

**AGENDA
STATE BAR OF TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Friday, January 24, 2025 – 9 a.m. CST**

**State Bar of Texas
Texas Law Center – Room 101
1414 Colorado Street
Austin, TX 78701**

The presiding officer will be physically present at the meeting location listed above.

Members of the Public:

View the meeting via PC, Mac, iOS or Android Device:
www.youtube.com/statebaroftexas

Public comments will be received under agenda item 5.

Those who wish to address the Board of Directors in-person should fill out a speaker card at the beginning of the meeting and submit it to a staff member onsite. To sign up to speak remotely, please email boardofdirectors@texasbar.com or call (512) 427-1400 or (800) 204-2222 (toll free) before 5 p.m. CST on Thursday, January 23, 2025. Please provide the agenda item number you wish to speak on.

Written comments regarding agenda items must be received by 5 p.m. CST on Monday, January 20, 2025, for timely distribution to the Board of Directors before the meeting. Please submit written comments by email to boardofdirectors@texasbar.com and indicate the agenda item you are referring to.

Link to the January 24, 2025, Board of Directors Agenda and Materials:
www.texasbar.com/bodmaterials

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the State Bar of Texas will provide reasonable modifications and equal access to communications. For assistance, please contact Tami Knoll at (512) 427-6850 or (800) 204-2222 (toll free) at least two working days prior to the scheduled meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Individuals with speech or hearing disabilities can contact Ms. Knoll by routing through Relay Texas at phone number 7-1-1 or another designated phone number provided at relaytexas.com.

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| 1. Call to Order | Paul K. Stafford | |
| 2. Roll Call | Trey Apffel | |
| 3. Invocation | Brandy Wingate Voss | |
| 4. Pledge to the U.S. and Texas Flags | Carlo Taboada | |
| 5. Remarks from the General Public*
<i>(Members of the public will have an opportunity to comment during the meeting.)</i> | | |
| 6. Report from Chair of the Board | Paul K. Stafford | (Materials) |
| A. Action: Consider and discuss approval of Consent Agenda Items | | |
| B. Presentation of Resolutions | Steve Benesh | |

C. Discussion:

- 1) General Report
- 2) Announcement of candidates for 2025-26 Chair of the Board
 - a. Comments from the Chair of the Board Candidates
 - Britney E. Harrison (Dallas)
 - Kristina N. Kastl (Dallas)
 - Rudolph K. Metayer (Austin)
 - Rosalind V.O. Perez (Victoria)
 - Shannon A.S. Quadros (Houston)
 - Michael J. Wynne (Houston)

D. Action: Consider and discuss approval of method of voting to be used for the Chair of the Board election during the April board meeting

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| 7. | Report from Executive Director
Discussion: General Report | Trey Apffel | (Materials) |
| 8. | Report from President
Discussion: General Report | Steve Benesh | (Materials) |
| 9. | Report from President-elect
A. Discussion: General Report | Santos Vargas | (Materials) |
| | B. Budget Committee
Action: Consider and discuss approval of SBOT 2025-26 proposed budget for publication in the <i>Texas Bar Journal</i> | | |
| 10. | Report from Immediate Past President
Discussion: General Report | Cindy Tisdale | |
| 11. | Executive Committee
A. Nominations & Elections Subcommittee | Cindy Tisdale/Kennon
Lily Wooten | (Materials) |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Discussion: General Report 2) Action: Consider and discuss approval of candidates for 2025-26 SBOT President-elect candidacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deborah L. Cordova (Edinburg) G. David Smith (Rockwall) 3) Comments from President-elect Candidates | | |
| | B. Policy Manual Subcommittee | Matthew J. Hill | (Materials) |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Discussion: General Report 2) Action: Consider and discuss approval of increasing the CLE speaker meal reimbursement maximum in section 7.03.08(c)(3) from \$40 to \$60 | | |

12. **Audit & Finance Committee** Forrest Huddleston **(Materials)**
- A. Discussion:** Financial Reports and General Review of Financial Statements
- B. Action:** Consider and discuss approval of:
- 1) Financial Audit and Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2024
 - 2) Quarterly Investment Reports for the Quarters ending August 31, 2024 and November 30, 2024
13. **Minimum Continuing Legal Education Committee** Stuart Colburn **(Materials)**
- 1) **Discussion:** General Report
 - 2) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the MCLE Committee’s recommendation to change Section 2.1.2 of the Texas MCLE Regulations on accredited CLE activities to include credit for attorneys participating in arbitration, alternative dispute resolution, mediation, transactional, client counseling and negotiation competitions
 - 3) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the MCLE Committee’s recommendation to amend Section 1.3 of the Texas MCLE Regulations to change the title of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics required course from “The Guide to the Basics of Law Practice,” to the current title of “The Justice James A. Baker Guide to Ethics and Professionalism”
14. **Administration Committee** Elizabeth Sandoval Cantu **(Materials)**
- A. Administration Committee**
- 1) **Discussion:** General Report
 - 2) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Administration Committee’s recommendation regarding the Court Rules Committee’s proposed amendments to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 500.2(p) to remove uncertainty whether an order is interlocutory or final
 - 3) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Administration Committee’s recommendation regarding the Court Rules Committee’s proposed Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 500.2(ac) clarifying the procedure for dismissals stemming from discovery sanction orders
 - 4) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Administration Committee’s recommendation regarding the Court Rules Committee’s proposed amendments to Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure 9.9(e) regarding the responsibility of parties and counsel to redact sensitive information in filed documents to align with the Supreme Court’s Guidelines for the Submission of Documents and with current language from Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.10(e)

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| <p>B. Performance Measures & Strategic Planning Subcommittee
1) Discussion: General Report
2) Action: Consider and discuss approval of updated State Bar of Texas Strategic Plan</p> | <p>Alex J. Stelly, Jr.</p> | <p>(Materials)</p> |
| <p>15. Discipline & Client Attorney Assistance Committee
Client Security Fund Subcommittee
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Lawrence Morales II</p> | |
| <p>16. Member Services & Education Committee
A. Professional Development Subcommittee
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Aaron Z. Tobin</p> | |
| <p>B. Insurance/Member Benefits Subcommittee
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Radha Thiagarajan</p> | |
| <p>C. Appeals-Grant Review
Discussion: Report on Grant Authorization Request Received: “For The Public: Texas Lawyers in Public Service” by Texas Young Lawyers Association</p> | <p>Cade Browning</p> | <p>(Materials)</p> |
| <p>17. Public Services & Education Committee
Legislative Policy Subcommittee
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>David C. Courreges</p> | |
| <p>18. Ad Hoc Committee to Select At-Large Directors
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Elizabeth Sandoval Cantu</p> | |
| <p>19. Section Representatives to the Board
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Judge Jerry Bullard</p> | |
| <p>20. Commission for Lawyer Discipline/
Chief Disciplinary Counsel
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Seana Willing</p> | <p>(Materials)</p> |
| <p>21. Discussion: Ombudsman Update</p> | <p>Stephanie Lowe</p> | <p>(Materials)</p> |
| <p>22. Discussion: Texas Access to Justice Commission</p> | <p>Harriet Miers</p> | |
| <p>23. Discussion: Texas Bar Foundation</p> | <p>Sara Dysart</p> | |
| <p>24. Discussion: Texas Center for Legal Ethics</p> | <p>Hon. Audrey Moorehead</p> | |
| <p>25. Texas Young Lawyers Association
Discussion: General Report</p> | <p>Hisham Masri</p> | <p>(Materials)</p> |
| <p>26. Discussion: Liaison Reports
A. Supreme Court Liaison
B. Court of Criminal Appeals Liaison
C. Judicial Section Liaison</p> | <p>Senior Justice Debra Lehrmann
Judge Jesse F. McClure III
Judge Bill Miller</p> | |

- D. Federal Judicial Liaison
- E. Out of State Lawyer Liaison

Judge Jeff Brown
Sundeep K. “Rob” Addy

27. **Discussion: Report from General Counsel**

Ross Fischer

28. **Discussion: Report from Legal Counsel**

Chris Ritter

A. Closed Session: As authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel regarding *Boudreaux v. Louisiana State Bar Association*, 86 F.4th 620 (5th Cir. 2023), *Alford v. State Bar of Texas* (No. 4:24-cv-01679) (S.D. Tex.); *Turnbull v. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, et al.* (No. 24-50260) (5th Cir.) and (No. 15-24-00095-CV) (15th Court of Appeals); *Robins v. State Bar of Texas, et al.* (No. 202418660) (129th District Court, Harris County); *Philip Ireland v. State Bar of Texas et al.* (No CV22279) (Freestone County, Tex.); *Winningham v. SBOT, et al.* (No. 4:24-cv-881-O-BP)(N.D. Tex.); and *Jacob Barreras v. State Bar of Texas* (No. 3:24-cv-00302-MJT) (W.D. Tex.), and legal matters related to 1415 Lavaca; and as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to deliberate regarding personnel matter(s)

B. End of Closed Session/Return to Open Session

C. Action, if needed, on items discussed in closed session

29. **SBOT Mission Statement**

Stephen Venzor

30. **Adjourn**

Paul K. Stafford

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this notice, the Board should determine that a closed session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any item included in this notice, then such closed session as authorized by Texas Open Meetings Act (Tex. Gov’t Code Ch. 551) will be held by the Board at that date, hour and place given in this notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Sections 551.071-551.084, inclusive, of the Texas Open Meetings Act. The Board reserves the right to take action in open session on any item discussed in closed session.

Items on the agenda will not necessarily be discussed or considered in the order they are printed on the agenda above. Comments from the public may be taken throughout the Board meeting.

SBOT MISSION

The mission of the State Bar of Texas is to support the administration of the legal system, assure all citizens equal access to justice, foster high standards of ethical conduct for lawyers, enable its members to better serve their clients and the public, educate the public about the rule of law and promote diversity in the administration of justice and the practice of law.