



# STEMMONS CORRIDOR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, the SCBA Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the following resolution:

## **SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS (UNT) COLLEGE OF LAW**

**WHEREAS**, Dallas/Fort Worth is the largest metropolitan area in the United States without a public law school;

**WHEREAS**, the population of the Dallas/Fort Worth area exceeds the population of Houston, but Houston's college graduates have twice as many law class positions available to them;

**WHEREAS**, the lack of any affordable public law school in the area has prevented talented students from attending law school and has caused hardship on students who have had to incur significant debt and move out of the area to attend law school;

**WHEREAS**, applications to enroll in the two private law schools now available in the area are dramatically increasing but the number of law positions is not;

**WHEREAS**, clients are pressing area law firms to gain greater diversity among their lawyers, but the shortage of minority lawyers has made the law firms unable to do so because many minority students cannot afford tuition at private law schools or to move out of the area to attend a public law school;

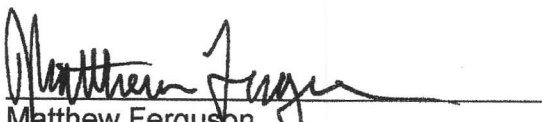
**WHEREAS**, opportunities for residents of the Dallas/Fort Worth area to obtain affordable legal education will also increase the chances that talented graduates will remain in the area to work and live;

**WHEREAS**, the old Dallas City Hall building would provide a distinguished and historically significant home for the new UNT College of Law, and creation of the UNT College of Law in the old Dallas City Hall Building will enhance the eastern part of downtown Dallas; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Royce West and Representative Dan Branch will again be introducing legislation to the Texas Legislature to authorize the UNT College of Law and the funding necessary for renovation of the old City Hall Building to enable its use as a law school.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Stemmons Corridor Business Association enthusiastically supports creation of the UNT College of Law in downtown Dallas and strongly urges the members of the Texas Legislature to vote in favor of legislation approving the creation of the law school and authorizing sufficient state funding to enable the UNT System to move forward at once with the creation of the much needed UNT College of Law.

ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2008.

  
Matthew Ferguson  
Chairman & President