

State Bar of Texas
Task Force on Public Protection, Grievance Review, and the Client Security Fund
Fiscal Impact Analysis
September 25, 2020

BACKGROUND

The Texas disciplinary system is governed by rules promulgated by the Supreme Court of Texas, with the oversight of the Commission for Lawyer Discipline and Grievance Oversight Committee and the administrative support and participation of the State Bar Board of Directors. The President's task force will make recommendations regarding the system and its processes.

MISSION

The purpose of this Task Force is to study the grievance process and the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel with the mind-set of ensuring the grievance process remains fair to the lawyer members of the State Bar of Texas while at the same time ensuring that the public is protected from lawyers who may take advantage of them. At the end of this process, the Task Force will make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding any changes in procedures and rules the Task Force believes are necessary to protect both the attorneys of Texas and the public which they serve.

The Task Force will also study the Client Security Fund to determine ways in which it can better serve the public while considering the limited resources available to it.

MEMBERS

- See attached roster.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. The work group is planned to consist of 21 members.
2. The members will be from across the state.
3. All meetings of the work group will be conducted by Zoom or similar video conferencing.
4. There will be no in-person meetings eliminating the cost for travel, meals, and lodging.
5. The task force will start work immediately after board approval and will continue until its work is no longer needed or June 30, 2021, whichever comes first.

FISCAL IMPACT FY2020-21

Upon consultation with Tracy Jarratt, Finance Division Director, the fiscal impact of this task force is estimated to be \$2,500.00. The creation of this workgroup is not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implications to the State Bar's FY 2020-21 general fund budget.

TASK FORCE ON PUBLIC PROTECTION, GRIEVANCE REVIEW, AND THE CLIENT SECURITY FUND

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Firm	Organization	City
1	Fields	Hon. Michael	Chair	Law offices of Michael Fields	Retired Judge sitting at Harris County Criminal Court 16, Private Practitioner	Houston
2	Ambriz	Xochitl	Member	Law Office of Xochitl A. Ambriz	Private Practitioner	El Paso
3	Bennett	Robert	Member	Bob Bennett and Associates P.C.		Houston
4	Bull	Hon. Diane	Member		Retired Judge, Texas Association of Speciality Courts & National Association of Drug Court Professionals	Houston
5	Bunn	Gena	Member	Gena Bunn, P.L.L.C.	Chair of Commission for Lawyer Disciplinary	Longview
6	Carter	Thomas	Member	Law Office of Thomas D. Carter, IV		El Paso
7	Fantus	Dr. Sophia	Member	The University of Texas-Arling School of Social Work	Associate Professor	Arlington
8	Forbes	Lucy	Member	The Forbes Firm, PLLC	State Bar Director, District 4, Place 4	Houston
9	Garcia	Marco	Member	Judson ISD	Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources	Converse
10	Goldsberry	Shari	Member	Goldsberry & Associates, PLLC	State Bar Director, District 5	Texas City
11	Johnson	Lydia	Member	Thurgood Marshall School of Law /CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC		Houston
12	Mendoza	Diane	Member	Guadalupe O. Mendoza, Atty	Family Law, Mexican American Bar Association Houston, Texas Trial Lawyers Association, American Association of the Notaries and the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association	Kingsville
13	Muldrow	Loretta	Member	Loretta Johnson Muldrow Attorney at Law		Houston
14	Naylor	Stephen	Member	Naylor & Naylor PLLC	State Bar Director, District 7, Place 1	Fort Worth
15	Norman	Adrienne	Member	Fort Bend County District Attorney	Association, Criminal and Juvenile Division	Richmond
16	Peale	Clipper	Member	Lalon C. Peale Attorney & Counselor	Criminal Law Section & Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association	Dallas
17	Ramos	Rick	Member	The Ramos & Torres Law Firm, PLLC	Family and Criminal Justice Sections, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the DUI Lawyers Association & the San Antonio & Maverick County Bar Associations	San Antonio
18	Rowe	Brett	Member	Evans, Rowe & Holbrook	Texas Association of Defense Counsel and Defense Research Institute	San Antonio
19	Vital	Victor	Member	Barnes & Thornburg LLP		Dallas

20	McDougal	Larry	Member	Law Office of Larry P. McDougal	State Bar President	Richmond
21	Apffel	Trey	Liaison	State Bar of Texas	State Bar Executive Director	Austin