



**International Law Section's
International Human Rights Committee**
<http://ilstexas.org/human-rights-committee/>

Why lawyers in most sections of the State Bar of Texas will want to have access to information about the developing area of the law that is international human rights.

Administrative and Public Law: These issues may first be heard in the context of hearings before administrative bodies under international treaties.

African American Lawyers: This area of practice will be a developing area that may interest new lawyers looking for opportunities to develop practices.

Alternative Dispute Resolution: The sensitivity of issues related to this topic has already led to explorations of alternative dispute mechanisms to resolve issues expeditiously.

Animal Law: The abusive trade of live animals or the valued horns and other body parts of animals has an unfortunate relationship with the use of child labor and the abuse of indigenous people.

Appellate: These issues have already been addressed in many lengthy and indepth appellate cases and as the law develops, it will generate many more such cases.

Asian-Pacific Interest: This area fits well within this section's mission statement, especially in light of its interest in the affairs of the Asian community and law of countries on the Pacific Rim, and is a developing area of law that may interest new lawyers looking for opportunities to develop practices.

Aviation Law: The aviation industry is an international industry in both its operations and its supply chains. As a consumer industry, these issues can lead to significant impact in a short time period.

Business Law: No compliance program is complete without addressing this issue.

Collaborative Law: This is an area that is highly in need of creative thought on how to resolve issues when there are multiple parties involved such as local governments, indigenous people, and NGOs.

Computer and Technology: This area of law will be informed and further developed through technology, as information-gathering and investigations rely, for example, on sound security,

collection capability, analytics, mapping, and social networks that can be deployed effectively, legally, and ethically within and across jurisdictions.

Construction Law: To obtain a right to operate, construction companies often need to have addressed this issue with local governments and communities.

Consumer and Commercial Law: Consumers are becoming more aware of the impact of and the representations by companies on these issues which has and will continue to lead to consumer action including litigation.

Corporate Counsel: In-house counsel, particularly those who also carry the title of compliance officers, need to be aware of these issues, in order to avoid the pitfalls and to respond to the issues when they arise.

Criminal Justice: Many of the activities addressed on this issue are likewise crimes including human trafficking.

Entertainment and Sports Law: FIFA – need we say more?

Environmental and Natural Resources Law: These issues have their origin around the use of child and forced labor in mineral development. They continue as environmental issues impacting indigenous communities.

Family Law: Child labor is a major issue in this area and the rights of parents related to their children in an effort to protect them needs to be understood.

General Practice, Solo and Small Firm: Many small companies in Texas do business across the state's southern border. Unfortunately, these issues exist there as much for these smaller companies as others and the lawyers and firms representing them need to be familiar with these issues.

Government Law: There is mounting pressure on state and local governments to address these issues.

Hispanic Issues: This area fits well within this section's statement of purpose, which includes a commitment to study and report on laws and regulations that may affect the Hispanic Community, and is a developing area of law that may interest new lawyers looking for opportunities to develop practices.

Immigration and Nationality Law: Recent experience has shown that these issues can involve guest worker programs related to H-1B, H-2A, and H-2B visas and can create refugee and asylum issues.

Individual Rights and Responsibilities: There needs to be an understanding of the potential theories for protection of individual rights in this area and the forums in which those rights may be pursued.

Insurance Law: This is both a legal and reputational liability issue for which coverage and exclusion issues may likely occur.

Judicial: As the law develops in this area, it is important that the courts understand the history and the process that has led to these developments.

Labor and Employment Law: With over 40 million people in the world in slavery or forced labor, most labor and employment lawyers in Texas will eventually face this issue.

LGBT Law: This area of practice will be a developing area that may interest new lawyers looking for opportunities to develop practices. LGBT issues, including sexual orientation and gender identity, continue to be a developing area under this topic.

Litigation: As the law in this area develops, it will go from the soft law of the past to hard law and more litigation will follow.

Native American Law: The understanding of the law in this area will benefit from the teachings of the law as it has developed around Native Americans in Texas.

Oil, Gas, and Energy Resources Law: Energy companies do not get to choose where they do business but rather do business where the oil and gas is located. An overlay of a map of the hot spots around the world where human rights violations exist on a map showing where oil and gas can be found would show the direct correlation and impact this issue will continue to have on this industry.

Women and the Law: This area of practice will be a developing area that may interest new lawyers looking for opportunities to develop practices. Further, the issue of human trafficking has the greatest impact on women and as such, would benefit from greater attention and focus from lawyers who are invested in this section's mission statement and are interested in facilitating the active and effective participation of women in the community.