

Joy Surratt Baskin, Director of TASB Legal Services



Joy became the Director of Legal Services of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) in October 2005, after working as an attorney in TASB's Legal Services for eight years. As director, Joy oversees the division's activities and informs TASB's other service areas about legal developments. As a staff attorney, Joy served as the coordinator of TASB's Legal Assistance Fund from 1998 to 2005. Joy also helped develop and review districts' local policies, and she assisted in developing and presenting many of the division's legal training programs.

Joy is a frequent presenter on school law topics, including open government, student issues, and religion in schools.

Joy received her Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, in 1992. She received her law degree with honors from The University of Texas School of Law in 1995. During law school, Joy worked at TASB as a part-time law clerk from 1993 to 1995.

From 1995 to 1997, Joy was an associate at the law firm of Thompson & Knight in Dallas, Texas, where part of her responsibilities included representing public school districts.

Joy is an active member of the school law section of the State Bar of Texas, including serving on its executive council as Chair of the section. Joy is also a member of the Texas Council of School Attorneys and the National Council of School Attorneys. She currently serves as a member of the Supreme Court of Texas Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth, and Families Education Committee.

Joy is a PTA officer and former chair of Austin ISD's Mathews Elementary Campus Advisory Committee, and she served as a volunteer and board member for the Austin Shakespeare Festival for several years.