

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

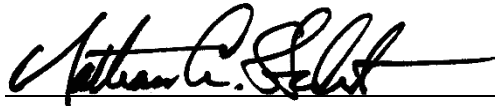
Misc. Docket No. 18-9156

ORDER ADOPTING SECTION VIII OF PART I OF THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION STANDARDS FOR ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION

ORDERED that:

1. Section VIII of Part I of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization Standards for Attorney Certification is adopted as follows, effective immediately.
2. The Clerk is directed to:
 - a. file a copy of this order with the Secretary of State;
 - b. cause a copy of this order to be mailed to each registered member of the State Bar of Texas by publication in the *Texas Bar Journal*;
 - c. send a copy of this order to each elected member of the Legislature; and
 - d. submit a copy of the order for publication in the *Texas Register*.

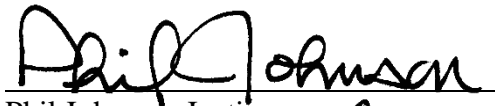
Dated: November 8, 2018.



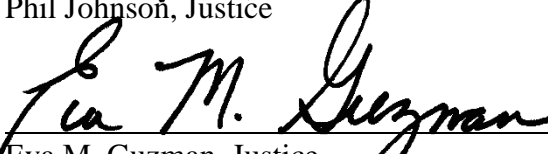
Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice



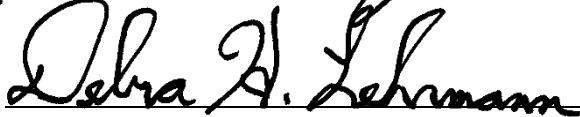
Paul W. Green, Justice



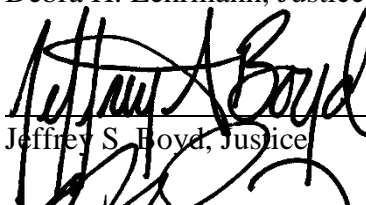
Phil Johnson, Justice



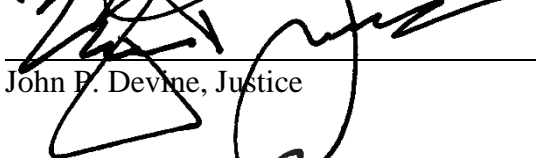
Eva M. Guzman, Justice



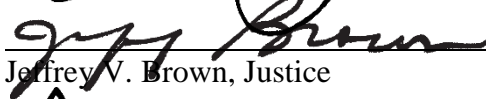
Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice



Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice



John F. Devine, Justice



Jeffrey V. Brown, Justice



James D. Blacklock, Justice

TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION STANDARDS FOR ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION

SECTION VIII SENIOR STATUS DESIGNATION

- A. **WHO MAY QUALIFY.** A board certified attorney may apply for senior status designation in a particular specialty area if the attorney is no longer practicing law on a full-time basis, is at least 70 years old, and has been a board certified attorney in that specialty area for at least 20 consecutive years.
- B. **APPLICATION.** A board certified attorney shall apply for senior status designation on a form prescribed and approved by TBLS.
- C. **TERM.** The senior status designation, if granted by TBLS, shall expire upon retirement of the board certified attorney or expiration, resignation, or revocation of his or her certificate of special competence.
- D. **REQUIREMENTS.**
1. **TBLS Standards for Attorney Certification Apply.** Except as modified by Section VIII.D.2 below, a board certified attorney who is granted senior status is subject to both the general and area-specific requirements unique to the board certified attorney's specialty area that are set forth in TBLS Standards for Attorney Certification, including the requirement that the board certified attorney remain an active member in good standing with the SBOT.
 2. **Modifications.** A board certified attorney who is granted senior status must:
 - a. **Required Law Practice.** Maintain at least a part-time practice of law with a minimum average of 20 hours per week of legal work done primarily for the purpose of providing legal advice or representation. Legal work may be pro bono or volunteer work.
 - b. **CLE.** For recertification, complete 75 hours of CLE in the specialty area by December 31 of each 5th year of certification.
 - c. **Substantial Involvement.** Devote a minimum of 25% of his or her time practicing law in the specialty area during each year of the 5-year period of certification.
 - d. **References.** For recertification, submit a minimum of 5 names and addresses of attorneys, judges, or both to be contacted as references with whom he or she has had dealings involving matters in the attorney's specialty area since the most recent recertification.
 - e. **Fees.** Pay the required fees except the recertification fee.
- E. **DISCLOSURE PROHIBITED.** The senior status designation is an internal designation TBLS utilizes to categorize certifications. A board certified attorney granted senior status designation shall not use the senior status designation on any professional or advertisement materials, including letterhead, business cards, signs, brochures, websites, or social media.