

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MINUTES
Friday, June 17, 2016
Omni Amelia Island/Amelia Island, Florida**

The 263rd meeting of the Board of Governors/Plenary Session of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Robert J. Kauffman, President, presided.

Special Recognition

President Bob Kauffman recognized the members of the judiciary, the Past Presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance.

Recognition of Retiring Board Members

President Bob Kauffman recognized the following retiring Board of Governors members who were not present to be recognized at the Spring Board of Governors meeting: James E. Hardy (Southern Circuit) and R. Chris Phelps (Northern Circuit).

Roll Call

Secretary Buck Rogers circulated the roll for signature. The list of those in attendance is attached as Exhibit A.

Future Meetings Schedule

President Bob Kauffman and President-elect/Treasurer Patrick T. O'Connor referred the Board of Governors members to the Future Meetings Schedule.

Minutes of the 262nd Meeting of the Board of Governors

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting on May 7, 2016 at the State Bar Building in Atlanta, Georgia, were approved by unanimous voice vote.

State of the Supreme Court of Georgia

The Honorable Hugh P. Thompson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, delivered the State of the Supreme Court of Georgia address.

State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia

The Honorable Sara L. Doyle, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Georgia, delivered the State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia address.

State of the Georgia Law Department

Attorney General Sam Olens delivered the State of the Georgia Law Department. Thereafter, President Bob Kauffman and YLD President Jack Long assisted him in presenting the Legal Food Frenzy awards.

Presentation of the Employee of the Year Award

President Bob Kauffman, Bill NeSmith and John Shiptenko presented the Employee of the Year Award to Betty Derrickson, Office of General Counsel Paralegal.

Recognition of Corporate Sponsors

President Bob Kauffman acknowledged the State Bar's two corporate sponsors: Member Benefits (Five Gavel Sponsor) and AXA (Two Gavel Sponsor).

Awards Presentations

President Bob Kauffman presented the following State Bar awards:

Bench and Bar Committee

Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award: Honorable Robert Benham and Hugh B. McNatt

Local and Voluntary Bar Awards

Thomas R. Burnside, Jr. Excellence in Bar Leadership Award: Honorable Leah Ward Sears

Award of Merit: Port City Bar Association (under 50 members), Blue Ridge Bar Association (101-250 members), Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (251-500 members), Atlanta Bar Association (501 or more members)

Law Day Award of Achievement: Dougherty Circuit Bar and Henry County Bar Associations (101-250 members), Gwinnett County Bar Association (251-500 members), Cobb County Bar Association (501 or more members)

Best New Entry: Columbus Bar Association

Best Newsletter: Henry County Bar Association (101-150 members), Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (251-500 members), Georgia Trial Lawyers Association (501 or more members)

Best Website: Blue Ridge Bar Association (101-250 members), DeKalb Bar Association (251-500 members), Georgia Association for Women Lawyers (501 or more members)

President's Cup Award: Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys

Sections

Section of the Year: Family Law Section

Awards of Achievement: Health Law and Intellectual Property Law Sections

Memorials

President Bob Kauffman presented the Memorials report.

Lawyers for Equal Justice

Immediate Past President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported on the Lawyers for Equal Justice Incubator Program that began operations in January 2016 with the hiring of Executive Director Stephanie Everett. In March, Sara Babcock joined the program as the Pro Bono Director. A class of eight young lawyers from the law schools of Emory, Georgia State, John Marshall, University of Georgia, Mercer and Emory began training on April 1. Applications for the next class will be accepted in the fall for classes that will begin in early November.

The Board of Governors received a copy of the *Lawyers for Equal Justice 2016 Update to the Board of Governors* written report.

Young Lawyers Division (YLD) Report

YLD President Jack Long reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. He thanked the YLD Officers and others who helped him during his presidency. He reported that the YLD accomplished two great projects this year: 1) the annual YLD Signature Fundraiser that raised over \$135,000 for Camp

Lakeside, and 2) the annual Legal Food Frenzy that met and exceeded its goals of raising over 5 million pounds of food in the first five years of the program. He stressed the importance of promoting the principles of public service, and stated that he looks forward to working next year with incoming YLD President Jennifer Campbell Mock.

The Board of Governors received a written report on the YLD committees, programs and projects for the 2015-16 Bar year.

Investigative Panel

John Newberry reported on the activities of the Investigative Panel and recognized the current and retiring Panel members.

Review Panel

Tony Askew reported on the activities of the Review Panel and recognized the current and retiring Panel members.

Formal Advisory Opinion Board

Brad Marsh reported on the activities of the Formal Advisory Opinion Board and recognized the current Board members.

Clients' Security Fund

Paul Threlkeld reported on the activities of the Clients' Security Fund.

Attorney Wellness Task Force

Ken Hodges reported on the activities of the Attorney Wellness Task Force and displayed the program's new *Lawyers Helping Lawyers* website.

President's Address

Following an introduction by Immediate Past President Patrise Perkins-Hooker, President Bob Kauffman delivered the President's Address (Exhibit B).

President Bob Kauffman recognized and thanked retiring Executive Committee members Immediate Past President Patrise Perkins-Hooker and YLD Immediate Past President Sharri Edenfield for their work and support on behalf of the Executive Committee and the State Bar.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

Approved:



Robert J. Kauffman, President