December 11, 2017

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Mr. John Sirman
Legal Counsel
State Bar of Texas
P.O. Box 12487
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Dear Mr. Sirman:

Enclosed please find for review and approval of the State Bar Board of Directors, an amicus curaie brief to be filed in the Supreme Court of Texas by the State Bar Appellate Section. A majority of the Council of the Section voted on December 8, 2017 (without dissent) in favor of requesting permission from the State Bar to file an amicus brief with the Court. Our amicus committee sought assistance from a Section member, attorney Elizabeth G. Bloch, to write the brief.

The brief falls within the purposes of the State Bar, does not violate any federal or state law or guiding case law, does not carry the potential of a deep philosophical or emotional division among a substantial segment of the State Bar, and does not conflict with any State Bar policy. The brief focuses solely on a procedural appellate issue, without taking a position on the facts or the law, and simply encourages the Supreme Court to accept the case pending before it so as to answer the procedural question posed therein.   The topic of the brief – finality of judgments -- falls within the primary or special expertise, concern, and purpose of the Appellate Section. This is a matter of procedural law that is a major issue of importance to the practice of law and the administration of justice. No member of the Appellate Section's Council represents a party in the case. We are not aware that any Voting Board Member of the State Bar represents a party in the case.

Please let us hear from you that our Request has been approved, at your earliest convenience. The case is fully briefed in the Texas Supreme Court. In order for this amicus brief to have effect, we aim to file it as soon as possible.

Thank you for your courtesies.

/s/ Michael S. Truesdale
Michael S. Truesdale
Chair, State Bar of Texas Appellate Section