

TAKE NOTE

Make Plans to Attend TXCPA's Advocacy Day and Midyear Board of Directors Meeting in January

TXCPA's 2023 Advocacy Day and Midyear Board of Directors and Members Meeting will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24-25, 2023, in Austin. Attendees will hear legislative updates during the Advocacy Day program and are encouraged to visit legislators and legislative staff at the Texas Capitol to discuss critical business issues.

Go to the Leadership Meetings area of [TXCPA's website](#) for more details about the meeting.

Accommodations

[Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol](#)

701 East 11th St.

Austin, TX 78701

Rate: \$235 + & 15% tax

Discount cutoff date: January 4, 2023

Check-in: 3 p.m. | Check-out: 12 p.m.

Attendees are encouraged to reserve a room early to ensure availability

December is TXCPA Month of Service

Financial literacy is a focus area for service and education during TXCPA's annual Month of Service in December. Contact your chapter for local engagement opportunities or visit TXCPA's website to learn more about how you, your firm or your company can participate. We look forward to sharing the good work our members are doing in their local communities!

Leadership Nominations Results for 2023-2024 Positions

The following individuals were nominated for terms beginning June 1, 2023, and have consented to serve, if elected by the TXCPA members. Election of officers, directors-at-large, members of the Nominations Committee, and members of the Executive Board will be conducted through an electronic ballot sent to members in November.

Officers

Mohan Kuruvilla (Houston), Chair-elect (Chair 2024-2025)

Christi A. Mondrik (Austin), Treasurer-elect (Treasurer 2024-2025)

Josh H. LeBlanc (Southeast Texas), Secretary (2023-2024)

Executive Board (Three-year term expiring 2026)

Kenny A. Broom (Dallas)

Bryan R. Edwards (San Antonio)

Directors-at-Large (Three-year term expiring 2026)

Rod Aguilar (Permian Basin)

Elaine S. Flesch (Dallas)

Carriea Flowers (Dallas)

Melanie C. Geist (San Antonio)

Allen Heckaman (San Angelo)

Mehgan Ibanez (East Texas)

Favor Lee (Dallas)

Chris C. Lucas (Fort Worth)

Andrew Merryman (Victoria)

Nancy E. Ozuna (San Antonio)

Kate Rhoden (Austin)

Blake R. Rodgers (Dallas)

Directors-at-Large (Filling Unexpired Terms)

Andy Hall (Fort Worth) – Term ending 2024

Nominations Committee (2023-2024)

Lara Akinboye (Austin)

Caitlin J. Chupe (Corpus Christi)

Dora Jean Dyson (Central Texas)

Derby Gallo (Permian Basin)

Travis Garmon (San Angelo)

Terri M. Hornberger (Dallas)

Kathy Ploch (Houston)

Omar Rodriguez (El Paso)

Gary Tonniges, Jr. (Fort Worth)

Josh Wagner (San Antonio)

As TXCPA immediate past chair in 2023-2024, Sheila Enriquez (Houston) will automatically serve as chair of the 2023-2024 Nominations Committee. Dora Jean Dyson was appointed as vice chair. In accordance with the TXCPA Bylaws Article VIII(4), the most recent past chair, Jason Freeman (Dallas), and the 2023-

2024 chair-elect, Mohan Kuruvilla, will also serve as members on the 2023-2024 Nominations Committee.

The Nominations Committee also recommends that the names of the following individuals be forwarded to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants as representatives from Texas to serve on the AICPA Council.

AICPA Council

Sheila A. Enriquez (Houston) – Three-year term, May 2024-May 2027

Melanie C. Geist (San Antonio) – Three-year term, May 2024-May 2027

Lei D. Testa (Fort Worth) – Three-year term, May 2024-May 2027
Mohan Kuruvilla (Houston) – One-year designee, May 2024-2025

Editor's Note: This is the current slate of nominations as of press time of this *Today's CPA* issue.

88th Texas Legislative Session Preview

The 88th Legislative Session is right around the corner. Beginning on January 10, 2023, the Texas Legislature will be in session for 140 days – ending on May 29, 2023. While all legislative sessions have their unique character, issues and personalities, this session is likely to be significant for a few reasons.

First, there will be a few dozen new members of the legislature. The once-a-decade redistricting cycle in 2021 created a number of new House and Senate maps, some members retired, and many others decided not to seek reelection. While these changes are not unique to this session, the large number of new members can provide opportunities and challenges. We are

in the midst of the general election (at the time of this writing) and most political forecasters predict that both the House and Senate will increase their Republican majorities. We will have more to say about the election in the coming weeks and months.

Another issue unique to the upcoming session is the size of the predicted budget surplus. The legislature will go into the session with a budget surplus of between \$25-30 billion. Texas has had budget surpluses in the past, but nothing that approaches the currently predicted one. Increasing sales taxes, and oil and gas taxes, along with federal funds (both unspent funds and those continuing to come to Texas) from the federal relief programs, will provide the legislature the opportunity to address infrastructure needs (broadband, transportation, water, power grid), needs that have

not been sufficiently funded in previous sessions.

Property tax reform is on the top of everyone's mind, from state legislative leaders to members of the legislature to local officials to homeowners. With the very large surplus available, there is considerable discussion about how to provide homeowners with property tax relief but also not hamstringing local jurisdictions that rely on property taxes to pay for local needs. Other than the state budget, which is constitutionally mandated to pass every session, the only certainty – or near certainty – is that some sort of property tax reform will pass this session.

TXCPA's legislative priorities will focus on addressing the CPA pipeline. We will be looking to provide CPA students and candidates greater



**OUR PASSION IS
DOING GOOD THINGS
FOR GOOD PEOPLE.
WHAT IS YOUR PASSION?**

HERE ARE SOME OF THE PASSIONS WE HAVE HELPED
MAKE POSSIBLE FOR OUR CLIENTS

- Purchase my dream home
- Fund my children's college education
- Donate to my favorite charities in a tax efficient way
- Gift to my children now so I'm here to see them enjoy it
- Retire early and spend quality time with my grandchildren
- Ensure my loved ones are in good hands for years to come



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flexibility in the path to 150 hours for certification. TXCPA wants to enable students to take the CPA Exam (if they are able and ready to do so) after obtaining 120 semester hours. Licensure would still occur at 150 hours along with the required work experience. This change would put Texas in line with 47 of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions that are at 120 hours. TXCPA will also continue to be a resource for the legislature on tax issues, accounting regulatory matters and other issues that affect businesses.

We look forward to working with TXCPA members to ensure the Society has a productive legislative session. Make sure to watch all of the TXCPA communications for more information about the session.



Rising Stars Nominations Now Open!

If you have a friend or colleague who has shown innovative leadership qualities within the accounting profession, their local community or TXCPA, we want to hear from you! Anyone can nominate a rising star, but the nominees must be TXCPA members.

Submit your nominations on the [TXCPA website](#). Nominations must be completed by Dec. 15, 2022.



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