

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 28, 2006**

Contact: Ken Whalen, Executive Vice President, 512-476-4351

**TDNA Names Officers and Directors for 2006**

**Austin** - The Texas Daily Newspaper Association has named new officers and directors for 2006. As of January 1, **Jeremy L. Halbreich**, chairman of the board, president and CEO of American Consolidated Media, became president. **Charles Moser**, publisher and editor of the Brenham *Banner-Press*, became vice-president; **Gary Borders**, publisher of *The Lufkin Daily News*, was elected treasurer; and **W. Lawrence Walker Jr.**, chairman of the San Antonio *Express-News*, became chairman of the executive committee for 2006.

Halbreich founded American Consolidated Media, Inc. in 1998. The firm owns and operates community newspapers and related print media in Texas and Oklahoma. He previously served as president and general manager of *The Dallas Morning News* for eight years. Halbreich began his career at *The Morning News* in 1977 as assistant to the vice president of sales and marketing, and he moved up through various promotion and marketing positions to become executive vice president, general manager and finally president and general manager in 1991.

Halbreich has served on the boards of NewsStand, Inc., The Advertising Council, Inc., The Harvard Crimson, Inc., Dallas Museum of Art, University of North Texas, YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas, and other industry and civic organizations. Over the past two decades Halbreich has been an officer or active participant in more than 60 organizations benefiting industry, community, arts and social services. He was a previous TDNA board member and officer 1995-1998 and chaired TDNA's 1992-1993 newsprint recycling committee which worked with Texas environmental conservation officials to create the state's voluntary newsprint recycling act.

**New Directors in 2006**

Joining the TDNA board as new directors in 2006 are **Patrick J. Birmingham**, president and publisher of the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*; **Nelson Clyde IV**, associate publisher of the *Tyler Morning Telegraph*; **M. Olaf Frandsen**, publisher of *The McAllen Monitor* and regional vice president of Freedom Communications, Inc.; and **Belinda Gaudet**, executive vice president and general manager of the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Birmingham became president and publisher of the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* in 2004 after serving as executive vice president and general manager of the *Ventura County Star* in California. Both papers are owned by E.W. Scripps Co. Birmingham also served as vice president of advertising in California and at Gannett Rochester Newspapers in Rochester, New York, and he held various advertising managerial positions at *The Cincinnati Enquirer/Post* in Ohio and at *The Kansas City Star in Missouri* as well as the *Ventura County Star*. A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Birmingham attended college at the University of Missouri-Columbia and the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

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Clyde is a fifth generation participant in his family's business, the T.B. Butler Publishing Co., Inc., which publishes *The Tyler Morning Telegraph* and *The Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph*. Clyde began his newspaper career at the *Austin American-Statesman* in 1987, returned to Tyler in 1989 and is now associate publisher of the Tyler papers. His extensive community activism has included serving as a director of the American Red Cross and as chairman of the City of Tyler Technology Task Force. He received a B.S. degree from the University of Texas at Tyler.

Frandsen is publisher of *The Monitor* in McAllen, Texas as well as regional vice president for Freedom Communications, Inc. which is based in Irvine, California. He supervises Freedom newspapers in McAllen, Harlingen, Brownsville, Weslaco and Odessa, Texas; Clovis, New Mexico; and Sedalia, Missouri. He has edited or published newspapers in Texas, Arizona, Montana, North Dakota and California. Frandsen was editor of *The Odessa American* in 1988 when that newspaper was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Spot News Photography for its work covering the rescue of Baby Jessica McClure.

Gaudet is executive vice president and general manager of the *Austin American-Statesman*. A 30-year newspaper veteran, she started her newspaper career as a reporter at her hometown *Port Arthur News* and advanced to city editor. She later became the newspaper's controller after being licensed as a certified public accountant. A Lamar University graduate, she has since served as publisher of daily newspapers in Lufkin, Orange, and Elizabeth City, North Carolina. She was also general manager and vice president of Cox Arizona Publications and Tribune Newspapers in Mesa, Arizona. She joined the *Statesman* in mid-2003.

### **Continuing Directors in 2006**

Continuing as 2006 TDNA directors are: **Darrell Coleman**, president and publisher of the *Wichita Falls Times Record News*; **Buddy King**, vice president and general manager of the *Texarkana Gazette*; **Charles A. Spence**, publisher of *The Midland Reporter-Telegram*; and **Doug Toney**, publisher of the New Braunfels *Herald-Zeitung*.

### **About TDNA**

TDNA was founded in 1921 as a trade association representing the state's daily newspapers. TDNA protects public access to information and a free press. In addition to its work at the state legislature on behalf of the state's citizens and newspapers, the association provides media law information to journalists and conducts a variety of programs such as newspaper internships for college students, award contests and statistical surveys. The TDNA website [www.tdna.org](http://www.tdna.org) provides links to the Texas State Legislature and the state's daily newspapers.