

**RESOLUTION  
OF  
THE DALLAS BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, judicial integrity is an indispensable component in the establishment, maintenance and preservation of the law, as well as in the advancement of the public's trust and confidence in our judicial system; and

WHEREAS, in recent judicial elections, candidates were not accorded the proper respect and dignity, and irrelevant facts or issues were used to assess a candidate's character, qualifications or ability to serve as a judge; and

WHEREAS, while judges and judicial candidates are accountable for their own actions as they seek reelection or election, the Dallas Bar Association urges them to respond to the inappropriate actions of others acting on their behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas Bar Association recognizes the importance of free political speech and seeks to uphold the constitutional rights of each citizen; nevertheless, negative campaign ads in judicial elections destroy the public trust in our judicial system, diminish the legal profession and dishonor the working relationship between the lawyers, the judiciary and the citizens of Dallas County; and

WHEREAS, in the last judicial election, there were certain negative judicial campaign ads circulated, and various statements made, that were false, misleading, inappropriate or otherwise fell short of the generally accepted standards in place to ensure the integrity of our electoral process and legal profession; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas Bar Association continues to advocate that the best interests of the system of justice, the public, the bench and the bar would be served by conducting judicial elections consistent with the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, the Texas Judicial Campaign Fairness Act and the Dallas Bar Association's Judicial Election Creeds to promote the continuance of the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in the conduct of judicial elections;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Dallas Bar Association publicly denounces and condemns all false or misleading judicial campaign ads and statements, as well as all negative campaign ads, including any such ads and statements from the last judicial election, and continues to strongly urge all participants in judicial campaigns to conduct themselves with honesty, integrity and professionalism that preserves the public trust and confidence in our justice system.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the President of the Dallas Bar Association has subscribed her name on this 17 day of May, 2007.

Beverly B. Godbey, President