

## Introduction

The Texas Tech Law Review is proud to bring forth its fifth annual Fifth Circuit Symposium issue. For those of you who have never had occasion to use this issue, it is composed of student articles on cases decided by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in twelve major legal areas. Each editor and associate editor of the Review analyzed the important cases of each of those areas within the perspective of past treatment of those areas by the Fifth Circuit and in comparison with the other circuits and the Supreme Court. In years past, our survey period has run from September 1st to August 31st. This year, in order to provide a more timely issue and to conform to the academic calendar, the survey period has been reduced to ten months, from September 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978. Future symposium issues will return to the twelve month format, July 1st to June 30th.

The Review is also pleased to announce the inauguration of the Strasburger-Price lecture series and its first speaker, Attorney General Griffin Bell. Because of the continuing controversy over the quality of legal representation, the principal theme of the series will be effective trial advocacy. Because of Attorney General Bell's fourteen and one-half years of service on the Fifth Circuit, the Review decided that the Symposium issue would be the most appropriate place to publish the text of the Attorney General's speech. We also want to take this opportunity to extend our sincere appreciation to the firm of Strasburger and Price, and especially its senior partner, Mr. Mark Martin, for making this series possible.

Because of our avowed purpose of bringing to our readership articles of a pragmatic nature, we are pleased to publish an article by Charles L. Babcock, an associate of Jackson, Walker, Winstead, Cantwell, and Miller, of Dallas, Texas. Mr. Babcock is a former law clerk to U.S. District Judge Robert W. Porter and has written on the new local rules of practice for the Northern District of Texas. It is hoped that this article will provide a concise and clear explanation of those rules.

As editor of the Symposium issue, I want to take this opportunity to thank the other members of the Review for their unflagging cooperation in getting this book to press. Without their talent, knowledge, and hard work, this issue would not have been possible. I want to especially thank the Review's Comment Editors, Ms. Lynn Alexander and Mr. Thomas Swann. Their editorial abilities made my job the easiest of any editor on the Review. To the other editors

and associate editors, whose names are too numerous to mention here, rest assured that your contributions to this issue, both in terms of your writings and your support, have made my tenure as editor a most gratifying one. I wish all of you the best of luck.

Michael Bushnell Charlton  
Fifth Circuit Symposium Editor  
Texas Tech Law Review