

New & Noteworthy Books and Reports: April 2022

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The Library is continually adding **new books** to its collection. Below are the titles from our **April 2022 New & Noteworthy list**.

Check out and delivery of New & Noteworthy titles is available to legislative staff in Capitol and District offices. To arrange check out and delivery of any of these items, you can submit an online request through the **New & Noteworthy** page on our website or contact the library at 512-463-1252.

1. The Mexican American Experience in Texas: Citizenship, Segregation, and the Struggle for Equality

By Martha Menchaca

Chronicles the long presence of Mexican Americans in Texas and their efforts to obtain social and economic equality, from the Spanish and Mexican periods to present day. Addresses property rights, citizenship, segregation, civil rights, and more, along with the Texas Legislature's role in these matters. Highlights the achievements of Mexican Americans, including their crucial part in challenging and disassembling exclusion laws in Texas.

University of Texas Press, 2022, 432 pages

976.4 M455M 2022

2. Smashing Statues: The Rise and Fall of America's Public Monuments

By Erin L. Thompson

Describes recent developments in the national debate on public monuments in the United States, including Confederate monuments. Discusses the aesthetic, legal, political, and social issues involved, and the complex motivations of participants in current controversies over public monuments.

W. W. Norton & Company, 2022, 264 pages

725.940973 T468S 2022

3. Texas Ethics Laws: An Annotated Guide to Lobby and Campaign Finance Laws in Texas

By Andrew Cates

Provides a guide to frequently cited laws and regulations relating to campaign financing, conflicts of interest, lobbying, and governmental ethics. Includes historical background through practice notes, case law, Attorney General and Ethics Commission opinions, as well as cross-references to the *Texas Administrative Code*.

Independently published, 2022, 502 pages

328.33 C283T 2022

4. How the Word is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America

By Clint Smith

Reflects on how the history of slavery is memorialized in the United States by visiting and collecting the stories about monuments and landmarks connected to those events. Explores the narratives and legacy of slavery through research, interviews, and the author's personal experience as a Black man. Includes a chapter on celebrations of Juneteenth in Galveston, the passage of [HB 1016](#), 66th Legislature, R.S., making Juneteenth an official Texas state holiday, and a profile of former Representative [Al Edwards Sr.](#)

Little, Brown and Company, 2021, 336 pages

973.0496073 SM642H 2021

5. Identified with Texas: The Lives of Governor Elisha Marshall Pease and Lucadia Niles Pease

By Elizabeth Whitlow

Presents a dual biography of former Texas Governor [Elisha Marshall Pease](#) and his wife [Lucadia Niles Pease](#). Explores their professional and personal lives from 1812-1905, including Pease's years in Texas' first three Legislative sessions, his two terms as Governor, life in Austin during the Civil War, and his gubernatorial appointment during Reconstruction. Highlights Lucadia's independent travels and marriage

to Pease, noting she considered herself a "women's rights woman" and supported her daughter's desire to attend college.
University of North Texas Press, 2022, 432 pages
976. 4 W613D 2021

6. Judging Inequality: State Supreme Courts and the Inequality Crisis
By James L. Gibson and Michael J. Nelson
Analyzes the levels of political, economic, and social inequality in the United States by documenting – in the State High Court Inequality Database – nearly 6,000 decisions made by 50 state supreme courts from 1990 to 2015. Focuses on the influential role of the state supreme courts in shaping inequalities on issues including educational equity and adequacy, LGBT rights, and workers' rights. Argues that state courts are playing an increasing role in U.S. politics and policy creation.
Russell Sage Foundation, 2021, 356 pages
342.73085 G448J 2021