

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE BAR OF TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Hilton Anatole
Dallas, TX
Thursday, June 22, 2017**

The Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas met in a regular session on June 22, 2017 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas. Outgoing Chair of the Board Joe Escobedo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and Executive Director Michelle Hunter called the roll. A quorum of voting Board members was present. Ann Greenberg led the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags.

Present:

Board Members: Jerry Alexander, Rehan Alimohammad, Micah Belden, Amy Bryan, Jeff Chandler, Alison Colvin, Leslie Dippel, Estrella Escobar, Immediate Past Chair of the Board Joe Escobedo, Jr., Sylvia Firth, Jarrod Foerster, Laura Gibson, Ricky Gonzalez, Ann Greenberg, August Harris, Angelica Hernandez, TYLA Immediate Past President Sam Houston, Sarah Keathley, Neil Kelly, David Kent, President-elect Joe Longley, Aldo Lopez, Robert McKnight, Rudy Metayer, Gary Nickelson, Amie Peace, TYLA President-elect Sally Pretorius, Curtis Pritchard, TYLA President Baili Rhodes, Lisa Richardson, Fidel Rodriguez, Jr., Scott Rothenberg, Greg Sampson, Scott Sherwood, Rebecca Simmons, Dinesh Singhal, Immediate Past President Frank Stevenson, Scott Stolley, Andrew Tolchin, President Tom Vick, Nicole Voyles, Brad Weber, Michael Wynne

Liaisons*: Justice Phil Johnson, Tim Mountz, Judge Jennifer Rymell, Judge Amos Mazzant

Section Representatives*: Erich Birch, Wendy Burgower, Philip Mack Furlow, Elizabeth Copeland, Shelby Jean, Audrey Moorehead

Excused Absences: Christy Amuny, Alan Carmichael, Michael Dokupil, Judge Barbara Hervey, Audrey Moorehead, Chris Oddo, Rice Horkey

(* = nonvoting)

A. Presentations and Swearing-In of New Officers and Directors: Outgoing Chair of the Board Joe Escobedo thanked Michelle Hunter, the Board and all SBOT staff for all the work that they have done over the past year. Justice Phil Johnson administered the oath of office to incoming Chair Alimohammad. Chair Alimohammad also discussed the Board committees and Section/Standing Committee liaison assignments. Chair Escobedo then presented incoming Chair Rehan Alimohammad with the traditional copy of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Justice Johnson then administered the oath of office to incoming President-elect Joe Longley, and Longley made brief remarks. President-elect Longley was presented with a Resolution passed by the Texas Legislature HR 2642 by Representative Yvonne Davis. Chair Alimohammad called all the incoming directors, liaisons, and Section Representatives of the Board to come forward, and Justice Johnson administered the oath of office *en masse*.

Chair Alimohammad thanked outgoing President Frank Stevenson for the work he has done and his service to the lawyers of Texas over the past year.

B. Report from Incoming President: Incoming President Tom Vick discussed the ED search as Michelle Hunter gets ready to retire, his continued support for TOJI, and plans on how to make technology work in your practice.

C. Texas Access to Justice Commission: Harry Reasoner, gave an update on access to justice efforts in Texas, sponsorship of the ATJ Gala, the Texas Trial Academy, endowment that is well over \$400,000.00, the Bar has worked to increase the voluntary contributions of dues statements, law school poverty simulations, and the pro bono website.

D. Texas Young Lawyers Association: TYLA Incoming President Baili Rhodes thanked the Board and staff, and reported on various TYLA projects for the upcoming year. She noted that “Ignite & Unite” is the theme for this year, and TYLA will be igniting passion for service in lawyers to get them involved and uniting TYLA with bar committees and other affiliates to take projects state wide. Ms. Rhodes signature project is “Teach Safe, Learn Safe, Be Safe” which is founded by a grant from the Texas Bar Foundation. TYLA is doing a CLE short course on Spanish for lawyers as well as forming a new “Implementations and Pamphlets Committee” that will look at old projects and pamphlets and see that their info is shared.

E. Legal Counsel: John Sirman reported that New Directors orientation was successful, that the President is the official spokesperson of the State Bar and regarding all media statements that the board members should ask for Lowell Brown and will coordinate a response.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.