

Name Robert Higgs

**Company** Central Metro Realty

Number of years in real estate? 21

Number of years as an ABoR 15

member?

## **Education: List any designations, certifications, or professional achievements:**

I am a certified Austinite, born and raised in this great city we get to call home. Through my career I have had the opportunity to work along side and lead many of the industry leaders in the residential housing market.

My parents were both in the housing industry, my father a custom home builder and my mother a real estate agent. So from a young age, I developed a love for real estate which quickly turned to my career after graduating from The University of Texas at Austin.

My biggest professional achievement is that I am still building homes and active in the real estate market after 30 years of doing it. Now I am lucky to have the time and experience to give back to the industry that has supported and shaped me for all these years.

## Service: List any ABoR, Texas Realtors, NAR, or community volunteer experience:

I have had the pleasure to serve on the Foundation Board (used to be called Committee) for many years. Giving back to our community and being hands on in that process is just one of the rewards of getting to serve. I am currently serving on the Foundation Board and a Director for the Foundation as well. For the past two years, you have allowed me to help guide and lead ABOR and Actris by serving on the Board of Directors. This has been an amazing experience which has allowed me a deeper understanding of how our industry and association works.

Areas outside of real estate that I enjoy serving in are with my church's men network where I get to growth and learn with other men, and serve not only our church community but Austin homeless, refugees and families in need. I have also had the opportunity to serve local refugee families through Refugee Services of Texas (RST).

One of my biggest concerns for our community is affordability, whether that is the form of housing costs, living expenses, or fair wages. Our city is quickly changing and it is concerning to see so many struggle to keep Austin as there home.

## Why do you want to serve as an ABoR director?

First, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity and allowing me to serve you on the Board of Directors for the previous two years. It has been an honor.

The main reason I would like to serve on the Board for another term is to complete the work we have started over the past two years. Our industry, our association, and our MLS is facing major changes based on the current litigation that is in process against our industry. I feel that I am up to speed on these concerns and can help by using my business and industry experience to guide us to the next chapter. There is going to be change, but how we address and react to those changes is critical to our future. It is important that we have individuals dedicated, well versed, and ready to make decision to guide us forward.

I know that over the last two years serving I have gained that knowledge, have the experience, and the time to give to our industry. I would be honored to be able to serve again.

## What do you do in your personal time? Do you have any hobbies?

In my personal time I enjoy time with the family. We have four kids and getting to hang out with them doing what they enjoy is about the best way to spend my free time.

The family even indulges me by doing some of the things I like to do like scuba diving, fishing, boating, and being outdoors. Traveling will always be high on my list, nothing like exploring a new city, meeting new people, or getting exposed to different cultures.

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