

The Dallas Bar Association
800th Anniversary of Magna Carta Discussion Forum
&
Legal History Discussion Group

Celebrating 800 Years of “Rule by Law, Freedom Under Law,” 1215-2015

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 26 & SEPTEMBER 25—MCLE Ethics Credit Pending

In anticipation of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta Discussion Forum and the Legal History Discussion Group of the Dallas Bar Association would like to invite you to a series of CLE presentations intended to investigate the legal and professional duties of attorneys toward one another, toward their clients, and toward the courts. Approval of 1.0 hour of MCLE ethics credit has been received for Chief Judge Fitzwater’s June presentation and application for 1.0 hour of MCLE ethics credit will be made for Dr. Upham’s September presentation. CLE presentations will be held from noon to 1 at the Belo Mansion. This series of presentations is anticipated to continue through 2015 and will culminate in a 5-6 July 2015 conference in London, England. We hope you can join us at the Belo Mansion and in London.

June 26, 2013: **Chief Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas:** “The Legal Profession at a Crossroads—Predicting our Future from the Past and Present”

As the inaugural speech of the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta Discussion Forum, Chief Judge Fitzwater will discuss the current economic and competitive pressures facing lawyers and law firms, and how we face a crossroads between either treating our practice as an ordinary business or reasserting our roots as a profession that has obligations to the greater system of justice. He will explore the historical foundation and continued necessity of lawyers balancing their need to earn a living with their obligations to the client and the court. After relating how legal practice in America reached its current ultracompetitive state, Chief Judge Fitzwater will explore the future of legal practice and offer workable means for lawyers to facilitate the efficient administration of justice in the court system.

September 25, 2013: **Dr. David Upham, Director of Legal Studies at the University of Dallas:** “Magna Carta: The Promise of the Great Charter and Its Dependence on Ethical Lawyers”

The “Great Charter” has long been considered a source and exemplar of the Anglo-American tradition of individual rights. Many of its provisions, especially the famous chapters 39 and 40, mandate extensive procedural protections to safeguard the individual’s life, liberty, and property against unlawful violence, whether private or governmental. These protections, now elaborated in our federal and state constitutions and other laws, can prove mere parchment barriers in the absence of many auxiliary factors. Chief among these auxiliaries are ethical lawyers. Various case studies will be discussed to show that the promise of the Magna Carta will be unfulfilled without attorneys who are sufficiently ethical and numerous to manage the complexity of the law that might menace or protect the person and property of their fellow citizens.

CLE credit is provided at no charge but advanced registration would be greatly appreciated. Lunch is provided, for a fee, and served at the Belo Mansion beginning at 11:30. We look forward to seeing you on June 26 and September 25.

To register please send an email to Shane Tucker at stucker@velaw.com.