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## RESOLUTION OF THE

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES REGARDING

## THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS PRESIDENT LARRY McDOUGAL'S SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS CONCERNING THE BLACK LIVES MATTER

On July 10, 2020, Larry McDougal, President of the State Bar of Texas, published a divisive post on social media about an election poll worker in Fort Bend County who was wearing a "Black Lives Matter" t-shirt. After that post, it was discovered that Mr. McDougal in the past, referred to the Black Lives Matter movement as a "terrorist group." Leaders of the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Young Lawyer's Association issued a joint statement denouncing Mr. McDougal's social media posts. The African American Lawyer's Section of the State Bar of Texas issued a Call to Action requesting a formal apology as well as implementation of policies within the State Bar of Texas to combat systemic racism and implicit bias.

On July 21, 2020 the Executive Board of the San Antonio Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) convened a special meeting to discuss a response, if any, to the words and actions of Mr. McDougal. The San Antonio Chapter of ABOTA issues the following Resolution:

## RESOLUTION

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that The San Antonio Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates endorses and affirms the Call to Action issued by the African American Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Texas <u>(Click here to read)</u>. One of the primary mission statements of ABOTA is to encourage and promote civility in the legal profession. President McDougal's statements in social media do not promote civility or foster inclusion and, as such, cannot be condoned.

We join our fellow attorneys in demanding that the office of President McDougal restore faith in our State Bar leadership and restore dignity and respect to that office by accepting and implementing those changes outlined in the Call to Action.

Signed this 22nd day of July, 2020.

Dennis Peery, President San Antonio Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates