## Nomination Form Section Representative to the Board of Directors

Term 2021-2024

Please limit Nomination Information to 4 pages

1.) Provide your candidate's name, affiliation, and full contact information, including email address and phone:

Robert B. "Bob" Goss 5100 Westheimer Rd., Ste 115 Houston, TX 77056 713-572-4838 (w), 334-538-1415 (c) bob@gosslaw.com

2.) I am nominating this person as a SMALL/LARGE (circle or highlight one) Section Representative to the Board of Directors.

## Small

3.) This candidate is a member of the following section, which is a SMALL/LARGE (circle or highlight one) Section:

Military and Veterans Law – SMALL

Bob is also a member of the following sections:

- Consumer and Commercial Law
- General Practice, Solo, and Small Firm
- Government Law
- Individual Rights and Responsibilities
- Litigation
- 4.) Briefly describe your candidate's personal background, character, and contributions to their communities.

Bob was a USAF Pilot for over 21+years, after graduating from Texas A&M with a BS and MS in aerospace engineering. In the USAF Bob was a Command Pilot and served in combat operations twice. In service, he was blinded and required 2 surgeries to restore some of his eyesight. Upon retiring Bob set out to help disabled veterans fight the VA for their earned veterans benefits. To help veterans Bob earned a J.D. and two LL.M.s.

For veterans, Bob was the first VA accredited attorney in Houston and helped the Houston Bar Association and the State Bar of Texas develop their Veteran's Legal Aid programs. Bob has received pro bono awards for his work - - a national award from the National Organization of Veteran Advocates and a separate SBOT pro bono award for service to veterans.

For the underserved Bob helped tenant's in LL-tenant suits. Serving others is a character trait Bob lives He would serve you as our representative.

Bob was the driving force in the State Bar of Texas adding "Veterans Law" to form the Military and Veteran Law section. In the MLS and MVLS, Bob has served as the last Military Law Chair and the 1<sup>st</sup> Military and Veteran's Law Section Chair. In the MVLS or MLS, Bob served in the following officer positions: Vice-Chair, Chair-elect, Chair, Committee-member, and for the last 6 years as Secretary-Treasurer.

Furthermore, Bob is active with his church and has served for the last 3 years as the State Advocate for the

Texas Knights of Columbus, a fraternal benefits society. Bob assists over 109,000 members in the Knights and helps the state's communities with natural disaster responses from the Knights.

For the State Bar, in addition to the MVLS, Bob has served upon the SBOT Disabilities Issues Committee and was the chair of the committee producing a guide on Court Disability Access to assist attorneys and courts with knowing the required accommodations required to be provided for the public, attorneys, and even courts.

5.) Describe your candidate's professional achievements and commitment to the legal profession.

Bob is a member of the SBOT Pro Bono College, the College of the State Bar of Texas, and has been elected 3 times as a NOVA Board of Director member. He has also earned a Master Advocate designation from the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

In addition to the achievements noted above Bob is a leader in the Veteran's law community. For the last 7 years, Bob has served on the Board of Directors for NOVA, where he provides input to U.S. Senate and House legislation regarding veteran and native American legislation. To provide the best legal services to a veteran, Bob provides CLE through NOVA, MVLS, and individually to other attoneys. Bob also assists numerous attorneys who have issues or questions regarding how to represent veterans and strategy for assisting attorneys to help their veteran clients.

6.) Describe your nominee's participation in State Bar projects, including contributions to your Section.

In addition to those projects noted above, Bob's assistance and guidance as the section's Secretary-Treasurer to me as the Chair and my predecessors is instrumental to the MVLS functions. As a Chair yourself you know how critical an available mentor is for providing CLE that guides our members in their service to their clients. Bob's knowledge, work product, and ethics assist our CLE presentation in addition to presenting the budget to the Chair and section. Finally, Bob worked with the SBOT to write the section's financial guidance for the section has put in writing a clear policy that assists the MVLS to operate.

7.) Provide your (nominator's) email address and phone.

Jon Shelburne gmail.com jon.shelburne@gmail.com 619-208-4272 (work cell) or 401-924-2199 (personal cell)

8.) Please acknowledge that you have discussed the duties and purpose of this position with your candidate and verified they are willing to serve in this capacity, if elected Bob has agreed to serve if elected.

## **Nominating Procedure**

Nominees must represent a small section (under 500 members) or a large section (over 2000 members). Nominations must include a completed Nomination Form and a resume. Resumes should be limited to two pages and the nomination information should be limited to four pages. Nominations or resumes that exceed these limits will be reduced accordingly.

Nominations will be accepted by email and must be received no later than Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. Send nominations to:

Tracy Nuckols, Director, Sections Department, 1414 Colorado, Austin, TX 78701-1627 Phone: (512) 427-1710, Email: <a href="mailto:tnuckols@texasbar.com">tnuckols@texasbar.com</a>

Elections will be held at the Council of Chairs Meeting on February 26, 2020 via Zoom. Only Section chairs (or the section's designated representative) are qualified to vote in this election and you must be present to cast your ballot. Early or late votes will not be accepted.

Nominees will be provided the link to the zoom meeting and are encouraged to attend and briefly present their qualifications to the Council of Chairs Committee on February 26nd.

## **ROBERT B. "Bob" GOSS**

**PRACTICE:** President Law Office of Robert G. Goss, P.C... 5100 Wertheimer, Suite 115 Houston, TX 77056. Representing veterans and disabled citizens in Disability law and Veterans Claims.

SPECIAL LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS: LLMs in both Health Law & Intellectual Property & Information Law. Member. A member of the Alabama and Texas State Bars. Admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States of America; U.S.District Courts; Middle District of Alabama; U.S. District Courts; Southern District & Eastern District of Texas; U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

**EDUCATION:** BS & MS in Aerospace Engineering, Texas A&M University; JD Cumberland School of Law, Samford University; LL.M. Health Law; and a LL.M., Intellectual Property and Information Law, University of Houston Law Center.

**MILITARY SERVICE:** 21 years active duty as a U.S. Air Force (USAF) officer and pilot serving in various assignments including five years at Headquarters, USAF, Doctrine Center, three years at Air Command and Staff College. Also served as an aircraft instructor, aircraft commander, combat planner, and combat mission director, as well as the chief of numerous divisions and flights at the squadron, Group, Wing, and Headquarters USAF. Combat operations: Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Desert Thunder and Fox (Mission Director).

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL ASSOCIATIONS: Alabama State Bar; State Bar of Texas (SBOT) Consumer, General Practice, Solo and Small Firm, & Military and Veteran Law (MVLS) Sections (former Chair of MVLS); The College of the SBOT; Pro Bono College, SBOT; American Bar Association; Court of Federal Claims Bar Association; Federal Bar Association (Past Ed. Veteran Law Section Newsletter); Phi Alpha Beta Law Fraternity; Military Justice Society; National Organization of Veteran Advocates (NOVA) (Director); National Institute for Trial Advocacy Master Advocate designation.

**PROFESSIONAL AWARDS:** NOVA Pro Bono Advocate for 2015; SBOT "Bryan Spencer Award" winner for the Military and Veterans Law Section for Pro Bono advocacy for 2016: National Institute for Trial Advocacy – Master Advocate designation.

**COMMUNITY AWARDS/AFFILIATIONS:** U.S. Small Business Administration Award Winner-Veterans Small Business Champion of the Year (2011); American Legion; Life member Veterans of Foreign Wars, Order of Daedalians, [Pilot Fraternity], American Veterans [AMVET, USAF Association; and a Knights of Columbus (4th Degree).