



[www.tmla.org](http://www.tmla.org)

# TMLDA COMMUNIQUE

Fall 2007

Texas Municipal Library Directors Association is an Affiliate of the Texas Municipal League

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dale Fleeger

The TML Conference is just around the corner. TMLDA will offer a two-part workshop focusing on legal issues faced by libraries on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. The morning session (9:00 – 11:30 a.m.) will look at issues that are important to you, your city manager and city attorney. The afternoon session (2:00 – 4:15 p.m.) will feature library “in-house” issues.

A short business meeting will follow the afternoon workshop session.

**Workshop title: Is there a lawsuit in your future?**

Morning session aimed at city officials as well as library directors (9:00 – 11:30 a.m.)

1. **Lawsuits and libraries: What's the score?** will cover major types of lawsuits affecting public libraries. Includes national and especially Texas examples as well as judgments, settlements and outcomes.
2. **Three shields against risk: Insurances, plans, policies** will focus on major types of insurances; disaster vs. emergency plans; and core elements needed in library policies.
3. **Library risk shields: A city administrator's checklist** will cover a brief list of key shields the library

needs, including major components; also provides additional resources.

Afternoon session aimed at library directors (2:00-4:15 p.m.)

4. Brief review of morning's key points.
5. **Three must-have policies: Collections; minors; and personnel.** Discusses contents of each policy area (including the relationship to the parent city organization), use of policies, and staff training.
6. **Remember the court of public opinion!** Discusses working with the media, transparency, spokespersons (library; parent organization) and privacy issues.
7. **Minimizing our risks: TexATeam Scramble** Each 4-person team gets the same real-life risk scenario. The team works together to fill out a Risk Prevention Template, then reports out to the group as a whole. By voice vote, the entire group selects four “best practices”.

**TML Annual Conference**

**Nov. 7-9, 2007**

**Dallas, TX**

**TMLDA Program**

**Thursday, Nov. 8**

**For information:**

**[www.tml.org](http://www.tml.org)**

## ACHIEVEMENT OF EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARIES AWARD

**TMLDA is presently taking applications for the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award!**

The Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award is an annual award given by the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association to libraries that demonstrate service excellence through the attainment of ten service criteria.

**Who may apply for the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award?**

This award is open to all Texas Municipal Library Directors Association members and the library they represent.

**How do I become a member of TMLDA?**

Membership in TMLDA is open to Municipal and County Library Directors, System Coordinators, Library management staff, and Assistant System Coordinators. There is an annual membership fee of \$50. Membership runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Application Process**

The application and all enclosures required for the award should be represented in a quality 3-ring binder with appropriate section tables to facilitate the evaluation.

All entries must be completed and submitted between December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> and should cover the most recently completed fiscal year (typically ending September 30<sup>th</sup>). If you wish confirmation of receipt of your entry, please send a stamped self-addressed post card with your entry. The Texas Municipal Library Directors Association and its officers will not be responsible for any lost, delayed or misdirected award applications.



In order to apply for the 2007 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award, mail one complete set of the Application, including requested attachments and the \$55 fee to:

Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award  
c/o Kerry McGeath  
Southlake Town Square  
Southlake Town Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
1400 Main St Ste 130  
Southlake, TX 76092

For additional information and for answers to frequently asked questions, visit the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association web site at <http://www.tmlda.org> or contact Kerry McGeath, Chair, Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award Committee, 817-748-8384.

**Volunteers Needed!**  
**To staff the TMLDA booth at the TML Conference**  
**Nov. 7-9, 2007**  
**Dallas, TX**

**To volunteer contact Sue Compton**  
[Sue.compton@flower-mound.com](mailto:Sue.compton@flower-mound.com)  
**972-874-6151**

**Please specify a volunteer shift:**

**Wed. Nov. 7**

**8-10 a.m. Booth Set up**  
**1-3 p.m.**

**Thu. Nov. 8**

**9-11 a.m.**  
**11-1 p.m.**  
**1-3 p.m.**  
**3-5 p.m.**

**Fri. Nov. 9**

**8-10 a.m.**  
**10-12 noon**  
**12 noon Booth Take Down**

**or – will help where needed.**

## WHAT IS TMLDA?

The Texas Municipal Library Directors Association (TMLDA) is an affiliate organization of the Texas Municipal League, which represents some 98 percent of Texas' urban population through its member cities and towns. TMLDA was organized in 1966 to promote the public library profession, to improve the methods of providing library service, and to maintain high standards of professional ethics.

Since its inception, TMLDA has continued to offer its members the opportunity to discuss and share ideas, interests and concerns affecting library professionals and the provision of library service.

TMLDA has been an active partner with the Texas Municipal League (TML) in the legislative process for issues related to libraries. TMLDA has also supported the Texas State Library and its services.

The annual TML conference offers opportunities for members of TMLDA to develop professional contacts and relationships with other city departments, which can profit from the information available in their local libraries.

### **TMLDA Newsletter Editor**

Sue Compton  
Flower Mound Public Library  
3030 Broadmoor Ln  
Flower Mound, TX 75022  
972-874-6151  
sue.compton@flower-mound.com

## **TMLDA OFFICERS 2006-2007**

### **President**

Dale Fleeger  
Weatherford Public Library  
1014 Charles Street  
Weatherford, Texas 76086-5098  
817-598-4269  
dfleeger@ci.weatherford.tx.us

### **Vice-President/President Elect**

Kerry McGeath  
Southlake Public Library  
1400 Main St.  
Southlake, Texas 76092  
817-748-8384  
kmcgeath@ci.southlake.tx.us

### **Secretary**

Rebecca Pool  
Deer Park Public Library  
3009 Center Street  
Deer Park TX 77536-5063  
281-478-7208  
rpool@deerparktx.org

### **Treasurer**

Jana Prock  
Keller Public Library  
640 Johnson Road  
Keller, TX 76248  
(817) 431-9011  
jprock@kellerlibrary.org

### **TML Board Representative**

Joyce Baumbach  
Plano Public Library System  
2501 Coit Road  
Plano, Texas 75075-3892  
972-769-4208  
joyceb@plano.gov

### **Immediate Past President**

Becky Sullivan  
Terrell Public Library  
301 North Rockwall  
Terrell, Texas 75160-2618  
972-551-6663  
rsullivan@cityofterrell.org

### **Web Content Advisor**

Lucile Dade  
DeSoto Public Library  
211 E. Pleasant Run Road  
DeSoto, Texas 75115-3939  
972-230-9658  
ldade@ci.desoto.tx.us

## **TOP TEN REASONS TO JOIN TMLDA**

10. TMLDA is fun (especially if you help staff the booth at conferences)!
9. You can attend the TML Conference or regional meetings and share a meal with your Mayor and Council Members.
8. Experience the difference between “giveaways” and “promotional items” at conferences!
7. You can share time with your City Manager at the TML Conference and discuss issues of concern.
6. The TML Conference exhibit hall gives you the once in a lifetime opportunity to view trash trucks and sewer pipes up close.
5. TML Legislative Updates provide you with the opportunity to impress your Police Chief with your knowledge of what those legislators in Austin are up to with regard to crime issues.
4. TMLDA is an opportunity to network with fellow city management staff on citywide issues (including library issues).
3. TML (and thus TMLDA) is the only Texas professional organization your City Manager and city leaders know and understand, because TML is their TLA.
2. TMLDA is a great opportunity for your city officials to see you as a professional, and for you to discuss issues with them in a casual setting without seeming to lobby them.

### **AND THE NUMBER ONE REASON**

1. TMLDA is THE vehicle to show your Council Members and City staff that Librarians are professionals that are aware of governmental/legislative issues that affect our cities and libraries.