

**AGENDA
STATE BAR OF TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Friday, April 25, 2025 – 8 a.m. CDT**

**Houston Marriott Sugar Land
Sugar Land Ballroom V
16090 City Walk
Sugar Land, TX 77479**

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. CDT on Thursday, April 24, 2025. Please provide the agenda item number you wish to speak on.

Written comments regarding agenda items must be received by 5 p.m. CDT on Monday, April 21, 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 April 25, 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.

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Paul K. Stafford | |
| 2. Roll Call | Trey Apffel | |
| 3. Invocation | Diana Gomez | |
| 4. Pledge to the U.S. and Texas Flags | Chris Popov | |
| 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 Resolution | Steve Benesh | |
| C. Discussion: General Report | | |

D. Chair of the Board Election

1) **Action:** Election of Chair of the Board for 2025-26

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)

2) Comments by Chair-elect

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 7. | Report from Executive Director
Discussion: General Report | Trey Apffel | (Materials) |
| 8. | Report from President
A. Discussion: General Report

B. Action: Consider and discuss approval of appointments of At-Large Directors to the Board of Directors, for three-year terms, effective Annual Meeting 2025 and expiring Annual Meeting 2028:
Stephen M. Foster (Austin)
Alison Fox-Dahlberg (Austin) | Steve Benesh | (Materials) |
| 9. | Report from President-elect
A. Discussion: General Report

B. Budget Committee
1) Action: Consider and discuss approval of State Bar of Texas 2025-26 proposed budget for presentation to the Supreme Court
2) Discussion: State Bar Financial Trends

C. Committee Review Task Force
1) Action: Consider and discuss approval of task force recommendations regarding standing committees
2) Action: Consider and discuss approval of suspension of the 27-member cap for the Outreach and Engagement Committee for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 bar years | Santos Vargas | (Materials) |
| 10. | Report from Immediate Past President
Discussion: General Report | Cindy Tisdale | |
| 11. | Executive Committee
Nominations & Elections Subcommittee

Discussion: Update on President-elect and District Director Elections | Cindy Tisdale/Kennon
Lily Wooten | (Materials) |
| 12. | Audit & Finance Committee
A. Discussion: Financial Reports and General Review of Financial Statements | Forrest Huddleston | (Materials) |

B. Action: Consider and discuss approval of Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter ending February 28, 2025

C. Action: Consider and discuss approval of a two-year contract with PFM Asset Management for investment management services

D. Action: Consider and discuss approval of the audit firm, Weaver, for financial audit services

E. Action: Consider and discuss approval of Internal Audit Reports Liz Meyers

13. **Administration Committee**

A. Administration Committee Elizabeth Sandoval Cantu **(Materials)**

- 1) **Discussion:** General Report
- 2) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Administration Committee’s recommendation regarding the Court Rules Committee’s proposed change to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 306a to clarify the procedure for notifying a judge that a motion was filed
- 3) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Administration Committee’s recommendation regarding the Court Rules Committee’s proposed changes to Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 224, 225, 229, 231, 232, 233, and 234, all relating to adjusting the rules to state the correct number of jurors in accordance with the change to Texas Government Code Section 25.0007(c) that now allows a 12-person jury in statutory county court trials if the amount in controversy is over \$250,000
- 4) **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) regarding dismissals stemming from discovery sanction orders

B. Performance Measures & Strategic Planning Subcommittee Alex J. Stelly, Jr.
Discussion: General Report

14. **Discipline & Client Attorney Assistance Committee**
Client Security Fund Subcommittee Lawrence Morales II
Discussion: General Report

15. **Public Services & Education Committee**
A. Affordable Legal Services Subcommittee Brandy Wingate Voss **(Materials)**

- 1) **Discussion:** General Report
- 2) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of the Affordable Legal Services Subcommittee’s recommendation regarding the Legal Services to the Poor in Criminal Matters Committee’s proposed Jeff Blackburn Award

B. Legislative Policy Subcommittee David C. Courreges

- 1) **Discussion:** General Report
 - 2) **Action:** Consider and discuss approval of additions or changes to the SBOT Legislative Program and recommendations of the Subcommittee, if any
-
16. **Member Services & Education Committee**
 - A. **Professional Development Subcommittee**
Discussion: General Report
Aaron Z. Tobin
 - B. **New Directors Orientation Subcommittee**
Discussion: General Report
Brandy Wingate Voss
 - C. **Insurance/Member Benefits Subcommittee**
Discussion: General Report
Radha Thiagarajan
 17. **Section Representatives to the Board**
Discussion: General Report
Brandy Wingate Voss
 18. **Discussion:** Texas Young Lawyers Association
Hisham Masri **(Materials)**
 19. **Discussion: Liaison Reports**
 - A. Supreme Court Liaison
Senior Justice Debra Lehrmann
 - B. Court of Criminal Appeals Liaison
Judge Jesse McClure III
 - C. Judicial Section Liaison
Judge Bill Miller
 - D. Federal Judicial Liaison
Judge Jeff Brown
 - E. Out of State Lawyer Liaison
Sundeep K. “Rob” Addy
 20. **Discussion:** Commission for Lawyer Discipline/Chief Disciplinary Counsel
Judge Monica Gonzalez/Seana Willing **(Materials)**
 21. **Discussion:** Committee on Disciplinary Rules and Referenda
M. Lewis Kinard **(Materials)**
 22. **Discussion:** Report from General Counsel
Ross Fischer
 23. **Discussion:** Report from Chief 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. 25-20072)(5th Cir.); *Turnbull v. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, et al.* (No. 24-934) (S. Ct); *Turnbull v. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, et al.* (No. 15-24-00095-CV) (15th Court of Appeals); *Robins v. State Bar of Texas, et al.* (No. 14-25-00211-CV)(14th Court of Appeals); *Robins v. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, et al.* (No. 202510213)(Harris County, Tex.); *Ireland v. State Bar of Texas, et al.* (No. CV22279) (Freestone County, Tex.); *Winningham v. State Bar of Texas, et al.* (No. 25-10360)(5th Cir.); *Barreras v. State Bar of Texas* (No. 3:24-cv-00302-MJT) (W.D. Tex.); legal matters related to 1415 Lavaca; legal matters related to the State Bar’s Information Technology system security; 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

24. **For Information Only:** 2024 Board of Disciplinary Appeals Report **(Materials)**
25. **For Information Only:** Texas Access to Justice Commission Quarterly Report **(Materials)**
26. **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.