

## STATE BAR ELECTION SCHEDULED

The State Bar of Texas election for 2023-2024 president-elect, Texas Young Lawyers Association president-elect, and State Bar and TYLA directors will be held April 3 to May 2, 2023. This year, candidates for State Bar president-elect are selected from any county of the state.

### Excerpted Guidelines for Election of State Bar President-elect

**2.01.03 Election.** The president-elect shall be elected by vote of a majority of those members of the State Bar who voted in such election. Such election shall be held in April or May of each year. The person so elected shall assume the office of president-elect at the next annual meeting following the succession of the then president-elect to the office of president.

**2.01.04 Qualifications.** Any member of the State Bar who meets the eligibility requirements for officers set forth in the State Bar Act and the State Bar Rules is eligible for nomination for president-elect.

#### 2.01.05 Nominations.

- (A) At its regularly scheduled first quarterly meeting each organizational year, the board, on recommendation by the subcommittee, shall nominate by a majority vote two or more members of the State Bar to be candidates and to stand for election to the office of president-elect for the next organizational year. Any other qualified member shall also be privileged to stand for election to that office as a candidate when a written petition, in a form prescribed by the board and signed by no less than 5% of the active members of the State Bar who are in good standing, is filed by or on behalf of such member with the executive director on or before March 1 preceding the election for the ensuing organizational year and such petition is certified by the executive director. An electronic signature may be used on the petition form. A petition signature is invalid if it is not dated or the signer signed the petition before September 1 of the year before the election.
- (B) The executive director shall either certify or reject such petition within five business days following receipt of the petition by the executive director. Any disputes arising from the executive director's decision shall be resolved by the Executive Committee in accordance with the State Bar Rules. By either accepting the nomination of the board or soliciting petition signatures, all potential candidates (including director candidates) certify that they have read and agree to be bound by the provisions of these guidelines relating to campaigns for the office of president-elect or director, respectively, and regarding the role of the subcommittee.

**2.01.06** Candidate Pools. All potential candidates for president-elect, whether selected by the board or by petition as described in Subsection 2.01.05, shall be selected and bound by, and eligible for election only in compliance with, the following candidate pools that rotate on the following three-year cycle:

- (A) potential candidates whose principal places of practice are in the five metropolitan counties of Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Tarrant, or Travis in the first year of rotation;
- (B) potential candidates whose principal places of practice are in counties other than the five metropolitan counties in the second year of rotation; and
- (C) potential candidates whose principal places of practice are in any county.

# **2.01.07 Selection of Candidates.** The board shall select president-elect candidates as follows:

- (A) In August, preceding the first quarterly meeting at which the board selects candidates, the subcommittee chair(s) shall notify Texas bar associations representing the State Bar's diverse membership and State Bar sections, divisions, and committees that the nominee selection process has begun. The chair(s) of the subcommittee shall request from those groups the names and background information of potential nominees, explaining the criteria for selection described in Subsection (C).
- (B) The subcommittee shall state its intent to solicit potential nominees by distributing notice on the State Bar website and by publishing notice in the July issue of the *Texas Bar Journal*. The publication shall contain the criteria for nominee selection described in Subsections 2.01.04, 2.01.07, and 2.01.08(C). Anyone submitting a name for consideration should first obtain that person's written consent to have his or her name submitted.
- (C) Subject to Subsections 2.01.04 and 2.01.07, any member in good standing with the State Bar is eligible for nomination. The subcommittee shall select qualified nominees and choose its nominees with the objective of ensuring that, over a period of years, the office of the president includes men and women; ethnic and racial diversity; lawyers from large, medium, and small firms and solo practitioners; and members from urban and rural and metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas of the state. In doing so, the subcommittee shall consider a potential candidate's involvement as a member of the board or in State Bar committee work, knowledge of State Bar operations, participation in local and specialty bar associations and other activities demonstrating leadership ability, and sincere interest and competence in dealing with issues concerning the State Bar of Texas.
- (D) The subcommittee may also solicit potential nominees whose names have not been submitted through the process described in Subsections 2.01.08(A) and (B). Persons solicited as potential nominees must meet the criteria described in Subsection 2.01.08(C).
- (E) As part of the selection process, each potential nominee should be asked to submit a resume and a brief statement indicating the reasons for his or her interest in serving as president. The subcommittee may interview potential nominees. The travel expenses incurred by a potential

## **2023 STATE BAR OF TEXAS DIRECTORS ELECTION CHART**

| BAR<br>DISTRICT   | NUMBER OF<br>SIGNATURES<br>REQUIRED | OUTGOING DIRECTOR                  | COUNTIES IN DISTRICT*  |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>4,</b> Place 2 | 100                                 | Benny Agosto, Houston              | Harris   |
| <b>4,</b> Place 4 | 100                                 | Lucy Forbes, Houston               | Harris   |
| <b>4,</b> Place 6 | 100                                 | Andrew Tolchin, Houston            | Harris   |
| <b>6,</b> Place 3 | 100                                 | Mary L. Scott, Dallas              | Dallas   |
| <b>6,</b> Place 4 | 100                                 | Chad Baruch, Dallas                | Dallas   |
| <b>9,</b> Place 1 | 100                                 | D. Todd Smith, Austin              | Travis   |
| 11                | 80                                  | Carra Miller, Corpus Christi       | Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kleberg, Live Oak, <b>(Nueces)</b> , Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, and Wilson counties   |
| 12                | 100                                 | Lydia Elizondo Mount, McAllen      | Atascosa, Brooks, Cameron, Dimmit, Duval, Frio, <b>(Hidalgo)</b> , Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Maverick, McMullen, Starr, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala counties   |
| 14                | 100                                 | Kimberly Pack Wilson, Stephenville | Archer, Baylor, Brown, Callahan, Clay, Coleman, Comanche, Cooke, Denton, Eastland, ( <b>Erath</b> ), Haskell, Hood, Jack, Jones, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Runnels, Shackelford, Somervell, Stephens, Taylor, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise, and Young counties |
| 17                | 68                                  | Steve Fischer, El Paso             | Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and Presidio counties  |

<sup>\*</sup>Counties in bold print are ineligible for campaign during the 2023 elections. See State Bar Rules Article IV, Section 5(A)(3)(b), which addresses the issue of succession, and Article I (5), which defines metropolitan areas. The zip code on each attorney's office address will determine the State Bar district for the purpose of State Bar elections. If no office address is provided to the State Bar by an attorney, the district will be determined by the zip code on the home address provided.

- nominee in attending such interview will be reimbursed by the State Bar.
- (F) Potential nominees are urged to discuss their prospective candidacies with their families, any applicable partners or management in their offices, as well as other relevant parties to ensure that all potential nominees will agree to be nominees, if approved by the subcommittee, and that all nominees will agree to be candidates, if selected by the board.
- (G) The subcommittee shall submit to the board the names of two or more qualified nominees for president-elect.

**2.01.09** Announcement of Candidates. As soon as reasonably practicable after all candidates for president-elect are selected by the board or certified through the petition process described in Subsection 2.01.05, the names of all candidates, the counties of their principal places of practice, and their biographical information shall be published at the same time on the State Bar website and in the *Texas Bar Journal*.

**2.01.12** Distribution of Ballots. A combined ballot for the office of president-elect and for the office of director may be used in bar districts in which an election for director is to be conducted. On April 1, or on the first working day following April 1 if April 1 falls on a weekend, an official ballot listing the names of all candidates for president-elect and candidates for director shall be distributed to each member of the State Bar who is eligible to vote.

### Excerpted Guidelines for Election of the Board of Directors

1.03 Elected Directors

1.03.01 General. Elected directors shall be elected by a

majority of the active and emeritus members of the State Bar who have their principal place of practice in the same bar district as the candidate. If no candidate receives a majority, a runoff between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be held at a time the board prescribes. The provisions of this policy manual concerning State Bar district director campaigns shall apply to the campaign activities of the director runoff candidates.

**1.03.02 Term.** Each person elected as a director shall serve a three-year term.

**1.03.03 Nominations.** An active member's name may be placed in nomination for the office of elected director by a written petition in the form prescribed by the board.

- (A) The petition shall be signed by the lesser of 5% of the active members whose principal place of practice is within the district to be represented by the nominee if elected or 100 of such members. An electronic signature may be used on the petition form. A petition signature is invalid if it is not dated or the signer signed the petition before September 1 of the year before the election.
- (B) The petition must be received in the office of the executive director on or before March 1 of the year of election.
- (C) For State Bar elections, the principal place of practice is established no later than December 31. A nominee is ineligible to be certified as a candidate for director if he or she changes his or her principal place of practice from one State Bar district to another between December 31 and March 1 of the bar year of the election.
- (D) The executive director shall promptly review the petition to verify the eligibility of the nominee.
- (E) If from the petition it appears the nominee is eligible, the executive director shall certify such eligibility, and that

- nominee's name shall be listed on the ballot. If from the petition the executive director finds the nominee to be ineligible, that fact shall immediately be communicated to the nominee.
- (F) Any nominee desiring to appeal the findings of the executive director shall promptly notify the executive director, who shall promptly convene the Executive Committee to hear and determine the matter.
- (G) The Executive Committee shall have final authority to determine questions of the eligibility and certification of the nominee and the validity of the nominating petition and shall do so within 10 days of the notice to the executive director.
- (H) The petitions may be in counterparts, and signatures on counterparts are permissible.
- (I) If no valid petition nominating an eligible person in a district in the year in which such district is to elect a director has been received by the executive director by March 1, or if all persons who have been nominated shall have died or become disqualified from serving at any time before the election ballot is printed, then the president, with the advice of the person then serving as elected director or directors from that district, shall name a qualified person to stand for election as director from that district.

**1.03.04** Candidate Certification Form. Candidates for elected director shall be required to sign a candidate certification form, which must be received in the office of the executive director at the same time as the petition. The certification form shall set forth the eligibility requirements and shall contain the following:

| "As a candidate for the office of director, I,                         |
|--|
| certify that I understand the following criteria as contained in       |
| the State Bar Rules, Article IV, § 5(A), relating to serving as a      |
| director of the State Bar of Texas, and that after reviewing the       |
| criteria, I am eligible to serve as a director. I further certify that |
| I have read and agree to be bound by the provisions of the             |
| State Bar Board of Directors Policy Manual regarding the               |
| guidelines relating to campaigns for the office of director and        |
| regarding the role of the Nominations and Election.                    |
| Subcommittee in such campaigns."                                       |
|  |
| Signature:   |
| Date:  |
|  |

**1.03.05 Qualifications of Officers and Directors.** No person may serve as an officer or member of the board who does not

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS SAMPLE NOMINATING PETITION**

The petition form below is suggested for the convenience of persons who want to nominate a member for the State Bar Board of Directors. The election will be held in April.\*

The excerpted guidelines for election of president-elect and directors are printed in this *Texas Bar Journal*. If you wish to become a candidate for president-elect or director and need additional information, contact Tami Knoll, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX, 78711-2487; call

512-427-6850 or 800-204-2222; or fax 512-427-4350. Pursuant to the rules governing the State Bar of Texas, nominating petitions must be received no later than March 1, 2023. Names on the petition should be legible and the bar card number of each individual should be provided. Completed petitions should be mailed to Office of Executive Director, Attn: Tami Knoll, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX, 78711-2487

### **PETITION FOR ELECTION**

| We, the undersigned, bei       | ing at least 5% of the mem    | nbers of the State Bar wh     | ose principal place of business       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| is in the bar district, o      | or 100 of such members, wh    | ichever is less, do hereby    | nominate                              |
| of as                          | a candidate for director of t | he State Bar of Texas from    | that district and request that his    |
| or her name be placed on the   | official ballot for 2023, pur | suant to Article IV, Sectior  | 7, of the State Bar Rules.            |
| The proposed candidate r       | meets the requirements for o  | director as stipulated in Art | cicle IV — Administration, Section 5, |
| Qualifications of Officers and | Directors of the State Bar F  | Rules.                        |                                       |
|                                |                               |                               |                                       |
| SIGNATURE                      | PRINTED NAME                  | DATE SIGNED                   | BAR CARD NUMBER                       |
| ,                              |                               |                               |                                       |
|                                |                               |                               |                                       |
|                                |                               |                               |                                       |
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|                                |                               |                               |                                       |

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<sup>\*</sup>The petition form and information about running for director may be found at texasbar.com/board.

meet the qualifications to serve as set forth in the State Bar Rules Article IV, §§ 5 and 10. The board is the judge of a candidate's qualifications.

1.03.06 Failure to Qualify. If an elected director fails to qualify, the elected director shall be deemed to have vacated the position.

1.03.07 Sample Petition Form.

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|------|-------|-----|----|--------|
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| We, the undersigned, being at least 5% of the members of | the |
|--|-----|
| State Bar whose principal place of practice is in the    |     |
| bar district, or 100 of such members, whichever is less, | do  |
| hereby nominate  | o   |

| as a car                                    | ndidate for director of |
|---|-------------------------|
| the State Bar of Texas from that district a | and request that his or |
| her name be placed on the official ballot   | for (year), pursuant to |
| Article IV, § 7 of the State Bar Rules.     |                         |
|   |                         |

The proposed candidate meets the requirements for director as stipulated in Article IV—Administration, § 5, Qualifications of Officers and Directors of the State Bar Rules.

| Signature:       |
|------------------|
| Printed Name:    |
| Bar Card Number: |
| Date:            |



PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN THIS FORM TO TAMI KNOLL by **MARCH 1, 2023** 

tami.knoll@texasbar.com 512.427.6850

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR INFORMATION**

| YOUR NAME:        | Date:  |
|-------------------|--|
| (Prir             | nt your name as how you would like it to appear on State Bar of Texas materials) |
| OFFICE ADDRESS    |  |
| Firm Name:        |  |
| Firm Address:     |  |
| PO Box #:         |  |
|                   | Zip:   |
|                   | Fax #: ()  |
| Email:            |  |
| ASSISTANT'S Name: | Tel.# ()   |
| Email:            |  |
|                   | Please include:<br>1. 200 word bio<br>2. Recent photo of yourself                |
| ********          | ***************************************  |
| The bel           | ow information is for internal purposes only and will not be distributed         |
| SPOUSE'S NAME:    |  |
|                   |  |
| City:             | Zip:   |
| Tel.#: ()         |  |

texasbar.com/tbj