

**BYRON JAY LEWIS**  
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Birthplace: Houston, Texas

Family: Spouse: Keely Anthony Lewis, retired teacher, originally of Lubbock, Texas  
Daughter: Elizabeth: graduated University of Texas-Pan American Summa Cum Laude, working at Edwards Abstract  
Son: Mark: graduated University of Texas-San Antonio working at Stewart Title-San Antonio

### **CAREER OBJECTIVE**

To pursue a career utilizing my strengths in business and law to achieve personal and professional goals while becoming an integral member of the community.

### **EMPLOYMENT**

October 2001 to Present: *EDWARDS ABSTRACT AND TITLE CO., Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, McAllen, and South Padre Island, Texas*

Owner/CEO/Manager: Coordinate independently-managed plant and escrow offices; assist with operations and business development as appropriate; general corporate management and title insurance services in Cameron County, Texas and Hidalgo County, Texas (consolidated operations of former Security Land Title Co. and Southern Texas Title Company with Edwards Abstract and Title Co. in September of 2010).

April 1999 to Present: *LEWIS, MONROE & PEÑA (formerly SCOTT & LEWIS), ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Edinburg, Texas*

Partner: practice limited to counsel for Edwards Abstract and Title Co., and document preparation for Escrow Closings; coordinate and handle underwriting decisions and claims handling and avoidance; general corporate management and assistance as appropriate.

January 1999 to March 1999: *HENRICHSON & LEWIS, Edinburg, Texas*

Managing Partner: general practice of law with concentration in real estate, banking, business matters, consumer problems, municipal law, wills and probate, and litigation in related areas.

January 1997 to December 1998:      *HIRSCH, SHEINESS & GARCIA, P.L.L.C., Edinburg,  
Houston, Austin & Brownsville, Texas*

Senior Member: responsible for administration of Edinburg office and diversification of the firm's traditional client base; attorney for City of Edinburg, Texas.

June 1991 to December 1996:      *HENRICHSON & LEWIS, Edinburg, Texas*

Managing Partner: general practice of law with concentration in real estate, banking, business matters, consumer problems, municipal law, wills and probate, and litigation in related areas; attorneys for City of Edinburg, Texas

March 1988 to June 1991:      *FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN EDINBURG, Edinburg, Texas*

Bank Counsel: served as Advisory Director and Executive Officer of Bank; coordinated and supervised loan documentation, perfection of liens, debt collection, minutes, corporate records and bank legal matters; assisted bank officers with compliance issues and establishing prudent procedures for all aspects of bank operations; extensive real estate practice.

August 1986 to February 1988:      *KELLEY, LOONEY, ALEXANDER & MONROE, Edinburg,  
Texas*

Associate Attorney: performed general office practice of law including lender representation, real estate, foreclosure, probate, wills and trusts. Trained closely with experienced attorneys before assuming independent responsibility for files.

August 1985 to May 1986:      *KENNEDY, BURLESON & HACKNEY, Houston, Texas*

Law Clerk: concentrated on legal research and writing for six-member firm.

May 1985 to August 1985:      *MOBIL (MPTM), Houston, Texas*

Land Assistant: researched company files and title opinions to determine who owns blackacre; negotiated preliminary terms and farmout agreements.

November 1984 to May 1985:      *MINTER, MAHON & GRAY, Houston, Texas*

Law Clerk: assisted six-member firm in legal projects.

## **EDUCATION**

August 1983 to May 1986:      *THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, COLLEGE OF LAW,  
Houston, Texas*

Doctor of Jurisprudence

August 1979 to May 1983:

*THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, Austin, Texas*

Bachelor of Business Administration  
Major: World Resources and Industries  
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Stanley Arbingast  
Dean's List

### **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- AV® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- 2006 Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation
- Board Certified, Commercial Real Estate Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization
- Board Certified, Residential Real Estate Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization
- State Bar of Texas
- American Bar Association
- Hidalgo County Bar Association (HCBA)
- College of the State Bar of Texas: Maintaining, 20-year Fellow Member 2010
- Certified Title Insurance Associate (CTIA)
- Texas Land Title Association: Chair of Federal Issues 2016-2017; Agent-at-Large Board Member 2011-2015; 2004 Agent Executive Committee
- Speaker at 2006 State Bar of Texas Advanced Real Estate Law Course: *Creative Solutions to Complex Title Problems*
- Recipient of the 2003 HCBA Gavel Award and 2004 HCBA Golden Gavel Award
- Accepted the 2003 HCBA Jesse Hedrick Award on behalf of Edwards Abstract and Title Co.
- Recipient of the 2004 HCBA Jesse Hedrick Award
- Associate Member of the University of Houston Law Center A.A. White Society: 2003-2006
- Texas Association of Bank Counsel: former member
- Texas City Attorney's Association: former member
- Texas Banker's Association: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Texas Compliance School-Top Graduate

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

- RGV Vision Leadership Edinburg Honoree 2016
- Edinburg Man of the Year 2015
- Rio Grande Valley Walk of Fame 2015
- President of Edinburg Foundation, Inc. (2012): a non-profit economic development entity, responsible for helping develop the Edinburg Boys and Girls Club and PAWS Animal Shelter
- Commissioner to the City of Edinburg Police Officers' Civil Service Commission (2005-2014)
- Museum of South Texas History: Trustee (2013-2014)
- Chair of the Save-Our-Jail Capital Campaign for MOSTH (2014-2015)
- Special Capital Campaign Executive Committee Member and Advisor to Edinburg Boys and Girls Club RGV, Inc. (2009-2011)
- Edinburg Chamber of Commerce: President (1993-1994)
- Edinburg Chamber of Commerce: Board of Directors (1988-1995)
- Edinburg Economic Development Corporation: Vice President (1993-1994)

- Edinburg Rotary Club: President (1991-1992); Board of Directors, 20 years perfect attendance
- Leadership Edinburg: Graduate of Class I (1990)
- Leadership Valley: Graduate of Class II (1991)
- Edinburg Economic Development Corporation: former General Counsel
- Grand Marshal of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiesta Edinburg Parade (2006)
- Life Member of The University of Texas Ex-Students' Association: No. 28,256
- Former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the First United Methodist Church in Edinburg
- Chair of the Downtown Building Sale Task Force and member of FUMC-McAllen
- Former Member of Board of Trustees of the FUMC-McAllen
- Other interests: antiquing; hobby ranching; collecting Arizona, Texas and New Mexico School original art; reading; gardening; listening to music; and helping with historic preservation