



## *Robert Rankin Chapter #62*

*Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution*

# *The Rankin Register*

*Volume 13, Issue 6 Page 1*

*Organized April 2002*



*September 2018*



Presenting is our main speaker Michael Essmyer.

## *Robert Rankin, Texas SAR Willow Fork Country Club September Highlights*

- ❖ Attorney Michael Essmyer is our speaker.
- ❖ Texas SAR President Tom Jackson talks about National Congress highlights hosted by the Texas Society.
- ❖ Compatriot Tom Jackson talks about September 11, 2011, Hurricane Harvey & Hurricane Independence.
- ❖ Michael Bierman presents This Day in History on General Washington's report to Congress on the Battle of Harlem Heights
- ❖ Allan Perkins gives the Ancestor presentation on John Adams



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Texas SAR President Tom Jackson and Robert Rankin Chapter President Allan Greene present Michael Essmyer (center) with The Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. Michael is the first non-law enforcement receive the medal.



Michael M Essmyer has been in private practice in Houston for over thirty-one years. He practices civil and criminal law. He founded and is a senior partner in the firm Essmyer & Daniel, P.C.

He has appeared before all court levels from Municipal Court, to appellate courts to appeals to the United States Supreme Court, some of which resulted in appellate reversals by the United States Supreme Court. His appellate appearances include the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First, Fifth, Seventh, and Ninth Circuit Appellate Courts, and the Southern, Northern, Eastern and Western Federal District Courts of Texas. He has represented bankers and paupers, members of gangs and ministers.

It is also his and the firm's goal to participate in community projects and community affairs, and to protect the concept of justice for all.

Before graduating from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology in 1972, Michael was student body Vice President and Parliamentarian. He then served as an officer in the United States Air Force. Michael was a navigator and electronics warfare officer from 1972-1978. While in the Air Force he attended and taught classes in geology at Texas Christian University. He later received his Doctor of Jurisprudence, Magna Cum Laude, from South Texas College of Law in 1980. From 1980-81, he was first a summer law clerk for the Gulf Oil Company and then a briefing





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Michael Essmyer (standing in the photo to the right) explained our Miranda rights. He informed us on when we could – and should – invoke our 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment right. He reminded us that we don't have to say anything!

Also pictured are (L-R): Bill Sorrels, Michael Bierman, Bernice Mistrot, and Allan Perkins.





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Battle of Harlem Heights. Sept. 16, 1776. 42nd 'Black Watch' Highlanders retreat while Knowlton's men attempt to get behind and surround them.

They came upon the enemy's flank instead and Knowlton was killed during this maneuver.

Michael Bierman talked about Washington's report to Congress on the Battle of Harlem Heights, where Patriot Colonel Thomas W. Knowlton perished.

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A plaque honoring the death of Colonel Knowlton is placed on the Mathematics Building at the Morningside Heights campus of Columbia University.



Essmyer & Daniel, P.C.  
5111 Center Street  
Houston, Texas 77007  
713-869-1155  
mesmyer@essmyerandaniel.com





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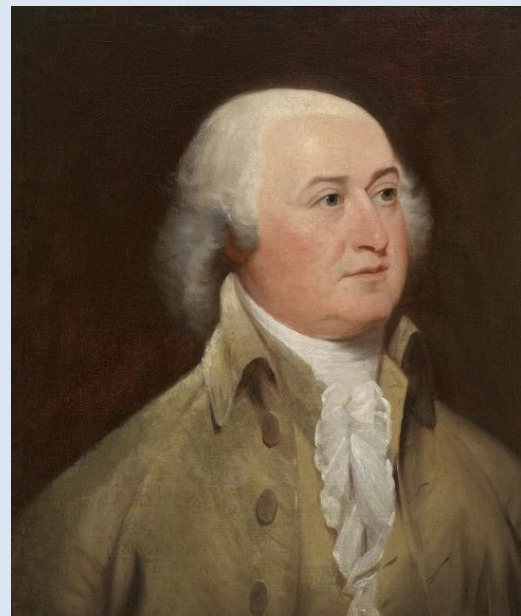
Compatriot Allan Perkins at the podium. He gives an ancestor presentation....on John Adams. Adams, a practicing lawyer at the time, defended the redcoats at the Boston Massacre.

Does this mean that Defense Attorneys are part of Law Enforcement?

### *John Adams*

2nd President of the United States  
1797-1801

- Lawyer, statesman, president, gadfly, New Englander
- Adams was the first person to propose the idea of a U.S. military academy in 1776.
- He defended two British soldiers who were accused of being responsible for the Boston Massacre
- Adams died on the same day as Thomas Jefferson.
- His son John Quincy became the sixth president





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In the photo from L-R: Texas SAR President Tom Jackson, Bruce McMordie, and Robert Rankin Chapter President Allen Greene. Bruce just received his new member certificate, but he wasn't on the agenda to be inducted! That means he will have to come back next month.

“For me, this day reminds me of the strength and courage of Americans everywhere to stand up to terrorism and tyranny. We will persevere.”

-Tom Jackson

