

**The Barbara Jordan American Inn of Court** *Chartered by the American Inns of Court Foundation* 

July 8, 2024

Dear Inn Members,

The 2024-2025 term of the Barbara Jordan American Inn of Court begins in September. We are very excited for the upcoming year, and especially welcome our new members to our thriving Inn.

The mission of the American Inns of Court is to foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills for practitioners, judges, and professors, to enhance the quality, availability, and efficiency of justice in the United States. The Inns of Court include lawyers, law professors, judges, and law students in social and program meetings adapted from the traditional English legal apprenticeship model and are designed to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experience, and to mentor younger members by association with more experienced members. The process helps shape a culture of commitment to the highest standards of our learned profession and encourages its practice with dignity, civility, and courtesy. If you want to know more about the Inns of Court movement, check out our website at <u>www.innsofcourt.org</u> or email me with any questions.

Please note that we have a new meeting location this year. Our meetings throughout the Inn year, September 2024 through April 2025, will be at Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas 78731. Meetings include prepaid valet parking.

Our orientation meeting for all new and returning members will be on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. We will begin with socializing time, followed by appetizers, during which you will receive information about our Inn, Inn leadership, member expectations, and an overview of the upcoming year.

Our subsequent meetings will be on the second Tuesday of each month through April, except for November and December, which will be on a Wednesday. As with the orientation meeting, we will begin with socializing time, followed by a buffet dinner. The October through April meetings will include CLE presentations by our pupillage teams. You will receive your pupillage team assignment before the September meeting.

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The full meeting schedule for the year is:

September 10, 2024, 5:30 p.m. October 8, 2024, 5:30 p.m. November 13, 2024, 5:30 p.m. (Wednesday) December 11, 2024, 5:30 p.m. (Wednesday) January 14, 2025, 5:30 p.m. February 11, 2025, 5:30 p.m. March 11, 2025, 5:30 p.m. April 8, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Please mark your calendars now, so that you can reserve these dates. We plan to conclude our Inn year in May 2025 (specific date TBD) with an end-of-year social with other Austin-area Inns.

The dues for the 2024-2025 Inn year are as follows:

Masters	\$600.00
Barristers	\$560.00
Associates	\$480.00
Pupils (Law students)	\$ 75.00
Guest fee	\$ 65.00
Emeritus	\$ 65.00

You will receive an invoice by email that you will be able to pay by credit card or by check. Please mail your check to the following address:

Brittani Miller 1305 W. 40<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78756

We fully understand that the current economic climate may have an impact on our members' ability to make dues payments. Once you receive an invoice, and if you would like to discuss issues personal to you, please contact Brittani Miller at scott.brittani@gmail.com or (210) 842-1986 to discuss options for payment. We do not want anyone who wishes to participate in the Inn to be prohibited from doing so because of financial constraints.

We encourage members to attend all meetings, but understand conflicting schedules come up. Under the rules of our Inn, Masters, Barristers, Associates, and Students may not miss more than three regular meetings. A fourth absence results in automatic termination of your membership. We provide the opportunity to make up one missed regular meeting by attending two Inn socials or community service events. Also, please note that our September 10 orientation meeting counts as a regular meeting, whether you are a new member or returning member.

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What makes an Inn work effectively is a commitment by each member to participate and contribute to the Inn, not only at the monthly meetings and presentation planning meetings but also at other social and community service activities. Social and community outreach options will be made available to our membership.

If you have questions concerning your membership or our schedule, please feel free to contact our Administrator, Jeanette Ybarra, via email at barbarajordaninnofcourt@gmail.com. You can reach me at melissalhargis@gmail.com or by phone at (512) 565-7476 with any questions as well.

We look forward to seeing you at our orientation meeting on September 10th.

Very truly yours,

|8| Melissa Hargis

Melissa Hargis President, 2024-2025 Barbara Jordan American Inn of Court

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