action on infrastructure.
- Senate Majority Leader McConnell stated that any new infrastructure funding must not increase the deficit and must have a pay-for (i.e., a tax increase of some form or a cut to other government spending to offset increased infrastructure spending).
- Chairman DeFazio's visit to the Gateway Tunnel project is also significant for two reasons. First, it highlights the importance of one of the most politically divisive infrastructure projects in the country—one that the President and Schumer have both focused on repeatedly. Second, DeFazio has stated that he plans to have project-specific authorizations in his infrastructure legislation. This would be a departure from the earmark-free bills passed in the last decade and could be an attempt to bypass any Administrative control over funding decisions for key, high-profile projects such as the Gateway Tunnel project.



<https://www.irwaonline.org/members/leadership-resources/irwa-advocacy-reports/>



Kimberly D. McClung
Texas ROW Attorney, PLLC



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City of Georgetown
Real Estate Services Coordinator



Location/Department: Georgetown Municipal Complex (GMC)
 Georgetown, TX / Georgetown Utility Systems

Closing 05/09/2019 11:59 PM CST

[CLICK HERE](#) for more details

Position Summary

Under general direction, coordinates all aspects of real estate acquisition and disposition for City utility, transportation, parks, and facility projects and various other complex real estate transactions.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Coordinates complex acquisitions of real property rights for construction, maintenance, expansion and operation of public capital improvements projects in compliance with law and City policies.
- Plans, identifies and analyzes nature of property rights required by the City.
- Selects and manages consultants and vendors i.e., right-of-way negotiation/acquisition agents, surveyors, appraisers, attorneys, title companies, etc.); reviews invoices, analyzes costs and approves payment.
- Negotiates with landowners and their representatives; responds to their concerns/requests.
- Assists condemnation attorney with acquiring land rights through the process of eminent domain. Represents the City in formal hearings.
- Estimates right-of-way and easement acquisition costs for budgeting purposes.
- Plans, organizes, and prepares/reviews real estate documents for negotiations and closings. Facilitates closings and payment transfers.
- Performs title research and curative work; recommends solutions to resolve closing issues.
- Assist engineers and land planners with route and site selection, project coordination/monitoring, and platting/entitlement issues.
- Provides survey and appraisal permission, notification and assessment/evaluation.
- Reviews and proofreads legal documents in connection with City real estate matters; responds to open records requests to ensure accuracy, completeness and compliance with State law and City policies.
- Assist City Attorney and legal staff with real estate matters and the selection of outside legal counsel for complex/specialized real estate matters.
- Prepares, presents and makes recommendation to City Council and advisory boards and commissions concerning real estate matters.
- Manages the processing of abandonment of City right-of-way and/or easements in connection with city and development-related projects.
- Serves as a resource to City staff, the Georgetown development community and general public concerning past and present City real estate matters.
- Performs other duties as assigned or required.

Minimum Requirements

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in public or business administration, real estate or related field. Four years full-time work experience in real estate activities such as buying and/or selling real estate, mortgage lending, title conveyance, property management, or paralegal work.

One additional year of the required experience may be substituted for 1 year (30 semester hours) of the required education with a maximum substitution of 2 years.

LJA Engineering, Inc.



Right of Way Agent/Senior Right of Way Agent

Experienced right of way agent sought to help acquire a wide range of real property interests for a variety of predominately governmental agencies and utility companies. A real estate license is required for this position as is knowledge and experience in acquiring easements and fee simple interests under the Uniform Relocation Act for organizations with the power of eminent domain. An IRWA certification and experience performing personal property relocations is a plus. Being detailed oriented with the ability to work closely with a team and communicate effectively with wide variety of landowners and management is necessary. This position requires familiarity with engineering plans and an ability to analyze the impact of public projects on adjacent private property.

To inquire about this position and obtain a more complete description, please contact David Baylor, Director of Right of Way Services, 512-439-4709 or dbaylor@lja.com.

Learn more about LJA Engineering at <https://www.lja.com/>



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Spring Allergy Tips

Sneezing, irritated skin, watery eyes -- it's springtime again, and allergy season is upon us.

- Avoid being outdoors on windy days, especially mid-morning to mid-afternoon, when pollen counts are often highest. If you must be out, cover your mouth with a scarf or an allergen mask.
- Keep car and home windows and doors closed, and avoid using electric fans inside the home, which can kick up pollen into the air.
- After returning from outdoors, shower, wash your hair and change your clothing.
- Avoid being outside when fertilizers and pesticides are applied to the lawns, trees or shrubs in your neighborhood. If you garden, arrange for someone else to remove the leaves and branches that may have collected in your yard or hedges. This type of garbage usually has mold and other particles that can trigger your asthma.
- In both the work and home environment, it's helpful to use an air purifier to improve indoor air quality. Air cleaners filter particles from the air, such as dust, pet dander, pollen, and other pollutants. This eliminates some of the major causes of allergy symptoms.
- In addition, steam cleaning uses highly heated water to form a fine steam mist that kills germs and bacteria that can cause illness and aggravate allergies.

Website Sponsorship Information or Newsletter Questions?

[Lisa Cooper](#) (Website)
 HDR Engineering, Inc.
 (512) 531-5900

[Jennifer Lopez](#) (Newsletter)
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