

Minutes of Meeting of Women and the Law Section State Bar of Texas September 22, 2020 <u>Via Email</u>

On September 22, 2020, the council had a meeting via email.

Council members in attendance were as follows: Teresa Schiller, Denise Alex, Summer Olmos, Judge Maria Salas-Mendoza, Nikki Allen, Patricia Chapman, Deborah Cordova, Betsy Johnson, Judy Ney, Deborah Race, Elizabeth Cantu, Leigh Goodson, Ellis Iverson, Jessica Mendez, and Natasha R. Martinez.

The council voted unanimously to approve the following resolution:

LAW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP DUES

WHEREAS, Section 2 of the Bylaws (the "Bylaws") of the Women and the Law Section ("WALS") of the State Bar of Texas ("SBOT"), as revised through June, 2016), states in pertinent part as follows: "Initial annual dues shall be . . . Free for law students . . . [u]ntil changed by majority vote of the Council";

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, in reliance on the Bylaws, WALS representatives asked certain Texas law school administrators to encourage their schools' law students to register for section membership, stating that "[m]embership is free for law students";

WHEREAS, the SBOT Law Students 2020-2021 Section Registration Form (the "Form") states that WALS annual dues are \$25.00;

WHEREAS, certain law students have since submitted the completed Form to the SBOT Membership Department; and

WHEREAS, the Membership Department has requested clarification from WALS regarding the dues amount for law student membership in WALS;

RESOLVED, that dues for law student membership in WALS shall be free (\$0), effective September 1, 2020 (the "Free Membership");

FURTHER RESOLVED, that WALS officers are authorized, empowered, and directed to (1) cause the Form to be revised to reflect the Free Membership, (2) cause any WALS dues paid by any law student from September 1, 2020 to the present to be refunded, and (3) take any other action that any officer, in her sole discretion, deems necessary and advisable to allow such free membership.

Betsy Johnson, Secretary