

**ETHICS AND THE DUTY OF LOYALTY:**  
**CAN LAWYERS AND LAW FIRMS MODIFY THESE RULES**  
**AND STILL BE ETHICAL?**

**A Panel Discussion**

Panelists:

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Appendix of Articles

**CHAPTER \_\_\_\_**

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**EDUCATION**

University of Texas, Austin, B.A., 1972

St. Mary's University, San Antonio, J.D., December 1976

**BAR ADMISSIONS**

Texas 1977; California 1978, Colorado 2003;

Various US District Courts and Circuit Courts of Appeal

**EMPLOYMENT**

Assistant General Counsel, State Bar of Texas: 1978-1980

Robinson, Felts, Starnes, Angenend & Mashburn; Civil Trial Attorney, 1980-1987

Wood, Lucksinger & Epstein; Civil Trial Attorney, 1987-1989

1989-2016 Hill, Ducloux, Carnes & de la Garza

2016 – pres. Attorney at Law, private practice, and Director of Education, Ethics and Compliance, Affinipay-LawPay

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

President, Travis County Bar Association (now, Austin Bar Association); 1997-1998; every officer position 92-97;

Chair, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, 1997-1998

Board Certified: Civil Trial Law, 1984; Civil Appellate Law, 1987

Chair, Texas Bar Foundation 2005-2006; Secretary-Treasurer (04-05); Trustee 2004-2008

Chair, Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism: 2004-06, Trustee 2003-07

Chair, College of the State Bar of Texas; 1992-94; Vice-Chair 1990-92; Director, 1988-98,

Chair, State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting (Texas Bar Convention), 2001

Chair, United States Fifth Circuit Judicial Conference, Austin 2004

President, St. Mary's Law School Alumni Association, 2006-07, Trustee, 2001-2008.

Associate, American Board of Trial Advocates, 1999- pres.

Director, State Bar of Texas; District 9, 1998-2001; Executive Committee 1999-2001

(Outstanding 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Director Award - 2001)

Director, Austin Lawyers Care (now: Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas), 86-89

Director, Austin Young Lawyers Association, 1984-1986

Editor, Travis County Practice Handbook, 1984, 1986

Trustee; St Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas 2007-08

Appointed by Texas Supreme Court to Committee on Disciplinary Rules and Referenda (3 year term-Dec 2017-20)

**PROFESSIONAL HONORS**

St Thomas More Award- St Mary's University School of Law- 2020 for Exceptional Contributions to Legal Ed.

Distinguished Lawyer Award – Austin Bar Association – Austin Bar Foundation 2019

Luke Soules Award – Litigation Council Award for Outstanding Service to Practice of Law 2019 (Statewide Award)

Lola Wright Foundation Award for Promotion of Legal Ethics, 2013 (Statewide Award)

Gene Cavin Award for Lifetime Excellence in CLE, State Bar of Texas, 2011 (Statewide Award)

Professionalism Award, Austin Bar Association, 2007

Outstanding Mentor of the Year Award, Austin Young Lawyers Association, 2007

Presidential Citations; State Bar of Texas, 2001, 2006, and 2021

Annual Professionalism Award, College of the State Bar of Texas, 2002 (Statewide Award)

W. Frank Newton Award (Annual Pro Bono Award given by State Bar of Texas), 2000 (Statewide Award)

Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, 1987 (Awarded by Austin Young Lawyers Association)

Pro Bono Award, Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas, 1991, 1993, 1997, 1999

SBOT- "Stars of the Bar" Award for Best Article Series "*Entre Nous*", 2003

CLE Speeches and Presentations – Approximately 404 CLE speeches from 01-01-2016 to 12-31-2020 (5 years)

**MILITARY SERVICE** United States Army; 1st Cavalry Division, 1972-1974 (Awarded

Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service, 1974)

Partner

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Bob is a member of V&E's Office of the General Counsel, and is a leading authority on legal ethics, professional responsibility, and risk management for law firms.

Prior to joining V&E, Bob spent 16 years at the Attorneys' Liability Assurance Society (ALAS), the premier malpractice carrier for large law firms, including seven years as the head of ALAS' industry-leading Loss Prevention group. He is well-versed in the key risk management issues that law firms encounter, and helps the firm and its lawyers navigate those issues. He is an accomplished speaker, and is also nationally recognized as an expert in attorney well-being. Beyond his loss prevention skills, Bob is an experienced trial lawyer and litigation manager.

### Credentials

#### Education

- University of Michigan, J.D., with honors, 1989
- University of Chicago, B.A., with honors, 1986

#### Professional Background

- Attorneys' Liability Assurance Society, Senior Vice President – Loss Prevention (2011-2019)
  - Attorneys' Liability Assurance Society, Vice President – Senior Claims Counsel (2002-2011)
  - Ameritech Corp, Acting Head of Litigation, Senior Claims Counsel (2000-2002)
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[Ethics and the Duty of Loyalty](#)

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