

## 2022 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**NAME: Michael Stillman**

**Please Note: All responses will be shared with NCBA Members through the website and published via a link in the weekly newsletter.**

### **Mandatory questions:**

1. Has your firm been a NCBA Firm Member in good standing for two (2) consecutive years? **My Firm has been an NCBA Firm Member in good standing for the two (2) consecutive years, and beyond.**

2. Have you attended an NCBA Event (Conference or Executive Experience) in the past two years? **I have attended both an NCBA Conference and the Executive Experience in the past two years.**

### **Optional questions:**

3. In what city and state do you practice? **I am licensed to practice in the States of Michigan, Massachusetts, and Maryland, as well as the District of Columbia. In addition to these States, my firm also does business in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Virginia, and New Hampshire.**

4. How long have you been a creditors' rights attorney? **I have been practicing law for over thirty (30) years, all of which have been spent in the area of Creditor's Rights.**

5. What is the name of the law firm member for which you work? **I am the Principal and Owner of Stillman, PC d/b/a Stillman Law Office.**

6. What is your current job title and duties? **As the Owner, I am the CEO, responsible for the overall management and direction of the Firm.**

7. What are your two main practice areas (e.g. bankruptcy, credit card, compliance, etc.)? **The two main practice areas of the Firm are Consumer and Commercial collections. The Firm also handles Insurance Subrogation matters.**

8. Have you served as a Committee or Task Force Chair or Co-Chair in the past three (3) years?

Of which Committees or Task Forces? **I am presently a member of the Budget and Audit Committee, as well as the Co-Chair of the Client Advisory Council. I was previously, within the last three years, also the Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee and involved with the Conference Task Force.**

9. Provide a list of professional articles or presentations that you have done. Please list the date and whether the presentation was for the NCBA. **I have presented on and participated in industry events on subjects including Debt Collection and practice management.**

10. Are you involved in state advocacy through an SCBA or NCBA chapter? **I am a current member of the Michigan Creditors Bar Association (MCBA).**

11. Have you served on a Board of Directors (or similar governing body) previously? Please describe. **I am at present an NCBA Board Member. At one time I was heavily involved in the Commercial Law League of America (CLLA), including serving as the Chair of the Midwest Region of that organization.**

12. Describe some of your leadership roles or describe what qualities you possess that make you a strong leader. **I have historically focused on the growth and development of my Firm. In the last ten plus years, the Firm's footprint expanded from one jurisdiction to eight. This period included times that were opportunistic, but also those that were very challenging. Through it all, I have been responsible for the leadership of the firm; navigating the Firm and its Management Team through the maze and complexities of multi-state growth. I believe that the major qualities that make me a strong leaders include the following: Resiliency, Vision, Problem Solving, Communication and Integrity.**

13. Why do you want to serve on the Board of Directors for NCBA? **This current term being my first term on the Board, I have enjoyed my involvement and believe that my work has made a difference. Despite the strength of the organization, I believe that we are still at a pivotal time in our industry. Because of this, strong leadership is imperative. I continue to be in a position to make a difference and positively influence our industry. I want to make an impact on the future of our industry and help guide the organization that has played a major role in my personal success and the success of my Firm.**

14. How will you help NCBA advance its mission statement? **I will help NCBA advance its mission statement by bringing my experience, leadership, vision, and wisdom to the Board.**

15. What motivates you to do excellent work? **My end goal is always successful results. This is my ultimate motivation.**

16. What is your ideal level of interaction with the other board members? **My ideal interaction with the Board will be to do whatever it is that needs to be done.**

17. What is the biggest challenge facing our industry? What do you recommend we do to overcome that challenge? **I believe the biggest challenge facing our industry at present, is perception. We need to be involved in the narrative that we are here to help as opposed to being viewed as the problem.**

18. What do you recommend doing to increase participation in NCBA by younger and/or newer attorneys, or new members of NCBA? **In order to increase participation amongst younger and newer attorneys, there needs to be a greater effort by current member Firms to get their colleagues more involved. As for new members of NCBA, there should be an active Task Force in place to recruit new members who might not otherwise know NCBA exists.**