$|\mathbf{JCA}|\mathbf{LAW}|_{\mathbf{L}_{c}}^{\mathbf{P}}|$

Legal Services for:



LAREDO

216 W. Village Blvd., Suite 202 Laredo, Texas 78041 Phone: (956) 717-1300

SAN ANTONIO

100 N. E. Loop 410, Suite 1070 San Antonio, Texas 78216 Phone: (210) 465-7440

WWW.JCA-LAW.COM

CORPUS CHRISTI

4466 South Staples St. Corpus Christi, Texas 78411 Phone: (361) 333-2229

Our Firm

- The attorneys at JCA Law, PLLC are professionals, genuine, trustworthy, and hardworking individuals.
- At JCA Law, PLLC, the Firm strongly believes and demands that every lawyer have a clear understanding of the law, and at the same time, be able to apply practical decision-making to yield the most effective and efficient results for the client.
- Our Firm strongly believes in a team approach. All attorneys of the Firm work in a collaborative manner to effectively and efficiently address our clients' needs.
- To be proactive, our Firm routinely sends communications to its clients on recent changes to case or statutory law, such as: religion in schools; social media (employee/student) affecting districts; physical and mental issues in the workplace, and special education legal topics.

Areas of Practice

- Education
- Employment
- Special Education
- Student Rights
- Real Estate
- Construction
- Constitutional
- Contracts

- Elections
- Transportation
- Procurement
- Business
- Governance
- Public Finance
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation

Guidance on Hot Topics

- Immigration issues in public schools
- AI and Cyberattacks
- School Funding
- Teacher Shortage Legal Issues
- School Safety
- Social Media/First Amendment

JCA Law, PLLC

- JCA Law is committed to providing quality customer service and client support. Accordingly, the Firm will take the time to understand South San Antonio ISD's needs and expectations from its Superintendent and Board of Managers.
- JCA Law is committed to Customer Service, the Firm is open to receiving feedback from the District in real-time and commits to adjusting as needed.
- JCA Law is available at any time by phone or e-mail. The Firm will maintain an open line of communication with the District to remain accessible and encourage collaboration with the Administration and Board.
- JCA Law is a long-standing and respected school law Firm. As such, the Attorneys at the Firm have a wide personal and professional network that will help ensure South San Antonio ISD's needs are met.

Training Components

- The Firm provides an array of trainings, with particular emphasis on employment law claims and defenses. Training provides our clients with knowledge and avenues on how to prevent legal risks saving valuable time and money.
- Our lawyers keep clients up-to-date on the law through training, counseling, and presentations. We provide information (forms, letters, training) to District representatives to enable them to learn and apply the law on a daily basis without having to resort to calling a lawyer, thereby cutting down on its legal expenses.
- The Firm truly believes that while it is important to be available, it is also equally important to educate our clients so that calls to an attorney are made only as needed.

Clients



SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Clint I.S.D.
- Carrizo Springs I.S.D.
- Christoval I.S.D.
- Crystal City ISD.
- Edgewood I.S.D.
- Freer I.S.D.
- Greenville I.S.D.
- Harlandale I.S.D.
- Jim Hogg County I.S.D.
- Kermit I.S.D.
- Knippa I.S.D.
- Laredo I.S.D.
- Mathis I.S.D.
- Medina Valley I.S.D.
- Natalia I.S.D.
- Pettus I.S.D.
- Poteet I.S.D.
- Riviera I.S.D.
- Robstown I.S.D.
- Roma ISD
- San Elizario I.S.D.
- San Marcos Consolidated I.S.D.
- Skidmore-Tynan ISD
- Taft I.S.D.

Significant Recent Events / Decisions

- *Magdalena Flores v. Crystal City ISD, Cause No. 21-09-14815-ZCV;* Magdalena Flores worked as a Business Manager in CCISD's Finance Department. After allegedly discovering that another District employee had remaining clocked in outside working hours and editing her time sheets without authorization, Flores filed two complaints with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) alleging time theft and fraud. After her employment contract was non-renewed, Flores sued under the Texas Whistleblower Act ("Act"), alleging that she was retaliated for reporting illegal activity to TEA. Our firm defended CCISD. At the trial court, our firm argued that Flores's claims fell outside of the Act because her report to the TEA alleging time theft and fraud did not involve a violation of "law," was not made in good faith based on Flores' experience and training, and because the TEA was not an "appropriate law enforcement agency" under the Act. The trial court denied summary judgment in favor of CCISD. The District appealed to the 8th Court of Appeals. The 8th Court of Appeals agreed with the District's arguments, holding that Flores, based on her experience, knew or should have known that the reported acts did not constitute time theft or fraud; that her reports were not reports illegal activity and that TEA was not an appropriate law enforcement agency under the Act under the circumstances. The 8th Court of Appeals agreed and dismissed the case. Flores appealed to the Texas Supreme Court but, after briefing from our firm, was denied review. Attorney Mario G. Perez, Jr. served as lead counsel at the trial and appellate level.
- *HB* 1669 Passed by the full House of Representatives on April 4, 2017, that would help reduce time and costs that school districts expend on extracurricular complaints.
- *ETC Marketing, LTD, Appellants v. Harris County Appraisal District, Appellee*; Cause No. 15-0687 (Tex. Apr. 28, 2017) TASB Legal Assistance Fund hired our Firm to prepare an Amicus Brief, and the Texas Supreme Court ruled in HCAD's favor holding that stored gas is subject to taxation.
- Sonia Herrera Marquez, Claudia Garcia, and Alicia Gomez, for and on Behalf of their Minor Children, Appellants, v. Clint Independent School District, Appellee; 2016 WL 1268000 (Tex. Apr. 1, 2016) The Texas Supreme Court ruled in the District's favor holding that Parents need to exhaust their administrative remedies prior to filing suit in Court with respect to intra-district funding disputes.
- Josephine Martinez, Appellant, v. Mathis Independent School District, Appellee, Cause No. 13-18-00495-CV (July 30, 2020) Our firm secured a favorable ruling on appeal in this case arising from a pay dispute between the school district and one of its at-will employees. The Court of Appeals reversed the trial court's judgment and rendered judgment in favor of the District, dismissing Martinez's lawsuit for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction.

Distinctions

- Texas Education Agency Registered Provider (#2025-4-12-RP7023)
- Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Council of School Attorneys
- National School Board Association (NSBA) Council of School Attorneys
- State Bar of Texas School Law Section
- Education Law Association
- Bond Buyer's Municipal Marketplace Red Book
- Licensed to practice in Federal Court's in Texas
- Licensed to practice in the United States 5th Circuit Court of Appeals
- Licensed by the State Bar of Texas and eligible to practice all courts in Texas
- External Governance Counsel For Texas Education Agency
- Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Certified

Our Promise

• With a goal of providing effective consultation, advice, and opinions on legal issues, our Firm is well equipped to meet the needs of South San Antonio ISD. Our Firm currently serves as general counsel to many Districts and the Texas Education Agency Governance Division. Our firm holds a committed relationship to our clients. We will be honored to represent the South San Antonio ISD Board and Administration.

Attorneys



Juan J. Cruz Partner

jcruz@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- General Civil Practice
- Education Law
- Labor & Employment
- Local Government
- Public Finance

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Houston Law School (1995)
- B.A., University of Texas, San Antonio (1991)



sgarcia@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE:

- Labor & Employment
- Civil Litigation
- Special Education

EDUCATION:

- J. D., University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Tx (1995)
- B. A., University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Tx (1992)

Sonya M. Garcia Partner



Lisa M. Paul Partner



Tony Resendez Attorney

lpaul@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE:

- Labor & Employment
- Civil Litigation
- School Law
- Real Estate
- Contract Law

EDUCATION:

- J.D., University of Houston Law Center, 1994
- B.A., Texas A&M University, 1990

tresendez@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Board Governance
- Education Law
- Employment Law
- General Civil Litigation
- General Corporate Law

- J.D., University of Houston Law School
- B.S., Texas A&M University, College Station



Jose Luis "Joe" Benavides, III Associate Attorney

jbenavides@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE:

- Labor & Employment
- Education Law
- Civil Litigation

EDUCATION:

- J.D., St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Tx (2022)
- B.A., St. Edwards University (2016)



Ricardo Benavides, III Associate Attorney

rbenavides @jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Special Education
- Labor & Employment Law
- Civil Litigation
- Administrative Law
- Public Finance

- J.D., St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Tx (2019)
- B.A., University of Incarnate Word, San Antonio, Tx (2015)



Mario G. Perez, Jr. Associate Attorney



Valeria E. Reyes Associate Attorney

mperez@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- School Law
- Civil Litigation
- Special Education
- Employment Defense
- Public Finance

EDUCATION

- J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law (2018)
- B.A., Texas Tech University, (2015)

vreyes@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- School Law
- Labor & Employment Law
- Civil Litigation
- Open Records

- J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law (2015)
- B.A., Loyola University Chicago (2012)



Michelle K. Bartley of Counsel



sbrosig@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Education Law
- Special Education
- General Litigation
- Open Government

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Texas School of Law, Austin (2015)
- B.A., Cornell University (2011)

Sani Brosig-Klingelb rger of Counsel

mbartley@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Construction Litigation
- Civil Litigation
- Real Estate
- Local Government

- J.D., Seattle University School of Law (1994)
- B.A., University of Washington, (1998)



Melissa Gonzales of Counsel

mgonzales@jca-law.com

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Education Law
- Employment Law
- Civil Litigation
- Criminal Law

- J.D., Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY (2000)
- BA, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY (1996)

Follow Us On Social Media!





@jcalaw



Get In Touch

LAREDO

216 W. Village Blvd., Ste. 202, Laredo, Tx 78041 (956) 717-1300

SAN ANTONIO

100 N. E. Loop 410, Ste. 1070, San Antonio, Tx 78216 (210) 465-7440

CORPUS CHRISTI

4466 South Staples St., Corpus Christi, Tx 78411 (361) 333-2229