



STATE BAR OF TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT SERVICE ON THE BOARD

To assist in the improvement of the State Bar and the legal profession, your full commitment to the duties of a director is expected. Directors serve three-year terms and participate in many activities and events that require a significant time commitment. Below are Frequently Asked Questions about the duties and expectations of serving on the board.

What are the main duties of a State Bar Board member?

Each Board member is expected to actively consider and participate in developing and achieving the State Bar's goals, programs and activities as they pertain to the Bar's Strategic Plan.

Is there training for new board members?

Each new Board member is expected to participate in the formal New Directors' Orientation activities held in June (time commitment: eight hours over a two-day period) and to become familiar with the contents of the Board of Directors' Training Handbook. New Board members will learn about the Bar's governing policies (the State Bar Act, State Bar Rules, and Board Policy Manual), open meetings requirements, and other information about the administration of the Bar. Additional information about the Bar should be sought from the Executive Director, President, or Chair of the Board as the year progresses, to ensure full participation in Board activities.

How often does the Board meet?

The Board meets four times per year around the state of Texas: typically in January, April, June and September. The Board meeting in June is in conjunction with the State Bar's Annual Meeting. Expect to devote at least one to two days for each meeting, usually a Thursday and Friday. (Thursday attendance depends upon BOD committee assignments and which committees are meeting that day.) Attendance at these meetings is expected and unexcused absences may be grounds for removal from the Board.

What are the most common activities for Board members?

In addition to the quarterly board meetings, each SBOT Board member is expected to serve:

- As a member or chair of at least two Board committees or subcommittees.
(Time commitment may be one to two meetings per month).
- As a Board Advisor / Alternate Advisor to SBOT sections.
(Time commitment may be one to two meetings per month).
- As a Board Advisor / Alternate Advisor to SBOT Standing committees.
(Time commitment may be one to two meetings per month).

What role do board members have at board meetings?

Each Board member is expected to prepare for and participate in Board and committee meetings. This includes being knowledgeable about related materials, being prepared to develop and/or articulate SBOT policy, and asking substantive questions on significant member or professional issues.

What is the time commitment for serving on the Board of Directors?

As an active member of the Board of the State Bar of Texas, you can expect to commit approximately 150 to 200 hours per year on your duties to the Bar.

Are there any administrative requirements or limitations for serving on the board?

- All directors are required to file a financial disclosure in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subtitle B, Chapter 572, Subchapter B, Section 572.021.
- A Board member may not serve as a paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of board interest; or the person's spouse is an officer, manager, or paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of board interest.
- No Officer or Director of the State Bar shall counsel or represent any Complainant or Respondent in any disciplinary proceeding or action, pending or filed during the term of the affected person's service as an Officer or Director.
- Attorney Directors:
 - o must be active members in good standing of the State Bar
 - o must never have been disbarred or resigned in lieu of discipline
 - o if ever suspended for professional misconduct, must have been reinstated at least ten years before the term of director begins