IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 03 - **9013**

ORDER OF THE COURT APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE ATTORNEY STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION OF THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

The Texas Board of Legal Specialization approved amendments to the Attorney Standards for Certification on December 11, 2002, and it appears to this Court that these Standards will advance the administration of justice.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Attorney Standards for Certification be amended to read:

PART II -- SPECIFIC AREA REQUIREMENTS FOR CRIMINAL LAW SECTION I -- SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT AND SPECIAL COMPETENCE

- B. Substantial Involvement for Certification
 - 2. Certification applicants must show their substantial involvement and special competence in criminal law practice in Texas within the 3 years immediately preceding application by providing such information as may be required by the TBLS regarding criminal law cases participated in by them in each of the following categories:
 - a. State felony jury trials;
 - b. State misdemeanor jury trials;
 - c. Federal jury trials;
 - d. State appeals;
 - e. Federal appeals;
 - f. State and federal non-jury trials;
 - g. State and federal pleas of guilty:
 - h. State and federal post conviction remedies:
 - i. State death penalty (trial, appeal, and/or habeas);
 - j Juvenile proceedings;
 - k. Dismissals:
 - I. Grand jury no bills;
 - m. Cases decided on pre-trial motions where evidence was presented (such as motions to suppress evidence);
 - n. Probation or parole revocations;
 - o. Others.

- 3. Certification applicants shall have handled, as lead counsel, during their practice and indicate on their application the following minimum number of Texas cases in at least 3 of the 5 categories listed hereinafter:
 - a. 5 State Felony Jury Trials;
 - b. 10 State Misdemeanor Jury Trials or 5 state felony jury trials in addition to those listed in Part II, Section I,B,3,(a) above;
 - c. 5 Federal Jury Trials or <u>substantial involvement in 10 contested federal</u> cases (to be documented in writing);
 - d. 5 State Appeals;
 - e. 5 Federal Appeals.

Signed this 7th day of Julium 2003.

Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

Craig T. Enoch Justice

Priscilla R. Owen, Justice

Harriet O'Neill, Justice

Wallace B. Jefferson Justice

Michael Schneider, Justice

Steven W. Smith, Justice

Dale Wainwright, Justice