

# Board of Governors

## Candidate Statement

for Region Number 5

*Candidate's Name*

Gabriel Chase

*Law Firm Name (If Applicable)*

Chase Law, PC

*Principal Office Address (Street, City, Zip)*

621 SW Alder St., Suite 600  
Portland, OR 97205

*Law School from which graduated*

University of Oregon

*Date Admitted to OSB*

October 2014



*List of candidate's professional and community activities, professional history and reason for running for this position.*

My name is Gabriel Chase, and I am writing in order to be considered for the Region 5 Board of Governors position. I am the managing partner of a small civil litigation practice in downtown Portland, with the majority of our clients coming from immigrant and refugee communities. I was born and raised in the Portland area, graduated from Oregon Law in 2014, and started practicing with the predecessor of my current firm in October of the same year. I am active with the Oregon Trial Lawyer's Association and have served as a 1L Mentor for Willamette University Law. Over the past four years, I have volunteered as a youth baseball and softball coach at Parkside Little League, Bridgetown Baseball, and Metro Sports. I also serve on the Board of directors for a non-profit, Friends of Baseball.

My interest in serving on the BOG largely stems from a desire to see increased representation and a diversity of voices represented in the OSB. As a person of color who operates a small firm representing a clientele largely consisting of underrepresented communities here in Oregon, I feel that I can help provide valuable perspectives to the BOG. I understand the difficulty that underrepresented communities here in Oregon face when interacting with the law, and even while practicing it. As a law student I participated in the OLIO program and benefited from the support and relationships that I found through that program. Following the blackface incident with an Oregon Law faculty member, I have stayed in contact with faculty and administrators in Eugene in an effort to encourage and support efforts to increase awareness, inclusion, and representation. I have also worked to connect with the UO BLSA Chapter in an effort to support the students who continue working to ensure that our public law school is not an actively hostile environment for students of color. I also understand challenges facing small and solo law firms, and issues involving access to civil justice facing our citizens.

I would like to serve on the Board of Governors to help ensure that diverse perspectives are represented within the Oregon State Bar and to help ensure that Oregon remains a welcoming place to practice. Given my background and experience, I believe my voice and perspective would be a valuable addition to the BOG.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Candidate's Signature*

6/17/20

*Date*