

October 29, 2024

John M. Nolan
Chair, Member Selection Committee
American College of Real Estate Lawyers 220
N. Market Street, Suite 100
Frederick, MD 21701 Dear.

John:

I am pleased to nominate Thad Armstrong, a Partner with Jackson Walker LLP, for membership to the American College of Real Estate Lawyers (“ACREL”). I have known and worked with Thad for many years. All of my interactions with Thad have been “across the table” on real estate transactions where we have represented our respective clients on the same deal. This puts me in the unique position of being able to observe Thad’s legal acumen as well as his professionalism. Based on what I have seen and experienced, I believe that Thad satisfies all of the requirements for membership in ACREL.

Distinguished Practitioner

As noted above, I have worked with Thad for many years, always on the other side of a transaction. These were complex real estate projects. Whenever I found out that Thad would be representing the other party, I knew that I would be dealing with a lawyer who knew the law, but also understood what was “market.” My experiences with Thad always bore this out. He zealously represented his client, but at the end of the day, he wanted to get the deal done. In dealing with Thad, I always felt that both our clients ended up with a fair transaction and one that was not over-lawyered, given that Thad and I both knew where we would likely end up once the negotiations were over.

I would encourage you to review Thad’s professional resume that is a part of his nomination for a description of other transactions he led, many of them being significant leases for major clients in the Houston area.

Give Back Requirements

Thad’s resume provides a number of examples of his writing and speaking engagements over the years. His resume and the related attachments will provide you with a better understanding of what Thad has contributed to the bar.

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Not only has Thad been an active writer and presenter, he has also served in leadership roles in the Houston Bar Association Real Estate Section, where he planned and led many discussions of timely and relevant topics for the real estate bar.

If Thad is admitted to ACREL, I feel confident that he will attend meetings, participate in committees, and make presentations.

ACREL's Statement of Professionalism

In all of my interactions with Thad, he has always been the consummate professional and acted with the utmost integrity and respect for others. I have no question that Thad would not only uphold ACREL's Statement of Professionalism, but would also serve as an example to other ACREL members and the profession as a whole.

Thad embodies the best attributes of a real estate lawyer: he is easy to work with and respects the client's desire to consummate the deal. He advances his client's interests in a thoughtful and well-reasoned manner, taking into consideration the other side's view of the issue and working together to reach a consensus.

I think that Thad Armstrong would be a terrific addition to ACREL.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss any of these points further, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



Douglas A. Yeager
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