

Vote Lisa Blue for State Bar President-Elect



The State Bar should serve the interests of all members, not the few. Together we can create a more transparent, open, and fiscally responsible Bar.

Vote April 2nd to May 1st

ABOUT LISA BLUE



Lisa Blue practices in the Dallas law firm Baron and Blue. In addition to her law degree, Lisa has a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology.

After law school, Lisa served as a prosecutor in the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, where she tried more than 125 criminal cases to verdict and worked in the Organized Crime Division.

In 1985, Lisa joined the law firm Baron & Budd. She specialized in environmental and toxic tort law. With her husband, Fred Baron (deceased), Lisa supervised 800+ employees at Baron & Budd, which became one of the largest environmental law firms in the United States. Lisa is a solo practitioner, and her current docket includes 26 cases in federal court with over 500 individual plaintiffs.

Lisa is a nationally recognized expert on jury selection, and is coauthor (with Robert Hirschhorn) of *Blue's Guide to Jury Selection* and *Preparing for Voir Dire*.

Professional Recognition

- *One of the Top 50 Women Litigators* – National Law Journal.
- *Trial Lawyer of the Year* – Texas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.
- *Honorary Barrister Award* – University of Texas Law School.
- *Distinguished Alumni Award* – South Texas College of Law.
- *Trial Lawyer of the Year* – Dallas Bar Association.
- *Louise Raggio Women's Legal Advocate Award* – Legal Aid of Northwest Texas.
- *Ronald D. Secrest Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award* – Texas Bar Foundation.
- *Best Lawyer in Dallas, Tort, Product & Medical Liability Litigation* – DMagazine.
- *Pro Bono Award* – American Association for Justice.

A Lifetime of Service to the Legal Community

- Chair, State Bar of Texas, Financial Responsibility Task Force - 2017 to current.
- American Association for Justice (formerly ATLA) (President, 2014-2015; Vice President 2012 - 2013; Secretary 2011 - 2012).
- American Bar Association (Task Force on the Judiciary, 1998).
- American Board of Trial Advocates (President, Dallas Chapter, 1995; President, Texas Chapter, 1998-99).
- State Bar of Texas (Media Response Team, 1999-2000; Jury Service Committee, 2000).
- American and Dallas Psychological Association, Member.
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America.
- Dallas Bar Association (Co-chair CLE committee, 1999; Board of Directors, 2000-2002).
- Dallas Bar Foundation (Board of Trustees, 2000-2002).
- Dallas Trial Lawyers Association.
- International Academy of Trial Lawyers.
- Texas Trial Lawyers Association (Executive Committee 1993-97; Head of Amicus Committee, 1996).



Red Cross volunteer psychologist, Hurricane Harvey 2017

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WHY YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Reform, fiscal responsibility, transparency, openness, fair elections—these are the reasons I am seeking this office.

Reduce Bar Dues And Restore Voting Rights

During the last legislative Session, Bar leaders successfully lobbied the Texas Legislature to reduce the voting rights of Bar members on dues increases. SB 302 allows the Bar Board to increase dues “without distributing the proposed fee to the state bar members for a vote” for increases up to 10% every six years.

I oppose any proposed dues increase unless Bar members have the right to vote on the proposal. I support amending the State Bar Act to restore full voting rights for Texas lawyers. I will fight to protect our voting rights against future attacks.

Openness and Transparency

The State Bar is a state agency and should be open and transparent in all operations. Achieving greater openness in Bar functions is essential to restoring trust and confidence among Bar members.

For example, despite the legal requirements of the Texas Public Information Act, the Bar frequently refuses to produce documents requested by Bar members or the public. I favor producing all Bar documents requested by Bar members or the public unless a very good, legally valid reason exists to refuse production.

The Bar also should live-stream and record (audio and video) all meetings so that Bar members can observe the work and the votes of their elected representatives. As a public agency, the Bar should welcome the public, including Bar members, not hide from them.

Require Fair Elections

I favor fair, open Bar elections. The Bar now has too many candidate-suppression and voter-suppression policies. The petition process has too many burdens that prevent good, talented lawyers from running for Bar office.

The other method that the Bar has traditionally used to hand-pick candidates through a secret, backroom committee, should be abolished or substantially reformed. The Bar is a state agency, not a private club.

Fiscal Responsibility

The Bar budget has ballooned to \$50 million, and has grown faster than the Texas lawyer population. The Bar has over 270 employees—with 29 making more than \$100,000 per year and 8 of those making more money than the governor.

President-elect Joe Longley appointed me as Chair of the Bar’s new Financial Responsibility Task Force. Because the Bar is self-funding—mostly from dues and CLE revenue—the Texas Legislature does not exercise ongoing oversight for the Bar’s budget.

For the first time in the Bar’s history, our Task Force is conducting an in-depth analysis of every department and program in the Bar. From what we’ve seen already, we expect to recommend millions of dollars in budget savings.

We’ll also continue to analyze the lessons to be learned from the previous nine-year \$555,000 embezzlement scandal.

Fiscal responsibility and financial prudence should be central to Bar management. I pledge to work hard to end the financial scandals, lavish junkets, and excess expenditures.

MEMORABLE OCCURRENCES: THE DAY SOMEONE SAID AN UNPLEASANT THING AT THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS...



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YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Vote Lisa Blue, Vote For:

- A Voice for All Texas Lawyers
- Reducing the Bar Budget
- Reducing Bar Dues
- Restoring Voting Rights on Bar Dues
- Increasing Openness and Transparency
- Requiring Fair Elections
- Protecting Lawyers' and Victims' Rights at the Legislature

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