

**JUSTIN R. BRAGIEL**  
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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Texas Hotel & Lodging Association, Austin, Texas**  
General Counsel, 2008—Present

### **Legal Experience (highlights):**

- Chief legal counsel to Texas Hotel & Lodging Association (THLA), a 501(c)(6) nonprofit state trade association.
- Manage and oversee a legal program servicing over 5,000 association members.
- Statewide expert in the fields of hotel occupancy taxation, hospitality law, contract law, building facilities standards, and employment law.
- Advise members on all legal issues affecting hospitality business operations, including issues such as ADA law, alcoholic beverages, business organizations, contracts, employment law, health and safety regulations, hotel taxes, land use, landlord-tenant law, local regulations, margins tax, premises liability, property taxation, discrimination in places of public accommodations, special local district taxation, tort liability, and more.
- Advise local communities on hotel occupancy tax law and hotel regulatory issues.
- Primary legal counsel to over ten local lodging associations across Texas.

### **Governmental Affairs Advocacy:**

- Represent and advocate for the hotel and lodging industry before the Texas legislature, state agencies, at the federal level, and the local level.
- Formulate legislative agenda and strategy.
- Responsible for introducing and passing positive legislation and defeating or amending negative legislation.
- Advocate for the lodging industry and individual lodging properties at the municipal and county level on a diverse array of issues such as taxation and regulatory ordinances.

### **Communications:**

- Conduct communications with 72-member statewide board of directors and association membership on public policy, legislative, and legal issues.
- Conduct statewide and regional meetings, and conduct over 30 seminars quarterly, monthly industry publication, legislative alerts, grass roots advocacy program, and other communications and outreach.
- Speak before industry and local government groups.
- Editor of THLA publications, including hotel taxation guides, legal publications, newsletters, emails, etc.
- Undergraduate hospitality law guest lecturer.

## **PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Marilyn Shell, Fort Worth, Texas**  
Legal Assistant, October 2006—June 2007

- Assistant in two-attorney estate planning, probate, and family law practice
- Prepared pleadings and estate planning documents
- Participated in general law practice management

**American Airlines Legal Department, Fort Worth, Texas**

Legal Intern, Summer 2006

- Clerked in a large in-house legal department
- Prepared legal memos, legal research findings, and legal opinions
- Reviewed and prepared high-value and high-profile agreements
- Ensured compliance with federal and state law for system-wide operations

**Attorney General of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas**

Legal Intern, Summer 2005

- Assisted staff attorneys with trial preparation and attended trials
- Prepared legal documents
- Established new cases and contacted clients

**Bank of America, Austin, Texas**

Banking Center Service Manager, June 1999—August 2004

- Five years of experience in banking center customer service and management
- Management of bank personnel and consumer banking operations

**EDUCATION**

**Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, Fort Worth, Texas**

Juris Doctor, May 2007

Admitted to the State Bar of Texas, November 2, 2007

**The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas**

B.A. in Government, 2001

**CERTIFICATIONS, CIVIC, AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Admitted to the State Bar of Texas
- Registered Lobbyist, State of Texas
- Notary Public
- Texas Society of Association Executives Member
- International Society of State Hotel Association Executives Member
- Austin Bar Association Member