## RESOLUTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN SUPPORT OF REMOTE PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS the COVID-19 global pandemic has resulted in court proceedings, depositions, mediations, arbitrations and other litigation-related activities being conducted remotely using software compatible with computers, tablets and smart phones ("Remote Proceedings");

WHEREAS Remote Proceedings increase access to courts and make it easier to participate in judicial and litigation-related proceedings;

WHEREAS Remote Proceedings are more cost-effective to litigants and conserve judicial resources;

WHEREAS changes to Texas rules and procedures are needed in order to allow Remote Proceedings to continue regardless of the state of public health conditions;

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Texas created the Remote Proceedings Task Force (the "Task Force") to study procedural impediments to Remote Proceedings and to draft proposed rule amendments to remove such impediments;

WHEREAS the Task Force has now provided suggested rule amendments; and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors still acknowledges the importance of in-person proceedings, it hereby wishes to preserve the option of Remote Proceedings where appropriate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas:

SUPPORTS the efforts of the Supreme Court of Texas and the Task Force to remove impediments to Remote Proceedings; and

SUPPORTS the Supreme Court of Texas adopting and implementing rule amendments removing impediments to Remote Proceedings.

This Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas during remote proceedings this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

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Santos Vargas, Chair

State Bar of Texas Board of Directors