Humble Beginnings

My name is Joe Escobedo, Jr., and it is my distinct honor to ask for your vote for President-Elect of the State Bar of Texas. I sometimes find it hard to believe that I am even in this position. My father and mother never made it past the 5th grade, but they instilled in me the belief that if you work hard, you could succeed in this country.

Issues Facing the Bar & Texas Lawyers

**Attorney Health and Wellness** - I am very concerned with the problems lawyers are having with depression and addiction. While I believe this problem has always existed, the pandemic has made it worse. By continuing to support programs like TLAP, the Bar can make a positive impact on lawyers’ lives.

**Solos and Small Firms** - Lawyers in solo and small firm practice account for close to 40% of the lawyers in Texas. I know the stress that comes from working hard to have a practice that provides for my family and the families of my employees. The Bar must continue to address the concerns of solo practitioners and lawyers in small firms.

**Access to Justice** - Not everyone can afford to pay a retainer or a lawyer’s hourly fee. I know this first-hand. I believe that we, as lawyers, should ensure that everyone has equal access to our justice system and all the protections it provides. I understand the many challenges involved in accomplishing this and believe that we can work toward finding ways of improving access to legal services for the poor.

**Innovation in the Practice of Law** - The pandemic has taught us that we must continue to adapt and evolve in our practices. The ability to participate remotely in court proceedings, depositions and mediations has greatly improved the lives of Texas lawyers. The Bar is in a unique position to lead and support this need for innovation.

**Pipeline Initiatives** - I support the creation of small groups of diverse lawyers to serve as mentors for young lawyers and young people interested in a career in the law.

President-Elect for All Texas Lawyers

I hope that I will earn your vote for President-Elect of the State Bar of Texas. If elected, I will be President for ALL Texas lawyers. I appreciate your consideration.
Dear Fellow Texas Lawyers,

My name is Joe Escobedo, Jr. I have a small firm practice in Edinburg, Texas devoted to tort litigation and mediations. If chosen as President-Elect, I promise to devote the time and energy necessary to ensure that the Bar serves all Texas lawyers.

Since the announcement of my selection by the Nominations & Elections Subcommittee and approval by the Board, I have received the support of lawyers throughout the State in a wide range of practices. If elected, I will represent and be President for all Texas lawyers.

I have the experience to be your President-Elect. I served four years on the State Bar Board, the highlight of which was being elected as Chair of the Board by directors from throughout the State. Following my years on the Board, I continued my service to Texas lawyers. I serve on the Board of the Texas Bar Foundation and am a Commissioner for the Texas Access to Justice Commission. I am proud to serve as Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force which was created to study and propose actions to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the administration of justice and the practice of law.

I hope to be able to campaign in person and look forward to traveling to your part of the State to meet you and your colleagues. I want to hear your ideas related to making the Bar better for all Texas lawyers and the public. To learn more about my campaign, please feel free to call me at 956-630-2222 or send me an email at joe@escobedocardenas.com.

I hope that I can count on your support and your vote for President-Elect of the State Bar of Texas.

Thank you for your time and consideration,