

Texas Center for Legal Ethics Announces 2020 Pope Award Winner

Reagan Simpson of Houston to receive annual honor

AUSTIN – The <u>Texas Center for Legal Ethics</u> is proud to announce that <u>Reagan W. Simpson</u> of Houston will receive the 2020 Chief Justice Jack Pope Professionalism Award.

Each year, the Texas Center for Legal Ethics presents the Pope Award to a judge or attorney who personifies the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in appellate law. The Pope Award is named for former Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Jack Pope, one of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics' founders and the first individual to receive the Award in 2009.

Simpson is an appellate attorney with Yetter Coleman in Houston and a Fellow in the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Last month he received the 2020 Greg Coleman Outstanding Appellate Lawyer Award from the Texas Bar Foundation. He was named Houston Appellate Lawyer of the Year in 2010 and 2016 and Austin Appellate Lawyer of the Year in 2013 by *Best Lawyers in America*.

"Reagan exemplifies professionalism," said former appellate justice Harvey Brown. "He treats opposing counsel with courtesy and respect and finds ways of forging common ground with them. His integrity is impeccable." Appellate lawyer Nina Cortell, who received the Pope Award in 2013, observed that Simpson "has consistently done honor to our profession." She called him "a man of the highest integrity and professionalism" whose "generosity of spirit and kindness complete the picture."

The Pope Award will be presented to Simpson by Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht at the Annual Texas Supreme Court Historical Society Dinner on Sept. 11 in Austin.

Founded in 1989 by Chief Justice Pope and two other retired Texas Supreme Court chief justices, the Texas Center for Legal Ethics promotes the values contained in the Texas Lawyer's Creed and fulfills its founders' vision to be the leading center of knowledge and resources for ethics and professionalism in Texas. For more information, visit the Texas Center for Legal Ethics website at http://www.legalethicstexas.com.

For more information on Reagan Simpson receiving the Pope Award, please contact Jonathan Smaby, executive director of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics, at 512-427-1477 or jonathan.smaby@texasbar.com.