

Fall 2013 Pre-Convention Issue

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THE *ADVANCE*

*A Publication of the Dallas
Community College Faculty
Association*

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An Invitation

A Letter from the President

Do you want to see democracy in action? Do you enjoy watching or even being a participant in a debate on the pros and cons of a resolution presented for a vote by the constituency? If the answer is yes, or if you just enjoy the opportunity to be with your faculty colleagues, please mark your calendars and plan to attend the annual **Dallas Community College Faculty Association Convention on Friday, November 15, 2013, 2:00 p.m. at the Commissioner's Court, 411 Elm Street in the West End.**

As a member of your college's faculty association you have a vested interest in the goals and performance of the DCCFA Faculty Council. The Council is composed of the Faculty Association Presidents of Brookhaven College, Cedar Valley College, Eastfield College, El Centro College, Mountain View College, North Lake College, and Richland College. As your elected officers, they represent you at District meetings with the Chancellor, the Vice President's Council, the Chancellor's Staff, and at a multitude of meetings on your campus. At the Convention you will receive a status report from the Council, as well as reports from each of the following committees: Instructional Goals/Academic Freedom, Political Information, Communication, Economic and Faculty Welfare, and Membership.

Prior to the business session, Chancellor Wright L. Lassiter, Jr., will be recognized for his contributions during his years of service to the DCCCD. Then the Convention will be addressed by Frank Hill, the long-time and legendary attorney for the DCCFA. Mr. Hill, whose biography is featured in this Advance, is a dynamic speaker who annually is invited to speak at the TCCTA Leadership Conference. His topic for our convention will focus on Academic Freedom.

When the gavel signals the conclusion of the convention, join your colleagues at a post-convention reception at the Y. O. Ranch, a few short blocks from the Commissioner's Court. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and the opportunity to wind down after a busy week.

Looking forward to seeing you at the convention.

Ray Attner
President, Dallas Community College Faculty Association

Guest Speaker

Frank Hill



Mr. Hill has tried over 300 jury trials in state and federal courts, as well as many arbitrations. Some recent cases of note include his representation of a business client-plaintiff in a complex commercial litigation case in a four week jury trial in Tarrant County, Texas, in 2006. That trial concluded with a jury verdict in favor of the client in excess of three million dollars (with exemplary damages in excess of two million dollars). Mr. Hill also recently successfully defended a client in a multi-million dollar contract dispute involving a real estate development.

In addition, he recently successfully defended a specific performance and damage case arising from a multi-million dollar real estate transaction. In 2009, he recovered a \$2.6 million verdict in a real estate jury trial in Fort Worth, half of which was for punitive damages.

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Law, cum laude Southern Methodist University, 1966

Southwest Law Review; Order of Wolsack Member; John Leddy Jones Memorial Scholarship Holder;

Special Recognition



Dr. Wright L. Lassiter, Jr.

Dr. Wright L. Lassiter, Jr. was elected as the 6th and first African American Chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District in 2006. Before his election he had served as the President of El Centro College for twenty years. Prior to serving in that role, he had served as the president of Bishop College and Schenectady County Community College (New York).

His civic leadership and service has resulted in two presidential appointments and numerous awards. Notable among the awards is the Russell Perry Servant Leadership Award, one of the highest awards for civic service in Dallas.

Dr. Lassiter holds degrees from Alcorn State University, Auburn University, St Mary's Seminary, and Anderson Theological Seminary. He was awarded the honorary doctor of Humanities degree by Dallas Baptist University.

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Thomas Jefferson Award Recipient; First in Day Division Class; Outstanding 2nd Year Law Student Award Recipient

Bachelor of Arts, with honors University of Texas at Arlington, 1963, Majors: History and English

SPECIAL DISTINCTIONS: U.S. Attorney General's Award, Department of Justice American Board of Trial Advocates (Advocate); Charter Member of American Inn of Court (Master of the Bench); Member, Southwestern Law Journal, 1964 - 1965; Member: State Bar of Texas; Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation

PRACTICE AREAS: General Civil Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Constitutional Law; Employment Law; School Law Arbitration

Convention Reception

We invite you to join us at the Y.O. Ranch Steakhouse after our Convention:

Y.O. Ranch Steakhouse
702 Ross Avenue.
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: 214.744.3287

They will have stations (Cash Bar) set up for beer, wine and mixed drinks. Four appetizers will be served:

Farmer's Market Vegetable Display - Fresh Market Vegetables w/Hill Country Herb Dip, Balsamic Grilled Vegetables & Marinated Vegetables

YO Satay - Marinated and grilled Chicken glazed w/Thai Peanut Sauce

Buffalo Quesadillas - Slow Smoked Buffalo, Caramelized Onions & Swiss Cheese in a Griddled Flour Tortilla

Spanakopita - Cheese and Spinach Filled Phyllo Pastry

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Membership Update

Convention Update

Standing Committee Update