



**THE DALLAS-FORT WORTH MUSLIM BAR ASSOCIATION’S STATEMENT IN
RESPONSE TO STATE BAR OF TEXAS PRESIDENT LARRY MCDUGAL’S
ACTIONS AND IN SUPPORT OF THE POSITION OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN
LAWYERS SECTION**

July 22, 2020, Dallas, TX. – As members of the State Bar of Texas (“SBOT”), and as part of the growing number of minority lawyers joining our great profession, the Dallas-Fort Worth Muslim Bar Association (“DFWMBA”) condemns the racially insensitive and misogynistic statements made by SBOT President Larry McDougal and announces its public support of the position taken by the African-American Lawyers Section of SBOT (“AALS”) on this matter, as outlined in its July 13, 2020 press release.

DFWMBA agrees with the call to action and demands made by AALS, and believes they should be adopted and implemented post-haste so that our profession can live up to the expectations of the changing times and needs of our society. The general public has historically looked to the ranks of our profession for leadership and guidance and we cannot afford to lose public confidence in our profession.

DFWMBA further proclaims that the practice of law is not just a profession, but a calling. We have taken an oath to defend the Constitution and uphold the principle of “Equal Justice for All.” As our members work towards ensuring justice for all people, SBOT and its leadership must also uphold these values of dignity and respect for all people and must represent our profession to the highest degrees of professionalism and integrity. We expect our leaders to elevate our profession’s brand, not tarnish it.

AALS has made reasonable and essential demands, and it is imperative that we do not accept anything less from Mr. McDougal and SBOT. In this age of divisive issues, SBOT and its members must stand as one to address these matters, and we must not relent in our obligation to professionalism and quest to #RaisetheBar together.

DFWMBA is an organization founded in 2014 by Muslim members of SBOT residing in the DFW area. in order to give a voice to and advocate on behalf of Muslim attorneys, law students and other legal professionals and to promote our profession within the DFW Muslim community and community at large. It is open to all DFW legal professionals and provides networking, mentoring and career development opportunities, and strives to support the community through pro bono work and legal education.