



TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



September 15 - 16, 2023
Austin, Texas

FAITH. FAMILY. FREEDOM.

OUR MISSION & VISION

Texas Values is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization that seeks to preserve and advance a culture of family values in the state of Texas. We stand for biblical, Judeo-Christian values by ensuring Texas is a state in which religious liberty flourishes, families prosper, and every human life is valued.

OUR CORE VALUES OF FAITH, FAMILY, AND FREEDOM ARE PROMOTED IN TEXAS THROUGH:

- Policy research
- Public education and standing for truth in the media
- Grassroots mobilization
- Voter education
- Reviewing legislation and providing legal analysis
- Testifying before the Texas Legislature, State Board of Education, and other governmental entities



A WELCOME FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Fellow Texan,

Blessings to you and your family, and thank you for joining us for our 2023 Texas Faith, Family & Freedom Forum! We are continuing to celebrate our 10th Anniversary of Texas Values but now looking forward to another 10 years! The next decade of work, with your help and our Lord Jesus' guidance is going to be so important for Texas.

Proverbs 18:17 tells us that "he who presents his case first seems right, until someone steps forth to challenge him." These words from the Bible summarize what we do every day at Texas Values on the issues of religious freedom, marriage and family, and life. We defend these values in the courts, legislature, and media.

We also travel around the state helping churches, groups, and individual Texans get educated on their rights in law and policy. As a fifth-generation Texan and a licensed Texas attorney since 2003, I am "all in" for our faith and families in Texas.




At this annual event our goal is to educate, motivate, and activate you! We hope you enjoy our Christian worldview educational policy forum, and together we will help keep Texas "one state, under God"!

Please join us in planning and preparing for the next 10 years of Texas Values, and in the fight to protect our values in Texas!

Email Updates and Alerts
txvalues.org/subscribe

Text Alerts
Text "TXVALUES" to 797979

Follow Us On Social Media

   #TXForum23
#LifeWins
#HelpNotHarm
#SaveWomensSports

Thank you and God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Saenz". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jonathan Saenz
President, Texas Values

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

12:00

Registration Opens

1:00

Welcome Address & Prayer

Jonathan Saenz, Pastor Danny Forshee

1:15

Now Playing: Drag Shows and Other Sexual Performances Targeting Your Kids

Rep. Matt Shaheen, Terry Schilling, Pastor Shane Allen, Brian Russell

2:00

Power Shift Back to the States? Religious Freedom, Parental Rights, Pro-Life, Fairness in Sports, and More

Holly Randall, Roger Severino, Jessica Steinmann, Jonathan Saenz

2:45

Break

3:00

And God Created Them: Male and Female: SB 14 & Protecting Kids from Gender Transition

Rep. Tom Oliverson, Joseph Kohm, Jonathan Covey

3:45

Life Panel: How A Strong Pro-Life Texas Can Make America Pro-Life Again

Rep. Ellen Troxclair, Erin P. Getz, Chelsey Youman, Jodi Hendricks, Ashley Fordinal

4:30

State Keynote Address: Office of Governor Greg Abbott

*Steve Munisteri, Senior Advisor to Governor Greg Abbott
{with Jonathan Saenz}*

6:00

VIP Reception (Additional Ticket Required)

Sam Brownback, Trump Administration Ambassador for Religious Freedom

7:00

Policy Forum Dinner (Additional Ticket Required)

Sam Brownback, Trump Administration Ambassador for Religious Freedom

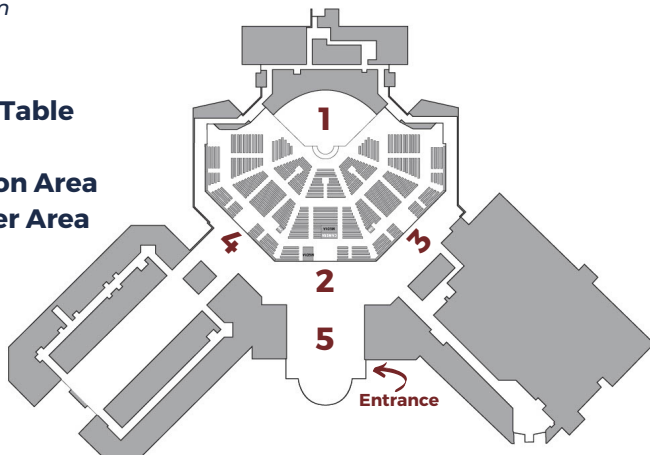
1. Stage

2. Registration Table

3. VIP Area

4. VIP Reception Area

5. Friday Dinner Area



FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

9:00

Pastor Meet and Greet

9:00

Welcome Address, Prayer, Worship, Giving Back

Jonathan Saenz, Pastor Steve Riggie,

9:35

Break

9:45

The Supreme Panel

Honorable Jimmy Blacklock, Honorable John Devine, Jonathan Saenz

10:30

The Church Ambassador Network of Texas (TXCAN): Texas Pastors Speak

Pastor Allan Christopherson, Pastor Julio Patino, Pastor Ronny Marriott, Pastor Jorge Tovar, Juda Kunze

11:15

Detransitioner Keynote Address: Chloe Cole

11:45

Lunch

12:00

How We Saved Women's Sports in Texas: Part 1

Paula Scanlan, Kassidy Comer, Riley Gaines, Adriana McLamb, Mary Elizabeth Castle

12:40

How We Saved Women's Sports in Texas: Part 2

Rep. Valoree Swanson, Sen. Mayes Middleton, Mary Elizabeth Castle, Megan Benton

1:15

The Value of the State Family Policy Council (FPC) Network

Sen. Angela Paxton, Joseph Kohm, Pastor Steve Riggie, Caroline Harris, Jonathan Saenz

1:55

Break

2:10

"I Know The Law!!": Now What on Pro-Life?

John Seago, Tim Von Dohlen, Stephanie Rankin

2:45

What's So Special About School Choice: Preview of The Special Session

Rep. Nate Schatzline, Michael Barba, Christian Collins, Jonathan Covey

3:30

Pro-Life Keynote: Abby Johnson

4:00

Closing Address

Jonathan Saenz

SPEAKERS

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



SHANE ALLEN

Taylor, Texas - Faith Leader
Senior Pastor at
Crossroads Church

crossroadstaylor.org

Shane became a Christian in 1994 in Sherman, Texas, married his wife Wendy in 1995, and graduated from Bible College in 1999. They moved back to Sherman and had two children, Brennan and Rebecca. In 2007, Shane and Wendy left First Assembly in Sherman, Texas, to pastor their first church, First Assembly of God, in Taylor, TX. During their time there, they oversaw the construction of a new church building and the name changed to Crossroads Assembly of God. Shane is passionate about seeing a genuine revival where lives are changed and transformed by the power of Jesus Christ.) Last year Shane lead an effort to protect the Taylor Christmas parade from a Drag Queen takeover



MICHAEL BARBA

K-12 Education Policy Director
for the Texas Public Policy
Foundation

texaspolicy.com
[@TTPPF](https://twitter.com/TTPPF)

Michael's work is focused upon education because it provides our children with economic, civic, and moral benefits: a good education offers students a path to prosperous work, teaches students why and how they must care for their neighbor, and gives students practice in the virtues that allow them to attain lifelong freedom and happiness. Previously, Michael served as a specialist on the System of Great Schools (SGS) team at the Texas Education Agency. Michael has also served as the Associate Policy Director for the Catholic bishops of Texas, whom he represented before the state legislature and administrative agencies. Born and raised in El Paso, he completed his undergraduate and graduate education in political philosophy at the University of Dallas.



JIMMY BLACKLOCK

Texas Supreme Court Justice

txcourts.gov/supreme

Before being appointed to the Texas Supreme Court by Gov. Abbott, Justice Blacklock served as Gov. Abbott's General Counsel. Previously at the Attorney General's Office, under then-AG Abbott, he handled appeals and trials of constitutional cases in state and federal court involving matters such as federalism, religious liberty, and the separation of powers. Earlier in his career, Justice Blacklock was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. He clerked for Judge Jerry Smith on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit after graduating with a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He was born in Houston and now lives in Austin with his wife and three daughters.



SAM BROWNBACK

Trump Admin Ambassador
for Religious Freedom

brownbackgroup.org
[@SamuelBrownback](https://twitter.com/SamuelBrownback)

Sam Brownback served as US Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom from February 2018 to January 2021. He served as Governor of Kansas from 2011 to 2018. Prior to that he represented his home state in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. Today, he continues his work on religious freedom, both in the US and around the globe.



MARY ELIZABETH CASTLE

Director of Government
Relations for Texas Values

txvalues.org
[@MECastlePolicy1](https://twitter.com/MECastlePolicy1)

Mary Elizabeth Castle is the Director of Government Relations for Texas Values. Previously, Mary Elizabeth worked under the General Counsel at Midwestern State University, focusing on education policy. She also worked at First Liberty Institute, where she conducted research and performed outreach for attorneys. Mary Elizabeth holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from SMU and received her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Texas Tech School of Law.



ALLEN CHRISTOPHERSON

Senior Pastor at Bethesda
Baptist Church in Burleson, TX

bbcburleson.org

Allen has served in many positions within the local church in Texas & Kansas for more than twenty years. He is the proud husband of his wife Becky for 35 years. Thirty four of those as a father as well. He comes from a military family & has a son currently active duty in the US Airforce. Allen has a passion for both evangelism & discipleship. Each of these have to do with equipping the church to move out beyond the walls of the local church to reach the community, the state, & the nations. Working with local, state, & national leaders to address the needs within the population is crucial in order to see real change within our divided nation & address the needs of the people.



CHLOE COLE

“Detransitioner” & Activist
Against Child Gender
Modification

donorbox.org/chloe-cole
[@ChoooCole](https://twitter.com/ChoooCole)

Chloe Cole, a poised and articulate 18-year-old young woman, passionately advocates against the practice of transitioning minors. Driven by a noble mission to safeguard children from potentially harmful ideologies and medical interventions, Chloe draws from her personal experiences to shed light on the distressing consequences of “gender-affirming care” for adolescents. Having embarked on her own transition journey at the tender age of 12, including puberty suppressants, cross sex hormones at 13, and a double mastectomy at 15, only to subsequently detransition at 16, Chloe speaks with firsthand authority on the deeply traumatic effects experienced by minors undergoing such treatments.



KASSIDY COMER

NCAA Female Athlete

[@kcomer64](https://twitter.com/kcomer64)

Kassidy Comer is a retired collegiate basketball player. Having gone up against men in multiple practices and scrimmages over the years, she has experienced firsthand the differences between the two sexes in strength, speed, and power. Comer has been fighting since 2021 to help protect girls and women in UIL and collegiate competition. It has been an honor for Comer to be a part of this fight, and continue to turn the tides around the nation toward the protection of women’s spaces and sports.

SPEAKERS



JONATHAN COVEY

Director of Policy for
Texas Values

txvalues.org
[@jonathan_covey](https://twitter.com/jonathan_covey)

Jonathan Covey is the Director of Policy for Texas Values. Before joining Texas Values, Jonathan worked for a member of the U.S. Congress and then spent over 5 years working in the Texas Capitol Building. He first served as Chief of Staff for a State Representative, and afterward as Senior Policy Analyst for a State Senator. Jonathan graduated with a Bachelor's from Thomas Edison State University and obtained his first law degree from Oak Brook College of Law.



JOHN DEVINE

Texas Supreme Court Justice

txcourts.gov/supreme

Justice John Devine was first elected to the Supreme Court of Texas in November 2012 and was re-elected in 2018. Justice Devine served as district judge of the 190th State District Court in Harris County from 1995 until 2002 and for nine years as an appointed special judge for the Harris County justice of the peace courts. During his tenure, he tried nearly 350 jury trials and presided over more than 500 bench trials. In 1998, he was voted well qualified by the Houston Bar Association. Justice Devine reduced his court's case backlog by more than 40 percent during his two terms. He was awarded the title of "Texas Size Hero" by Focus on the Family magazine. In 2002, he was appointed as a special judge for the Harris County justice courts and served until 2011. Justice Devine has been married since 1989 to Nubia Piedad Gomez, and the couple has six children.



DR. DANNY FORSHEE

Lead Pastor at
Great Hills Baptist Church

dfea.com
[@dannyforshee](https://twitter.com/dannyforshee)

Danny is the President of the Danny Forshee Evangelistic Association based in Austin, Texas, and serves as the Lead Pastor at Great Hills Baptist Church. He is a past Chairman of the Board of the Executive Committee for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. Danny has published articles in the areas of evangelism and church growth and has written three books entitled For the One, Modern Family Vintage Values & Jesus and the Church. He writes a daily devotional, Danny's Daily Devotions, and a weekly podcast, REvangelical: Rethinking Christian Living.



RILEY GAINES

NCAA Swimming Champion
Save Women's Sports Leader

rileygainescenter.org
iww.org
[@RileyGaines](https://twitter.com/RileyGaines)

My name is Riley Gaines and I just recently graduated from the University of Kentucky where I was a swimmer. I finished my career as a 12x NCAA All-American, 5x SEC Champion, and 2x Olympic Trial Qualifier. At NCAA Championships in March, I tied with transgender swimmer Lia Thomas. After seeing and dealing with the effects this had on myself and the other female athletes at the meet, I have been outspoken on why biological males competing against females is unfair and wrong on so many levels. I will continue being an advocate for fairness in women's sports until a change is made and

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



ERIN P. GETZ

Director of the State March Program with March for Life

marchforlife.org
@ErinPGetz

Erin P. Getz formerly held pro-abortion views before diving into the truth behind abortion at the end of her college career. Once she discovered the truth about abortion & that life begins at conception, she committed herself to becoming a pro-life advocate through volunteer efforts & eventually making it her full-time job to be a voice for the voiceless. In 2021 she joined the March for Life as the Director of State March Programs, overseeing & planning the organization's state marches nationwide & helping the voice of the pro-life movement be heard in every capitol city.



JODI HENDRICKS

Executive Director of the New Mexico Family Action Movement

nmfam.org
@JodiHendricks_6

Jodi Hendricks is a native New Mexican, a published Author, and the Executive Director of the New Mexico Family Action Movement. As she and her husband raise their four children in Albuquerque it has become clear that the New Mexico Jodi grew up in is not the same New Mexico in which she is raising her children. Therefore, Jodi chose to leave her profession as a Mental Health Counselor and work diligently to influence policy, empower families and churches, and unleash biblical citizenship in the Land of Enchantment because today's New Mexican's deserve a New Mexico where families can thrive.



ABBY JOHNSON

Former Planned Parenthood Director & Pro-Life Leader

abortionworker.com
@AbbyJohnson

Abby worked for Planned Parenthood for 8 years and quit after witnessing an ultrasound-guided abortion of a 13-week-old fetus. Her defection prompted a career as a pro-life speaker. In 2012, she founded And Then There Were None, the only ministry that helps abortion workers quit and find healing. She has helped over 650 abortion workers quit. Her first book, Unplanned, was made into a movie in 2019 and her newest book, Fierce Mercy, was released in 2022. She and her husband, Doug, have eight children.



JOSEPH KOHM

Director of Public Policy at Family Policy Alliance

familypolicyalliance.com
@jakohm3

Joseph leads Family Policy Alliance (FPA), its policy strategy, provides policy and legislative expertise, and drafts and advocates for pro-family legislation at the state and federal levels. He has worked extensively on FPA's Help Not Harm, After Roe, Let Parents Parent, and Save Girls Sports campaigns, collaborating with legislators and state and national allies to enact policies that protect born and unborn children, families, parental rights, and women's safety and opportunities. Joseph is a U.S. Army veteran and a graduate of Regent University School of Law. Joseph's previous legal experiences include anti-trafficking in persons (human trafficking) legal efforts, both in foreign and domestic jurisdictions and states.

SPEAKERS



RONNY MARRIOTT

Lead Pastor at
First Baptist Burleson

firstburleson.org
[@ronnymariott](https://twitter.com/ronnymariott)

Ronny has been married to Robin for 35 years and has been blessed with 3 children, Molly, Morgan & Ryan. Mesquite is his hometown and he graduated with his BA from Howard Payne University and has his MDiv and DMin from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Ronny has been pastoring at First Baptist Burleson since 2016. He is a writer for Lifeway and Baptistway Press and serves on the Board of Trustees at Howard Payne University, Theological Education Foundation for BGCT and Burleson Area Chamber of Commerce. Ronny currently serves as 1st Vice President for Baptist General Convention of Texas and on the Advisory Board for First Priority, an organization that supports Christian Clubs on Middle and High School campuses.



ADRIANA MCLAMB

Marketing Director for the
Independent Women's Forum

iwf.org
[@adrianamclamb](https://twitter.com/adrianamclamb)

Adriana is the marketing director at Independent Women's Forum where she oversees all of IWF's social media and digital campaign strategies and execution. On top of her role at IWF, Adriana is a former Division NCAA athlete and current volleyball coach and recruiting coordinator. Because of this she is extremely passionate about Title IX and the fight to protect women's spaces. "To put a biological male on the women's court gives them an unfair advantage in jumping, speed, and strength. While I respect those who wish to be transgender, it is now coming at the expense of hurting our female athletes by eliminating opportunities for females, like myself, to compete at a high level, and I worry about the athletes I coach and how it will affect their prospects."



MAYES MIDDLETON

Texas State Senator
District 11

senate.texas.gov/members
[@mayes_middleton](https://twitter.com/mayes_middleton)

Mayes resides in Galveston with his wife, Macy, and four children. He is President of Middleton Oil Company, an independent oil and gas company, and also runs ranching, cattle, and farming operations. He and his wife support numerous local community organizations and faith-based charities. Prior to serving in the Texas Senate, Mayes served two terms in the Texas House of Representatives. During his last term in the Texas House, Mayes served as Chairman of the Texas House Freedom Caucus. Throughout his time in both the House and Senate, Mayes has consistently ranked among the top most conservative members of the Legislature.



STEVE MUNISTERI

Senior Advisor to
Governor Greg Abbott

gov.texas.gov

Steve is an attorney who served as the chairman of the Republican Party of Texas from 2010 to 2015. In 2017, Munisteri was appointed to the White House staff as deputy assistant to President Trump and principal deputy director of the Office of Public Liaison. Early in his political career, Munisteri served as state chairman of the Texas Chapter of Young Americans for Freedom and founded the Young Conservatives of Texas in 1980.

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



DR. TOM OLIVERSON

Texas State Representative
District 130

[@TomOliverson](http://house.texas.gov/members)

Dr. Oliverson is Vice-Chair of the House Republican Caucus. He has authored legislation on a diverse set of issues including: healthcare, education, local government, religious freedoms, the 2nd amendment & protecting the unborn. Tom serves as the Chairman of the Workers Compensation Insurance Committee with NCOIL. He is also active with the National Association of Christian Lawmakers where he is the Chair of the National Legislative Council. He serves on multiple taskforces including the Texas Conservative Coalition, American Legislative Exchange Council, and National Conference of State Legislatures. Dr. Oliverson is a board-certified anesthesiologist & partner at US Anesthesia Partners, the largest anesthesia group in TX. He & his wife Jennifer live in Cypress with their three children.



JULIO PATINO

Pastor at Casa de
Oración

[@PastorJulio8](http://laredochurch.com)

Julio, along with his wife Martha, founded Casa De Oracion (House of Prayer) in Laredo, Tx in November 2002. Through many trials & tribulations Pastor Julio has served the body of Christ with love & gratefulness to the Lord. He is a licensed and ordained minister with Covenant Connections International for more than 21 years where he also serves as Presbyter. Pastor Julio has an honorary degree of Doctor of Ministry at Northwestern Theological Seminary. He was the 8th of 12th children, most of which are ministers.



ANGELA PAXTON

Texas State Senator
District 8

[@SenPaxton](http://senate.texas.gov/members)
[@AngelaPaxtonTX](http://senate.texas.gov/members)

Angela was a secondary math teacher and school counselor for more than 20 years and the first educator elected to the Texas Senate in over two decades. Angela is an adopted child and the first person in her family to graduate from college. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the State Affairs Committee. She is also the Chair of the Senate Republican Caucus, where she works with the other Republican Senators to advance our conservative priorities. Senator Paxton and her husband, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, met as students at Baylor University and have been married since 1986. They have four grown children and three grandchildren, and are members of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano.



JEREMY PICKENS

Director of Operations for
Texas Values

[@J_W_Pickens](http://txvalues.org)

Jeremy is the Director of Operations for Texas Values. Prior to joining the team, he worked in both non-profit and for-profit organizations helping them achieve greater teamwork and efficiency. He is happy to be serving with an organization truly making a difference in Texas for faith and family values. He and his wife recently celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary and have two children.

SPEAKERS



HOLLY RANDALL

Associate Counsel for
First Liberty Institute

firstliberty.org
[@1stLiberty](https://twitter.com/1stLiberty)

Holly's practice focuses defending and restoring religious liberty for all Americans, with a focus on the constitutional rights of students and teachers in the education practice group. Holly earned her undergraduate degrees from Oklahoma City University in 2018 and her law degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2021.



STEVE RIGGLE

Founding Pastor of
Grace Church

gracewoodlands.com
[@Steve_Riggle](https://twitter.com/Steve_Riggle)

Steve and his wife Becky joined Grace International Churches and Ministries in 1974 and started a church in Livermore, CA. While doing ministry in a prison in the Philippines in 1978, Steve and Becky were taken hostage by four prisoners armed with knives and suffered multiple serious injury requiring surgeries and months of recovery. They share their story of God's presence and power worldwide. In 1983, Steve and Becky moved to Houston, TX to begin Grace Community Church and now serve as the Lead Senior Pastors of Grace Woodlands Church. Steve also serves as the President of Grace International, a fellowship of 5,000 churches, various compassion ministries, and educational institutions both nationally and internationally with ministries in 122 nations of the world. Steve also serves on the Executive Team of Houston Area Pastors Council - a group of pastors seeking to serve the whole body of Christ in the Greater Houston area as it mobilizes to reach the whole city with the gospel. He is also the former President of The King's University, founded by Pastor Jack Hayford. Steve & Becky have been married for 54 years, and they have two children, six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.



JONATHAN M. SAENZ, ESQ.

President of
Texas Values

txvalues.org
[@jonathansaenzTX](https://twitter.com/jonathansaenzTX)

Jonathan is the Founder & President of Texas Values, a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving and advancing a culture of family values in the state of Texas. Jonathan's work on these issues in the courts, legislature, and media spans two decades. Prior to leading Texas Values, Jonathan headed the First Liberty Institute offices at the Texas Capitol in Austin where he served as Director of Legislative Affairs & Attorney for First Liberty Institute. Mr. Saenz received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center & his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin.



PAULA SCANLAN

Female Athlete & Save
Women's Sports Leader

iwf.org
[@PaulaYScanlan](https://twitter.com/PaulaYScanlan)

Paula is a former teammate of Lia Thomas at the University of Pennsylvania. Paula is a Sexual Assault Survivor forced to undress in front of Lia 18x per week, as well as being silenced and gaslighted by UPenn administrators and coaching staff. She left her job recently to join Independent Women's Forum, and the other athletes working at IWF to save women's sports, pass legislation to protect women's spaces, and facilitate lawsuits to get justice for women and girls.

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



NATE SCHATZLINE

Texas State Representative
District 93

[house.texas.gov/members
@NateSchatzline](https://house.texas.gov/members/@NateSchatzline)

Nate is a proud Christian, a devoted husband and father of two boys & a little girl. He is a former pastor, the founder of For Liberty & Justice, an organization that is dedicated to mobilizing the local church to see reformation in government, and he serves as the director of operations for The Justice Reform, an anti-human trafficking organization. Over the last nine years, Nate and Adrienne have served as pastors and have lead a youth and young adult movement dedicated to discipling the next generation of Christ-followers. Nate has also served as a professor of economics, and on multiple political campaigns including for Republican Congresswoman Beth Van Duyne in 2020. He has also been an overseer of a public school mentorship program that is responsible for mentoring hundreds of at-risk students, teaching students that they are not the product of their environment, but that they were born on purpose with a purpose.



TERRY SCHILLING

President of the
American Principles Project

[americanprinciplesproject.org
@Schilling1776](https://americanprinciplesproject.org/@Schilling1776)

Terry Schilling is the president of American Principles Project where he and his team invest in political and advocacy campaigns on behalf of the American Family. Terry lives in Virginia with his wife Katie and their six children.

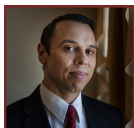


JOHN SEAGO

President of
Texas Right to Life

[texasrighttolife.com
@Johnseago](https://texasrighttolife.com/@Johnseago)

John Seago, MA, DBE is a published Bioethicist and serves as the President for Texas Right to Life, the oldest and largest statewide Pro-Life organization in Texas. For 11 years, Dr. Seago led the research, writing, and lobbying for state Pro-Life and medical ethics policies in the Texas State Legislature. He received his Doctorate in Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University Chicago. He lives in Austin, Texas with his wife and two children.



ROGER SEVERINO

VP of Domestic Policy for
the Heritage Foundation

[heritage.org
@RogerSeverino_](https://heritage.org/@RogerSeverino_)

During the Trump Administration Roger led the HHS Office for Civil Rights and was the longest serving Director of the past three decades. At HHS, he led a team of over 250 staff enforcing civil rights, conscience and religious freedom, and health information privacy laws. He previously worked as the Director of the DeVos Center for Life, Religion, and Family at Heritage, as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, and as Legal Counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty. Mr. Severino holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School, a master's degree in Public Policy, with highest distinction, from Carnegie Mellon University, and a bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Southern California. In 2020, The New York Times dubbed Roger and his wife, Carrie, "a conservative power couple."

SPEAKERS



MATT SHAHEEN

Texas State
Representative
District 66

[@MattShaheen](https://house.texas.gov/members)
[@MattShaheen](https://house.texas.gov/members)

Before being elected as a State Representative, Matt served five years on the Collin County Commissioners Court. Before entering politics, he was appointed by then Governor Rick Perry to the State Board of Social Workers where he chaired the board's Professional Development Committee and served on the Ethics Committee. A technology executive with 30 years of experience, Matt specializes in corporate digital transformations. He and his wife, Robyn, have been married for 28 years, & they have three children. They attend Prestonwood Baptist Church where Matt serves as a Deacon, greeter, and volunteers at the church's crisis pregnancy center.



JESSICA HART STEINMANN

General Counsel at
America First Policy Institute

[@jessica4TX](https://americafirstpolicy.com)
[@jessica4TX](https://americafirstpolicy.com)

During the Trump Administration, Jessica was appointed by the President as a senior official at the Department of Justice, as the Director for the Office of Victims of Crime. She previously worked for U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, served as Elections Committee Clerk & Counsel of the Texas House of Representatives, COO of the Harris County Republican Party. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration from The University of Texas at Austin and received a Juris Doctor from Baylor Law School. Jessica and her husband, Brandon, reside in The Woodlands, Texas and have one son.



VALOREE SWANSON

Texas State
Representative
District 150

[@ValoreeForTexas](https://house.texas.gov/members)
[@ValoreeForTexas](https://house.texas.gov/members)

After years of homeschooling and sports with her two biological children, she and her husband, Vern, adopted two teenage girls from CPS. Prior to raising children, Valoree worked in commercial real estate, after getting her Bachelor's of Business Administration from Baylor University. Valoree has been involved in the community for years as a children's Bible study and Sunday school leader, a children's sports team representative and referee, a member of various boards, and in ministries serving the elderly. Valoree was politically involved at an early age. She has volunteered during every election cycle in innumerable campaigns and capacities over the years. She served as State Executive Republican Committeewoman for SD 7 from 2006-2014, as Precinct Chair for 23 years, and was elected to many Republican Party committees.



ELLEN TROXCLAIR

Texas State
Representative
District 19

[@EllenTroxclair](https://house.texas.gov/members)
[@EllenTroxclair](https://house.texas.gov/members)

Ellen is a devoted wife, mom, non-profit leader, and small business owner who was a key advocate in passing the largest property tax cut in United States history, providing unprecedented funding to secure our border, protecting women's ability to compete fairly in sports, and ensuring that our children are shielded from those who wish them harm. She is a leading advocate in ensuring every child has access to a great education, ending human trafficking across our border, expanding property tax relief, and keeping Texas a great place to work and raise a family. Her principled low tax, limited government, and pro-family values have helped to shape the national conversation and keep Texas a beacon of liberty. Ellen and her husband, Caleb are leaders in their local church and loving parents of three young children, who are ninth generation Texans.

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



TIM VON DOHLEN

President of JPILife Center

jpiilifecenter.org

[@JPILifeCenter](https://twitter.com/JPILifeCenter)

Tim is a former Texas State Representative, serving the Goliad area for 14 years. He is a businessman and long time columnist. Tim founded the John Paul II Life Center.



CHELSEY YOUMAN, ESQ.

TX State Director & National
Legislative Advisor for the
Human Coalition Action

hucoaction.org

[@ChelseyYouman](https://twitter.com/ChelseyYouman)

Chelsey serves the pro-life coalition, as well as women and their preborn children, by advocating for pro-life policies and jurisprudence; mobilizing and unifying local grassroots to strengthen the pro-life movement and its footprint; and engaging with the public to ultimately strengthen our community's desire to enable women and protect preborn children. Chelsey is happily married with two children. Her family is active in their church, serving in the premarital and pro-life ministries there.

THE TEAM



Jonathan Saenz
President



Jeremy Pickens
Director of Operations



Jonathan Covey
Director of Policy



Mary Elizabeth Castle
Director of
Government Relations



Alex Woodby
Development Associate



Rhonda Anderson
Grassroots Coordinator



Ashley Fordinal
Communications
Coordinator



Debbie Swisher
Communications
Associate



Georgina Jacques
Administrative Assistant



Megan Benton
Public Policy Intern



Pastor Jorge Tovar
Church Outreach
Coordinator, South Texas



Juda Kunze
Church Outreach
Coordinator, North Texas



Rosemary Graber
Social Media
Graphic Design

NOTES

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM

NOTES

TEXAS FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FORUM



The Church Ambassador Network is a ministry of Texas Values and its mission is to inspire the Church to engage government for the advancement of the Kingdom. We accomplish this by connecting the shepherds of God's Church (pastors) to God's shepherds of government (elected officials.) Our purpose is to develop intentional relationships that build into those in government as a person, shepherd, and community partner. The Church Ambassador Network of Texas is working to connect pastors with governing authorities in all three branches of state government, and is a part of a nationwide initiative to bring this ministry to state capitols across America.

Learn More: txvalues.org/church



Connect

Pastors and governing authorities are both ordinary people that have been called to an extraordinary, and often heavy, responsibility. Both pastors and governing authorities need a safe place that they can be themselves, and not their title. Pastors and governing authorities can provide each other a safe place they can rest, be themselves and grow.



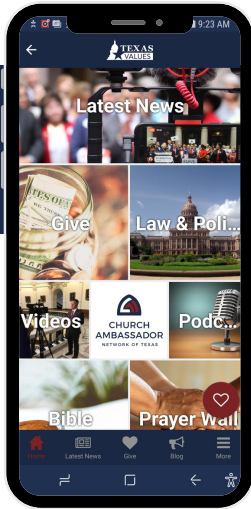
Encourage

Pastors and governing authorities both have an important calling from the Lord to shepherd a flock. Pastors shepherd a congregation, and governing authorities shepherd a city, state, or nation. This job is not only difficult, it requires tremendous sacrifices for them and their families. Very few will notice those sacrifices, and fewer still will express thanks to those who make them. Pastors and governing authorities can encourage each other in this and can point each other to the Chief Shepherd, who will reward them.



Partner

No one knows the needs of our communities quite like pastors and governing authorities. They often carry the burden of the needs of others on their shoulders and hearts. It is our desire to see these two institutions partner together to meet these needs, much like Joseph and Pharaoh worked together to spare Egypt from famine. We can learn from them to partner together to meet the growing needs of our communities, such as: addiction, foster-care, mental health, housing, education, justice, and more.



Texas Values has an App!
Download TODAY!



texasvalues.app.link

Sign up for Breaking Alerts
 Text "txvalues" to 797979



SAVE THE DATE

HOUSTON GALA
 November 10 or 11th

TEXAS VALUES Report
 with Jonathan Saenz

Noteable Past Guests

- Dan Patrick**
 11. Governor of Texas
- Kristan Hawkins**
 President Students for Life
- Riley Gaines**
 12x All-American & Save Women's Sports Leader

*Saturdays 12:00-12:30 p.m. CT - on The Bridge, KTXW 1120 AM
 Or find it on any podcasting platform!*

SAVE THE DATE

DALLAS LUNCHEON
 December 6th
 Gleneagles Country Club
 5401 W Park Blvd, Plano, TX 75093

FOR TICKETS VISIT TXVALUES.ORG/EVENTS OR SCAN HERE:

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

DIAMOND LEVEL

Jim & Dee Day
Eagle Peak Shooting Range
Vince & Mona Puenta
JPPII Life Center, Tim & Pat Von Dohlen

GOLD LEVEL

Gene & Kathy Hommel · Susan & Ben Taylor
Bob & Bonnie Wallace · Sidewalk Advocates for Life

SILVER LEVEL

Dan & Carmela Atwood · Timothy & Lily Bradberry
Ethan & Amanda Carthel · Scott & Teresa Spears
First Liberty Institute · Trotter House

LONE STAR LEVEL

The Justice Foundation · Citizens Defending Freedom



Texas Values is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to standing for faith, family, and freedom in Texas.

TXVALUES.ORG | Text "TXVALUES" to 797979