

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 02 - 9057

**ORDER OF THE COURT APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE
STANDARDS FOR ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION OF THE
TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION**

The Texas Board of Legal Specialization approved amendments to the Standards for Attorney Certification on February 6, 2002, and it appears to this Court that these Standards will advance the administration of justice.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Standards for Attorney Certification be amended, effective April 2, 2002:

By adding the following paragraphs b, b(1) and b(2) to Part I, Section VI:

- b. Certified Attorneys and Recertification Applicants. The TBLS may permit a board certified attorney or recertification applicant who is serving as a full-time county, state or federal trial, appellate, probate, family or bankruptcy judge (including a U.S. magistrate judge or Texas associate judge) to remain certified during his or her judicial service.
 - (1) The annual and recertification fees for attorneys affected by this provision shall be the same as the fees for other certified attorneys. All requirements for the attorney's recertification, other than the payment of fees, shall be suspended until December 31 of the calendar year following the date on which the certified attorney ceases to serve as a full-time judge.
 - (2) If the certified attorney desires to continue certification after December 31 of the calendar year, which he or she ceases to serve as a full-time judge, the attorney shall timely file an application for recertification with the TBLS and shall comply with the TBLS Rules. A certified attorney whose certification was extended by reason of

service as a full-time judge must satisfy all the requirements for recertification except that, for purposes of the initial recertification only, the substantial involvement requirement shall be waived.

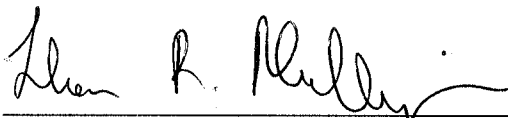
And by substituting the following paragraph 1 for paragraph 1 under each Part II, Section I, Section C attorney specialty area:

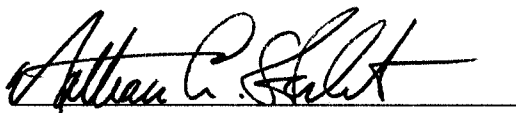
1. Except as provided for in I,C,2 below, recertification applicants must show substantial involvement and special competence in (area of law) by providing such information as may be required by the TBLS, including confirmation that during each year of the five years of certification they have devoted a minimum of (area of law percentage) of their time practicing Texas administrative law as defined in Section I,A of the Specific Area Requirements for (area of law).

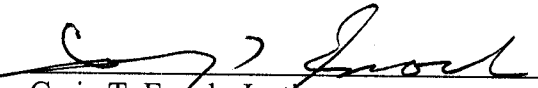
And by adding the following paragraph 2 to each Part II, Section I, Section C attorney specialty area:


2. A certified attorney whose certification was extended by reason of service as a full-time judge (as detailed in Part I, Section VI,C,1,b) must satisfy all requirements for recertification except that, for initial recertification only, the substantial involvement requirement shall be waived.

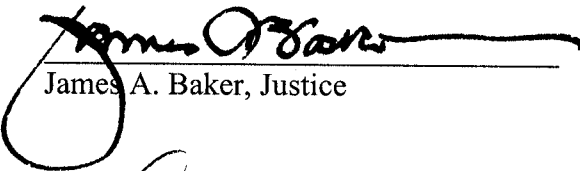
Signed this 11th day of March, 2002.

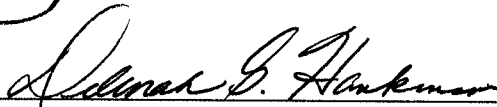

Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

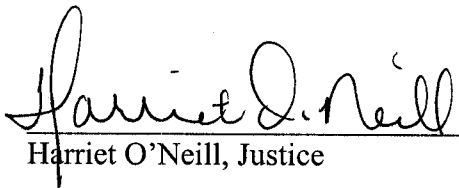

Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

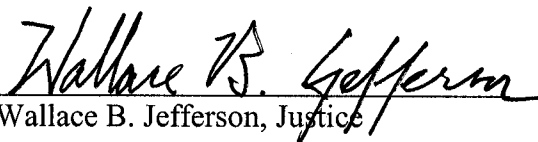

Craig T. Enoch, Justice



Priscilla R. Owen, Justice


James A. Baker, Justice


Deborah G. Hankinson, Justice


Harriet O'Neill, Justice


Wallace B. Jefferson, Justice


Xavier Rodriguez, Justice