

**Nomination Form**  
**Section Representative to the Board of Directors**  
**Term 2024-2027**

**Nomination Questions**

- 1.) Provide your candidate's first and last name, firm/affiliation and full contact information, including phone number and email address.

**Laura Ellis Kugler**  
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani  
2200 Ross Avenue  
Suite 3700  
Dallas, Texas 75201-7902  
(214) 231- 4745 (office)  
(214) 914-6414 (Cell)  
[lkugler@grsm.com](mailto:lkugler@grsm.com)

- 2.) List which section(s) your candidate is a member of.

Women in the Law

- 3.) There is one small section representative and one large section representative position open this year. Select which position your candidate is running for:

- SMALL Section Representative to the Board of Directors  
 LARGE Section Representative to the Board of Directors

- 4.) Briefly describe your candidate's personal background, character, and contributions to their community.

Laura has been a member of the executive council for the Women in The Law section since 2020. She previously was an active volunteer for the National Association of Women Lawyers and involved in planning programs and events for the organization in the Dallas area. Laura has also been active with the Defense Research Institute for several years and in 2022 was part of the national planning committee for the Toxic Tort and Environmental Law National Seminar.

Outside of the legal arena, Laura has been active in her community as a volunteer in the Highland Park, Texas ISD with several executive PTA roles. She has also been on the board of several philanthropic organizations including La Fiesta and National Charity League. She has also consistently been a volunteer at St. Michaels and All Angels Church, Dallas, Texas. She is now enjoying an empty nest, with one daughter living and working in Charleston, SC and another who is a senior at the University of Texas in Austin.

Laura is also active in her weekend community of Clifton, Texas. She spends most of her free time at her ranch in Coryell/Bosque County where life is a little slower.

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

Laura is an AV rated litigator with Martindale Hubbell. She has been recognized as a Lawyer to Watch under 40 by Super Lawyers and by the Best Lawyers in America, 2023. Laura was made the first woman equity partner with DeHay & Elliston in 1997. She became the hiring partner for the firm and served on the management committee as the firm grew from under 20 lawyers to 50 with multiple offices. She then formed her own boutique litigation firm with several of her former partners which operated from 2001-2017. She is now a partner with a national firm with offices in all 50 states and is in the process of launching a mediation practice while maintaining her litigation practice, as well. Laura has served on the Texas MDL asbestos litigation steering committee since its inception in 2003. Laura has also served on the Diversity Committee at Hawkins Parnell and at Gordon Rees.

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

Laura has been an active member of the Women in the Law Section since 2020 when she was asked to serve on the council. Since that time, she has jumped in and provided support outside of her roles as Parliamentarian (2020) and Treasurer (since 2021). She continues to serve and has signed on to remain in her position for 2024. Laura has also been instrumental in organizing retreats for the Council and International Women's Day Events. She is very interested in becoming more involved with State Bar projects in the role as Section Representative.

- 7.) Provide *your* full contact information including phone number and email address.

Elizabeth Sandoval Cantu,  
Ramon Worthington Nicolas & Cantu, PLLC  
1506 South Lone Star Way, Suite 5  
Edinburg, Texas 78539

- 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.

I acknowledge that Laura and I have discussed the role of the section representative and her willingness to serve in this capacity.