

DALLAS JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2011 Five Outstanding Young Dallasites



HEATH CHEEK

Associate, Bell Nunnally & Martin, LLP

Heath Cheek is an associate attorney with the firm of Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP where he represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, and individuals with complex commercial litigation including antitrust, labor and employment, patent and trade secrets, real estate, and securities. Heath exhibits the same level of commitment to his community as he does with his clients. He founded and serves as chairman of the Texas Tech Quarterly Business Briefing, an event that provides scholarships to economically-disadvantaged, Dallas County students attending Texas Tech. Over the past three years, Heath has raised \$65,000 in scholarships for dozens of students, many of whom would not be able to attend college if it weren't for this aid. Heath was selected to serve on the North Texas Super Bowl XLV Host Committee where he and his committee of 100 were tasked with selling game and sponsorship packages through the NFL On Location program. Additional community and professional affiliations include Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Dallas Museum of Art Junior Associates, and Texas Tech Alumni Association of Dallas.

Mr. Cheek graduated *magna cum laude* from Texas Tech University where he received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science. He graduated from Baylor University School of Law where he was executive editor of the *Baylor Law Review*. Andrea Gage, recruiter for Texas Tech University, nominated Heath for the 2011 FOYD distinction. She wrote, "You may notice that most of Heath's involvement revolves around providing scholarships to needy students and there is a reason for that. Heath is a first-generation college graduate who grew up on a farm in the small West Texas town of Chillicothe. Due to drought and several years of bad crops, Heath's parents were not able to provide money for Heath's college education. Nevertheless, through the generosity of scholarship donors, Heath was able to attend Texas Tech University and, eventually, Baylor Law School. Heath has always viewed those scholarships as 'loans' that he intends to pay forward to high school students who experience similar hardship."

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CARL PANKRATZ

Senior Vice President/Legal Counsel, Capital Title of Texas, LLC

Carl Pankratz is senior vice president/legal counsel for Capital Title of Texas, LLC where he oversees the legal department, manages 200+ employees, and works with developers, lenders, and attorneys to ensure transactions go smoothly. Despite his busy career, Carl is committed to making his city of residence, Rowlett, great. In June 2011, Mr. Pankratz was elected to the Rowlett City Council, Place 3 in a run-off election against an incumbent. The Texas Bar Association recently elected Carl to fellow; this honor is bestowed to the top 1/3 of 1% of all Texas attorneys. He has been selected as one of 20 lawyers to participate in the State Bar of Texas Leadership Class, a program which recognizes professional, community and personal accomplishments. Carl is active in the following professional organizations: chair and founder of Blackacre 48 Commercial Real Estate Group, former vice president of the Rockwall County Boys and Girls Club, Texas Land Title Association PAC Board of Trustees, Tower Club Dallas 48 Board, and World Affairs Council.

Mr. Pankratz graduated *magna cum laude* from Southern Methodist University and he received his J.D. from the Dedman School of Law. Laurie Harris, Membership Director of Tower Club, nominated Mr. Pankratz. She wrote, "I personally have never known anyone under the age of 40 to be elected to a City Council, much less someone under 30. It is a true testament that the citizens of Rowlett would put that much faith in someone so young. Carl has proved to be an active and vital member of Tower Club as well as a good friend to all he meets. Carl Pankratz is very worthy of this award and I highly recommend him to the selection committee."

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JOHN ANSBACH

Chief Legal Officer for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

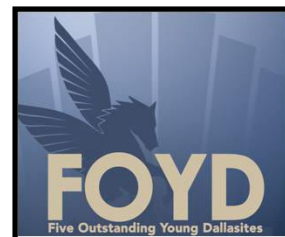
John Ansbach is the Chief Legal Officer for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Through his work John is devoted to stopping drunk driving, supporting the victims of this violent crime and preventing underage drinking. John has also been an active member of the community through his volunteer activities and currently serves in the General Counsel Forum – Dallas Chapter (2008–Present), including being the 2011 President and a past Member of the Board of Directors. He has worked with Susan G. Komen for the Cure® in the Dallas Affiliate (2008–Present) as a Member of the Board of Directors. He served with the Texas Association of Business (2010–Present) as a Member of the Board of Directors. He served with the United States Organization for Bankruptcy Alternatives (2007–2010) and in 2009, 2010 as the Legislative Director and a Member of the Board of Directors. He served on the National Foundation for Women Legislators (2010–Present) as the 2011 Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors. He is a current member of the Association of Corporate Counsel (2007–Present) and the Dallas Bar Association (1996–Present). He also lectures at the Southern Methodist School of Law as a Guest Lecturer (Government Relations & Lobbying 2011) and served at The University of Texas School of Law as a Guest Lecturer (Advanced Litigation 2004–2008).

His honors include Dallas Business Journal “40 Under 40” (2011), Dallas Business Journal – Best Corporate Counsel (2010), D CEO Magazine – Outstanding Corporate Counsel Finalist (2010), and a Marshall Memorial Fellow, German Marshall Fund (Summer 2011).

Mr. Ansbach graduated from Texas A&M University and the University of Texas, School of Law. John resides in Lakewood with his spouse, Cindy Kang Ansbach, and their two dogs.

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SARAH POLLEY

Executive Director, Vickery Meadow Learning Center

Sarah Polley is executive director at Vickery Meadow Learning Center; VMLC assists adults in some of the most impoverished areas of Dallas change their lives by teaching them to read and write in English and the center helps their young children get a head start in school by teaching them reading skills. Under Sarah's leadership, VMLC's budget has more than tripled, and the organization expanded to a second campus in West Dallas. Sarah is the chief fundraiser, while working with the Board of Directors to manage over 200 volunteers; most non-profits would need three or four staffers to handle all of these roles. Sarah has shepherded VMLC through these tough economic times and made it stronger than ever. The non-profit was recently recognized by the patrons of the Crystal Charity Ball, who selected VMLC to be a beneficiary this year. Ms. Polley was recognized at the SMU Women's Symposium with the 2010 Profile in Leadership Award. She is a graduate of the Dallas Regional Chamber's Leadership Dallas. Sarah serves on the steering committees for Literacy Coalition of Greater Dallas and With One Voice Immigration Coalition.

Ms. Polley received her Masters in Education from Texas Christian University and her Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies from Southern Methodist University. Wilson Aurbach, colleague, nominated Sarah for this honor. He wrote, "I have been on the Board of Directors with Sarah since 2007, and I have been consistently impressed by the results she obtains and the methods she uses. Sarah has to work with everyone from busy executives to full time empty nest volunteers and knows just how to handle every situation. Overall, I do not know anyone who serves humanity more effectively every day than Sarah."

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JEREMIAH QUARLES

Project Manager, Office of Economic Development, City of Dallas

Jeremiah Quarles is a project manager for the Office of Economic Development for the City of Dallas; it is in this role that he has established a profound reputation in his industry as he has influenced several businesses to stay and/or grow their operations in the City of Dallas, thus, producing millions of dollars for the city. Mr. Quarles is highly respected in the community as is evidenced in his involvement with several area agencies and organizations. As a member of Urban Financial Services Coalition, Jeremiah has spearheaded efforts to provide a school based financial literacy course, facilitated by our organization at Southern Dallas schools, in order to fight against financial “illiteracy” in these underserved communities. He quickly demonstrated his leadership skills, earning him the president-elected role as chapter programs assistant vice president. Jeremiah is also involved with the Economic Empowerment Committee for the Dallas Urban League Young Professionals. Last fall, Jeremiah organized a leadership development conference for nearly 100 young professionals featuring nationally renowned author and speaker, Fenorris Pearson. Jeremiah’s many accomplishments include the following: being named to the prestigious 2011 Apex Society Power 30 Under 30™ list, he was featured in the 2010 Dallas Business Journal’s 40 Under Forty, he was a finalist for the 2010 American Marshall Memorial Fellowship on international public policy, and he has been listed several times in Who’s Who Among U.S Business Executives & Professionals.

Mr. Quarles received his B.A. in Finance from Michigan State University. Akilah Wallace, colleague, nominated Jeremiah for this distinction. She wrote, “I don't just believe... I know Jeremiah Quarles will make an excellent addition to your Five Outstanding Young Dallasites because he stands out amongst young professionals in the in the Dallas community thanks to his unwavering capacity to serve young people and mentor other young professionals. On a lighter note, it is rare that I meet a young professional with as many national accolades, business accomplishments and personal success as Jeremiah who still displays such a humble attitude & presence. I am honored to nominate Mr. Jeremiah Quarles as a Five Outstanding Young Dallasite, because the recognition is well deserved!”