



State Bar
of Georgia

BOG BOARD BOOK

2020 Annual Meeting

This book serves as the agenda and materials for the State Bar of Georgia's 2020 Annual Meeting, which is being held virtually via Zoom this year.



State Bar of Georgia

283rd BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Saturday, June 13, 2020

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar:

<https://gabar.zoom.us/j/92996184060>

Dress: Business Casual

AGENDA

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1) ADMINISTRATION		
a) Welcome and Call to Order	Darrell Sutton	1
	President, 2019-20	
b) Invocation	Patrise Perkins-Hooker	
	Past President, 2014-15	
c) Recognition of Special Guests.....	Robin Frazer Clark	
	Past President, 2012-13	
d) State Bar of Georgia President’s Address	Darrell Sutton	
e) Special Report	Hon. Harold Melton	
Supreme Court of Georgia	Chief Justice	
	Supreme Court of Georgia	
f) Secretary, Treasurer & President-Elect.....	Darrell Sutton/	
Swearing-In Ceremony	Chief Justice Harold Melton	
g) President’s Swearing-In Ceremony	Hon. Patsy Y. Porter	
	Fulton County State Court	
h) Introduction of President Dawn M. Jones.....	Linda A. Klein	
	Past President, 1997-98	
i) Presiding	Dawn M. Jones	
	President, 2020-21	
j) Welcome to New Officers & Board Members	Dawn M. Jones.....	2

Topics

Presenter

Page No.

New Officers

Dawn M. Jones, President	Darrell Sutton, Immediate Past President
Elizabeth Fite, President-Elect	Bert Hummel, YLD President
Sally Akins, Treasurer	Elissa B. Haynes, YLD President-Elect
Tony DelCampo, Secretary	Will Davis, YLD Immediate Past President

New Board Members

Austin O. Jones, Alcovy Circuit, Post 2
 Danny L. Durham, Augusta Circuit, Post 2
 Alex Musole Shalishali, Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 3
 Kenneth Brown Crawford, Douglas Circuit
 Joshua I. Bosin, Member-at-Large, Post 3
 Mitchell McKinley Shook, Middle Circuit, Post 1
 Shondeana Crews Morris, Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 3
 Matthew Jackson "Matt" Hennesy, Waycross Circuit, Post 1

k) Roll Call..... Tony DelCampo..... 3-10
 Secretary, 2020-21

l) Future Meetings Schedule..... Dawn M. Jones 11-12

2) PRESIDENT’S REPORT..... Dawn M. Jones

a) President’s Remarks:
 2020-2021 Proposed Program of Activities

3) TREASURER’S REPORT

a) Treasurer’s Report (information) Sally Akins..... 13-26
 Treasurer, 2020-21

b) 2020-2021 State Bar Budgets (action) Sally Akins 27-58
 (Operating Budget and Bar Center Budget) Dawn M. Jones

c) Financial Resolutions..... Sally Akins 59

a. Authorization for president to secure blanket
 position bonds for officers and staff

b. Designation of depositories for general operations
 of the State Bar of Georgia

- c. Employment of independent auditing firm to audit the financial records of the State Bar for the fiscal year 2019-2020

4) ACTION

- a) Minutes of the 281st & 282nd Meetings of the Board of Governors..... Sally Akins 60-72
 - (1) January 11, 2020
 - (2) April 3, 2020

- b) Approval of the Members Dawn M. Jones of the State Disciplinary Boards

State Disciplinary Board & State Disciplinary Review Board

- (1) Member: Jennifer Elizabeth Dunlap, Columbus (2023)
- (2) Tomieka Ra'Shone Daniel, Macon (2023)
- (3) Lay Member: Connie S. Cooper, Pooler (2023)

Formal Advisory Opinion Board

- (1) Member-at-Large: Letitia A. McDonald, Atlanta (2022)
- (2) Mary A. Prebula, Atlanta (2022)
- (3) Jeffrey Hobart Schneider, Atlanta (2022)
- (4) District Attorneys Assoc. of Georgia: Sherry Boston, Decatur (2022)
- (5) Emory University School of Law: Jennifer Murphy Romig, Atlanta (2022)

- c) Approval of ICLE Board of Trustees Dawn M. Jones
 - (1) Member: Anna Maria Martinez, Decatur (2023)

- d) Georgia Legal Services Program Appointments ... Dawn M. Jones
 - (1) Seth Bruckner, Atlanta (appointment for 2-year term)
 - (2) Marquetta Bryan, Atlanta (appointment for 2-year term)
 - (3) Keishan Davis, Tucker (appointment for 2-year term)
 - (4) Laverne Gaskins, Augusta (appointment for 2-year term)
 - (5) Matthew Howell, Atlanta (appointment for 2-year term)
 - (6) Meghan Magruder, Atlanta (appointment for 2-year term)

- e) Approval of 2020-2021 Committees Dawn M. Jones
 - (7) Standing Committees
 - (8) Special Committees
 - (9) Program Committees and Boards

- f) Executive Director Election Dawn M. Jones

g) Election Schedule 2020-2021 Dawn M. Jones 73

h) Executive Committee Election Dawn M. Jones
(Please keep nominations to under 5 minutes. Please keep seconds to under 2 minutes.)

Two-Year Term 2020-2023 (group election)

- (1) Expired term of Ivy Cadle
- (2) Expired term of Nicki Vaughn
- (3) Expired term of Tony DelCampo

5) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

a) Memorials Report Darrell Sutton 74-75
 Immediate Past President

b) Young Lawyers Division Will Davis
 YLD President, 2019-20/
 Bert Hummel
 YLD President, 2020-21

c) Legislative Report Christine Butcher Hayes/
 Rusty Sewell

d) Professional Liability Insurance Committee Chris Twyman

e) Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services Paul Painter, Jr.
 in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

6) WRITTEN REPORTS

a) Executive Committee Minutes 76-79
 (1) April 2, 2020
 (2) April 20, 2020

b) Office of the General Counsel 80

c) Office of the Attorney General 81

d) State Bar of Georgia Coastal Office Statistics 82

e) State Bar of Georgia South Georgia Office Statistics 83

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
f) Fee Arbitration Program		84-87
g) Law Practice Management		88-93
h) Media Report.....		94-96
i) Military Legal Assistance Program		97-113
j) Section Annual Reports.....		114-169
(1) Administrative Law		
(2) Animal Law		
(3) Aviation Law		
(4) Child Protection & Advocacy Law		
(5) Construction Law		
(6) Family Law		
(7) Franchise & Distribution Law		
(8) General Practice & Trial Law		
(9) Intellectual Property Law		
(10) Military Law		
(11) Nonprofit Law		
k) Unlicensed Practice of Law		170-171
l) Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism		172-180
m) Georgia Legal Services Program Report		181-182

7) CLOSING

- a) Old Business Dawn M. Jones
- b) New Business Dawn M. Jones
- c) Executive Session Dawn M. Jones
- d) Remarks / Q&A / Comments / Suggestions
- e) Adjournment



STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
**2020 ANNUAL
MEETING**

Retiring Executive Committee Members (term ends June 12, 2020)

Kenneth Bryant "Ken" Hodges III Rizza O'Connor

Retiring Board of Governors Members (term ends June 12, 2020)

Alcovy Circuit, Post 2	Augusta	Michael R. Jones Sr.	Loganville
Circuit, Post 2	Chattahoochee	William James Keogh III	Augusta
Circuit, Post 3	Douglas Circuit	Thomas Frederick Gristina	Columbus
Member-at-Large, Post 3		Ryan Reese Leonard	Douglasville
Middle Circuit, Post 1		Ana Maria Martinez	Decatur
Waycross Circuit, Post 1		Kathy Stephens Palmer	Swainsboro
		Douglas Kirk Farrar	Douglas

2020-2021 Officers (term begins June 13, 2020)

President	Dawn M. Jones	Atlanta
President-elect	Elizabeth L. Fite	Atlanta
Immediate Past President	Darrell Lee Sutton	Marietta
Secretary	J. Antonio DelCampo	Atlanta
Treasurer	Sarah Brown "Sally" Akins	Savannah
YLD President	Norbert Daniel "Bert" Hummel IV	Atlanta
YLD President-elect	Elissa Blache Haynes	Atlanta
YLD Immediate Past President	William Thomas Davis	Atlanta

2020-2021 New Board of Governors Members (term begins June 13, 2020)

Alcovy Circuit, Post 2	Augusta	Austin O. Jones	Loganville
Augusta Circuit, Post 2		Danny L. Durham	Evans
Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 3		Alex Musole Shalishali	Columbus
Douglas Circuit		Kenneth Brown Crawford	Douglasville
Member-at-Large, Post 3		Joshua I. Bosin	Atlanta
Middle Circuit, Post 1		Mitchell McKinley Shook	Vidalia
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 3		Shondeana Crews Morris	Decatur
Waycross Circuit, Post 1		Matthew Jackson "Matt" Hennesy	Douglas

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-18	6-18	11-18	1-19	3-19	6-19	6-19	6-19	10-19	1-20	4-20
	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Orlando	Orlando	Savannah	ATL	Zoom Webinar
Sarah Brown Akins	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mark W. Alexander	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kent Edward Altom	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•
Anthony B. Askew	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
Philip Augustine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	e	•
JaDawnya Cintelle Baker	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	u	•
Nina M. Baker	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eric A. Ballinger	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Donna G. Barwick	•	•	•	•	•	u	u	u	•	•	•
Tracee R. Benzo	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•
James D. Blitch IV	•	•	•	•	u	e	e	•	•	•	•
Sherry Boston	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ashley Mackin Brodrie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	e	•	•
Thomas R. Burnside	u	u	•	u	u	•	•	•	•	u	•
Stephanie D. Burton	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ivy Neal Cadle	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Richard D. Campbell	•	•	e	•	•	u	u	•	•	•	•
David L. Cannon	u	u	u	u	•	u	•	•	•	u	•
Carl S. Cansino	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Chris M. Carr	•	u	u	•	•	u	u	u	u	•	•
Carol V. Clark	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•
Edward R. Collier	u	u	•	•	•	u	u	•	e	•	•
Christopher S. Connelly	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	u

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Tony DelCampo (tony@dcglawfirm.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-18 Fri.	6-18 Sat.	11-18 Pine Mtn	1-19 ATL	3-19 Greensboro	6-19 Fri.	6-19 Orlando	6-19 Sat.	10-19 Savannah	1-20 ATL	4-20 Zoom Webinar
Martin L. Cowen III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Susan W. Cox	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Terrence Lee Croft	e	e	•	•	•	u	•	u	e	•	•
Gerald Davidson Jr.	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
C. Lee Davis	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•
J. Anderson Davis	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•
Randall H. Davis	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
William T. Davis	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Antonio Delcampo	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Scott Dewitt Delius	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e
Joseph W. Dent	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Foy R. Devine	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	u
Daniel S. Digby	n/a	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Susan E. Edlein	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	e	•	•
Christopher Edwards	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	e	•	•	•
Archibald A. Farrar	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
D. Kirk Farrar	u	u	•	•	u	•	•	•	u	u	•
Elizabeth L. Fite	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ira L. Foster	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	u	•	•
Harold Eugene Franklin Jr.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Gregory A. Futch	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
Keigh E. Gammage	n/a	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•
William C. Gentry	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Orlando	Sat.	Savannah	ATL	Zoom Webinar
	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn			Orlando	Orlando	Orlando			
Michael G. Geoffroy	u	u	u	•	u	•	•	•	u	•	•
Walter J. Gordon Sr.	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	e	•	•	•
Patricia A. Gorham	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Thomas F. Gristina	•	•	•	u	e	•	•	•	u	u	u
John Haubenreich	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrick H. Head	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Lawton C. Heard, Jr.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Render M. Heard Jr.	•	•	•	•	u	u	u	u	•	•	•
Thomas W. Herman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•
R. Javoyne Hicks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Donna S. Hix	e	e	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	u
Michael D. Hobbs	u	•	u	•	•	u	u	u	u	•	•
Kenneth B. Hodges	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Marcus E. Howard	•	•	e	•	u	•	•	•	e	•	u
Amy V. Howell	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bert Hummel IV	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
James W. Hurt	•	•	u	•	u	u	u	•	e	•	u
Christopher Huskins	u	u	u	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	u
Stacey K. Hydrick	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
James T. Irvin	•	•	e	•	u	u	•	•	•	•	•
William Dixon James	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Curtis S. Jenkins	u	•	u	•	•	u	u	u	u	u	•
Francys Johnson Jr.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	u	•

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	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Zoom Webinar
	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn			Orlando	Orlando	Savannah		
Charles Michael Johnson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
Larry Michael Johnson	u	u	•	•	u	u	u	•	e	•
Lester B. Johnson, III	u	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Shiriki L. Cavitt Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dawn M. Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Michael R. Jones, Sr.	u	u	•	u	•	u	u	e	u	u
Jennifer A. Jordan	•	•	e	•	e	u	u	•	•	u
Zahra S. Karimshak	n/a	•	e	e	•	e	e	e	•	•
John F. Kennedy	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William J. Keogh, III	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	u	•	e
Barry E. King	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
Judy C. King	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Seth Kirschenbaum	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•
Catherine Koura	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	u
Edward B. Krugman	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	e	•
Jeffrey R. Kuester	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Allegra Lawrence-Hardy	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	•
Nicole C. Leet	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Katie K. Leonard	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Ryan R. Leonard	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	u	e	•
Dawn Renee Levine	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•
Joyce Gist Lewis	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lisa Katsuko Liang	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	u	•

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	Fri.	Sat.	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Fri.	Sat.	Orlando	Orlando	Savannah	ATL	Zoom Webinar						
David S. Lipscomb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
John R. B. Long	n/a	•	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Dax Eric Lopez	•	e	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Ronald A. Lowry	e	e	e	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	u	u	u	•	•	u	•	•	•	u	
John Bell Manly	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	
Ana Maria Martinez	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Graham Elliott McDonald	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	
Letitia A. McDonald	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	
Brad J. McFall	u	u	u	e	e	•	e	u	u	u	u	u	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	
Michael D. McRae	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	e	e	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	u	
Terry L. Miller	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William J. Monahan	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
John T. Mroczko	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	
Laura J. Murphree	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	
Sam G. Nicholson	e	•	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	e	e	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	
Rizza O'Connor	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Paul Wain Painter III	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Amanda Rourk Clark Palmer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	
Kathy Stephens Palmer	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Jonathan B. Pannell	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Joy Renea Parks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Tabitha Edwina Payne	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Brandon Lee Peak	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

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	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Zoom Webinar
	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn			Orlando	Orlando	Savannah		
Thomas A. Peterson, IV	•	•	•	e	•	u	u	u	•	u
Will H. Pickett, Jr.	u	u	u	•	u	u	u	e	u	u
Robert Allen Plumb Jr.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kathryn Lauranne Powers	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•
Jill Pryor	e	e	e	•	e	e	e	•	e	•
William M. Ragland	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
James L. Roberts, IV	•	•	•	e	•	•	u	e	•	•
Tina S. Roddenbery	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joseph Roseborough	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	u	•
Wesley Charles Ross	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•
Claudia S. Saari	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Dennis C. Sanders	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
H. Burke Sherwood	•	•	e	•	•	u	•	•	•	•
Robert H. Smalley, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
Philip C. Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u
R. Rucker Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Daniel B. Snipes	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	u	•	•
R. Gary Spencer	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
H. Craig Stafford	•	•	e	e	•	u	u	•	•	•
Lawton E. Stephens	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	e	u	•
Donna Coleman Stribling	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
C. Deen Strickland	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	u	•
Frank B. Strickland	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•

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	Fri.	Sat.		ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Orlando	Sat.	Savannah	ATL	Zoom Webinar
	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn			Orlando	Orlando	Orlando			
Joseph C. Sumner, Jr.	•	•	u	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	u
Darrell L. Sutton	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jason W. Swindle	•	•	u	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	•
Michael B. Terry	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anita W. Thomas	u	•	e	•	e	u	•	•	u	•	u
Edward D. Tolley	•	u	u	•	•	u	u	u	e	•	•
Clayton Tomlinson	u	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	•	u	•
Chris P. Twyman	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William Underwood III	•	•	•	u	u	•	•	•	•	•	•
Martin E. Valbuena	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carl R. Varnedoe	•	•	•	u	u	•	•	•	u	•	u
Nicki N. Vaughan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Carl A. Veline, Jr.	u	•	•	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	•
J. Henry Walker	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
Janice M. Wallace	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Amy Carol Walters	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	•
Harold B. Watts	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•
John P. Webb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Christopher F. West	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	•	u	u	u
Nancy J. Whaley	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Paige Reese Whitaker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Martha Wilson Williams	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Douglas Woodruff	•	•	•	e	•	e	e	e	e	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Tony DelCampo (tony@dcglawfirm.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-18	6-18	11-18	1-19	3-19	6-19	6-19	10-19	1-20	4-20
	Fri.	Sat.				Fri.	Sat.			
	Amelia	Amelia	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Orlando	Savannah	ATL	Zoom Webinar
	e - excused absence									
	u - unexcused absence									
	• - attended meeting									

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Tony DelCampo (tony@dcglawfirm.com)



Future Meetings Schedule *(5/8/2020)*

Executive Committee

Sept. 11-13, 2020	Executive Committee Extended Meeting Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, SC
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Board of Governors

Fall 2020	October 23-25, 2020	Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center Augusta, GA
Midyear 2021	Jan. 7-9, 2021	Georgia State University College of Law & Candler Hotel Atlanta, GA
Spring 2021	March 19-21, 2021	Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa Young Harris, GA (Joint with the YLD)
Annual 2021	June 10-13, 2021	Wild Dunes Resort Isle of Palms, SC
Annual 2022	June 2-5, 2022	Omni Amelia Island Resort Amelia Island, FL

Young Lawyers Division

Fall 2020	Oct. 30 – Nov. 1, 2020	Jekyll Island Club Jekyll Island, GA
Midyear 2021	Jan. 7-9, 2021	Georgia State University College of Law & Candler Hotel Atlanta, GA
Spring 2021	March 19-21, 2021	Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa Young Harris, GA (Joint with the BOG)

Annual 2021	June 10-13, 2021	Wild Dunes Resort Isle of Palm, SC
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Annual 2022	June 2-5, 2022	Omni Amelia Island Resort Amelia Island, FL
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American Bar Association Meetings

Annual 2020	Aug. 6-11, 2020	Chicago, IL
Midyear 2021	Feb. 10-16, 2021	Chicago, IL
Annual 2021	Aug. 5-10, 2021	Toronto, ONT

Savannah Boat Ride

Southern Conference Meetings

2020	October 15-18	Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa Austin, TX
2021		Florida
2022		Mississippi Gulf Coast
2023		West Virginia
2024		South Carolina



State Bar of Georgia

To: Bar Officers
Finance Committee

From: Ron Turner 

Date: May 18, 2020

Re: April 2020 Financial Statements-Bar Operations and Bar Center

Attached please find the April 2020 financial statements. These financial statements are presented at a summary level for clarity and to convey overall trends. Full departmental detail is attached at year-end (6/30) and upon request.

Line item variance explanations follow. Department managers are expected to specify savings elsewhere in their budgets when exceeding a line item, unless there was a budgeting error. Line item variances < **\$100** are not explained to conserve your time.

New and revised items are highlighted in bold.

Because the budget overages are very minimal at this time, savings will be realized in each department to offset these overages.

Office of General Counsel

Recruitment costs were in excess of the budget by \$2,000. This is due to a placement fee paid to an outside employment agency for the hiring of a person in the department. This overage occurred because this expenditure was not originally included in the budget.

Computer hardware exceeded the budget by \$387 primarily due to the purchase of a scanner. This purchase was not originally budgeted for.

Computer software is over budget by \$3,004 due to the following: (1) the purchase of two software licenses which would allow staff to scan and copy at the same time and (2) the purchase of software for clickers for a 15-month period of time. When the budget was prepared, the purchase of both of these software items was not anticipated.

Contract labor exceeded the budget by \$4,937 due to the use of temporary personnel while staff members were not working due to various medical issues.

Client Assistance Program

Supplies exceeded the budget by \$325 primarily due to the purchase of a headset for an employee in the department. That purchase was not anticipated when the budget was originally prepared.

Client Assistance Program (continued)

The budget for computer hardware was \$1,000 while actual costs incurred are \$2,503. This overage is due to the purchase of three scanners for the department. These scanners were requested after the budget was approved and the budget did not include a provision for this purchase.

Communications

Computer hardware is over budget by \$1,028 due to the purchase of one additional computer for an employee that was new to the department.

Law Practice Management

Printing is over budget by \$332 primarily due to the printing of new brochures in which the cost was greater than originally anticipated. These new brochures were needed due to: (1) the need to have branding consistency and (2) personnel listed in the brochure changed due to a retirement and the contact information in the brochure was no longer correct.

Supplies exceeds the budget by \$410. This overage is primarily due to the purchase of additional supplies for the year rather than purchasing a whiteboard which was included in the budget.

Young Lawyers (YLD)

Dues and memberships exceeds budget by \$135. This overage is because this expenditure was not originally budgeted.

Savannah

Furniture and equipment costs were \$1,752 due to the purchase of a new ice machine for the Savannah office. Amounts were not budgeted for this purchase.

High School Mock Trial (HSMT)

Supplies for HSMT were budgeted for \$500, but actual amount incurred was \$2,735, thus over budget by \$2,235. This budget overage is because the director for the HSMT program knew he was going to be under budget in HSMT events due to the pandemic and wanted to use a portion of the budget for these smaller supplies which will be used for a number of years.

HSMT exceeded the software budget by **\$373** because this account was not budgeted for in the current fiscal year.

High School Mock Trial incurred **\$423** in costs in the current fiscal year associated with the national competition in Athens held last fiscal year. None of these costs were included in the current year budget.

Other

Executive Committee meetings exceeded the budget by \$2,533 primarily due to higher costs than anticipated at one of the Executive Committee meetings. This budget overage should be made up within the Supreme Court meetings line item.

The Southern Conference meeting also exceeded the budget by \$359 primarily due to lower than anticipated attendance at the event. Certain State Bars had meetings that conflicted with the Southern Conference and, as such, did not attend the Southern Conference.

Lawyer's Assistance Programs is over budget by \$1,212 due to an increase in the current year which was not known when the budget was originally prepared.

Conference sponsorship was over budget by \$4,000. This is due to the sponsorship of the YLD Annual Signature Fundraiser that was approved by the Executive Committee.

Investment fees (including bond premium amortization) for both the Bar and the Bar Center are over budget as a budget was not established for these expenses originally. Originally investments were in overnight funds/cash. As the investment portfolio transitioned to Graystone Consulting investment fees were incurred and will continue to be incurred. However, the additional investment return received will more than offset the fees that are and will be incurred. In addition, the bond premium amortization will continue until the individual bonds reach maturity.

Conference Center

Audio Video has a budget of \$10,200 while actual costs incurred to date are \$11,397. This budget overage is primarily due to a change in vendor. The previous vendor is no longer in business and staff had to search for a vendor to replace them. All other vendor costs were in excess of the amount that the vendor in the prior year charged.

Other Bar Center Operations

Conference Center renovations were over the budget by \$2,824. This budget overage is primarily due to the following: (1) the purchase of surge clamps and (2) the purchase of a digital signage display and related HDMI cabling. These purchases were not originally budgeted.

Rental

Personnel management salary has incurred **\$40,432** of actual expenses while the budget is \$35,000. This overage of **\$5,432** is due to under-budgeting by the independent contractor.

Repairs and maintenance general building has a budget of \$5,500 while actual costs incurred to date are \$7,306. This budget overage is primarily due to the replacement of carpet in front of the elevators as well as inside the elevators. These costs were not originally budgeted for.

Parking

Payroll processing costs for the parking operation have exceeded the budget by **\$463**. This overage is due to under-budgeting by the subcontractor.

Shared Office Overhead

Shared office allocations exceed actual expense by approximately **\$103,900**. This is a positive variance. This number will fluctuate throughout the year.

Please give me a call at (404) 527-8748 if you have any questions regarding the attached financial statements.

cc: Jeff Davis
Cassie Hallstrom
Sharon Bryant
Paula Frederick

5/18/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures
Operations and Bar Center Combined
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020

Category	Year Ending 06/30/2019	Year To Date 4/30/2020	% of Budget	Year Ending 06/30/2020
	Actual	Actual		Annual Budget
Membership Numbers				
Active Members	39,193	39,902	101.27 %	39,400
Inactive Members	8,838	8,636	96.49 %	8,950
Associates/Affiliates	13	17	121.43 %	14
Foreign Legal Consultants	6	6	100.00 %	6
Students	274	361	131.27 %	275
Emeritus	2,745	3,036	134.93 %	2,250
Total Membership Numbers	51,069	51,958	102.09 %	50,895
Revenue				
Dues Active	\$ 9,896,539	\$ 10,098,769	100.91 %	\$ 10,007,600
Dues Inactive	1,144,650	1,127,351	99.18 %	1,136,650
Dues Associates	1,400	1,550	110.71 %	1,400
Dues Foreign Legal Consultant	0	1,524	100.00 %	1,524
Dues Late Fees	197,730	242,525	129.89 %	186,720
Dues NSF Check Fee	320	140	50.00 %	280
Dues Prior Years	5,550	5,733	229.32 %	2,500
Total License & Dues	\$ 11,246,189	\$ 11,477,592	101.24 %	\$ 11,336,674
Section Expense Reimbursement	\$ 191,196	\$ 190,644	100.00 %	\$ 190,644
CSF Expense Reimbursement	\$ 73,000	\$ 60,833	83.33 %	\$ 73,000
Advertising and Sales	\$ 36,716	\$ 41,230	91.22 %	\$ 45,200
Membership Income	\$ 158,266	\$ 110,203	92.22 %	\$ 119,500
Interest Income	\$ 112,826	\$ 491,003	491.00 %	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 18,956	\$ 10,206	226.80 %	\$ 4,500
Total Bar Revenue	\$ 11,837,149	\$ 12,381,711	104.32 %	\$ 11,869,518
Total Bar Expenses	\$ 13,276,196	\$ 10,183,656	75.62 %	\$ 13,466,284
SBG Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,439,047)	\$ 2,198,055	(137.66) %	\$ (1,596,766)
Total Bar Center Operations Revenue	\$ 4,042,903	\$ 2,035,066	63.88 %	\$ 3,185,888
Total Bar Center Operations Expenses	\$ 2,500,070	\$ 2,009,359	76.22 %	\$ 2,636,385
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,542,833	\$ 25,707	4.68 %	\$ 549,503
Combined Revenue	\$ 15,880,052	\$ 14,416,777	95.76 %	\$ 15,055,406
Combined Expenses	\$ 15,776,266	\$ 12,193,015	75.72 %	\$ 16,102,669
Total Combined Net Income (Loss)	\$ 103,786	\$ 2,223,762	(212.34) %	\$ (1,047,263)
Legend				
■ Bar Operations ■ Bar Center ■ Combined Bar Operations and Bar Center				
<i>Note: Non-Cash depreciation expense is excluded from this schedule.</i>				

5/18/2020

**State Bar of Georgia
Total Bar Center Operations
Revenues and Expenditures - Executive Summary
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020**

Category	Current Month Actual	Month % of Budget	Year to Date Actual	YTD % of Budget	Budget	Remaining Balance of Budget	Prior Year
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts							
Bar Center Assessments	\$0	0.00 %	\$1,150	0.00 %	\$0	(\$1,150)	\$206,173
Conference Center Copier	0	0.00 %	506	50.60 %	1,000	494	738
Gain/Loss on Investments	0	0.00 %	(15,670)	0.00 %	0	15,670	23,210
CLE Contributions to Bar Center	0	0.00 %	500,000	38.02 %	1,315,000	815,000	1,339,560
Transfer from Operations	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	0	0	628,512
Interest Income	0	0.00 %	65,560	156.10 %	42,000	(23,560)	51,941
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts	\$ 0	0.00 %	\$ 551,546	40.61 %	\$ 1,358,000	\$ 806,454	\$ 2,250,134
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements							
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0.00 %	12,407	0.00 %	0	(12,407)	0
Investment Service Fees	0	0.00 %	9,224	0.00 %	0	(9,224)	0
Parking Deck Construction	2,510	12.55 %	2,510	12.55 %	20,000	17,490	0
Conference Center Contingency	0	0.00 %	37	0.37 %	10,000	9,963	5,780
Conference Center Renovations	0	0.00 %	29,299	110.67 %	26,475	(2,824)	93,304
Museum and Woodrow Wilson Exhibit	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	2,500	2,500	0
Audio Video, Furniture and Equipment	78,534	78.53 %	93,738	93.74 %	2,000	(84,504)	71,666
Rehabilitation	0	0.00 %	610	12.20 %	100,000	6,262	84,504
President's Boardroom	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	5,000	4,390	2,848
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements	81,044	48.83 %	147,825	89.06 %	165,975	18,150	258,102
Bar Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (81,044)	(6.80) %	\$ 403,721	33.87 %	\$ 1,192,025	\$ 788,304	\$ 1,992,032
Conference Center Income and Expenses							
Room Rentals and Various Charges	0	0.00 %	12,284	63.32 %	19,400	7,116	16,113
Conference Center Operating Expenses	31,214	6.95 %	360,233	80.25 %	448,865	88,632	429,191
Conference Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (31,214)	7.27 %	\$ (347,949)	81.02 %	\$ (429,465)	\$ (81,516)	\$ (415,076)
Rental Income and Expenses							
Rental Income	118,501	8.19 %	1,178,494	81.42 %	1,447,488	268,994	1,365,050
Building Operating Expenses	97,979	5.78 %	1,251,805	73.88 %	1,694,355	442,550	1,493,785
Rental Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 20,522	(8.31) %	\$ (73,311)	29.70 %	\$ (246,867)	\$ (173,556)	\$ (128,735)
Parking Income and Expenses							
Parking Income	8,117	2.25 %	292,741	81.09 %	361,000	68,259	411,606
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	9,220	2.82 %	249,496	76.25 %	327,190	77,694	318,982
Parking Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (1,103)	(3.26) %	\$ 43,245	127.91 %	\$ 33,810	\$ (9,435)	\$ 92,613
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (92,839)	(16.90) %	\$ 25,706	4.68 %	\$ 549,503	\$ 523,798	\$ 1,542,833

Note: Non-Cash depreciation expense and gain/loss on disposal of fixed assets are excluded from this schedule.

5/18/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Income Statement YTD - Operations
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD % of Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Revenues				
Dues - Active	\$ 10,098,769	\$ 10,007,600	100.91 %	\$ 9,896,539
Dues - Inactive	1,127,351	1,136,650	99.18 %	1,144,650
Dues - Misc. Types	3,074	2,924	105.13 %	1,400
Dues - Late Fees	248,398	189,500	131.08 %	203,600
Total Dues & Licenses	11,477,592	11,336,674	101.24 %	11,246,189
Section Expense Reimbursement	190,644	190,644	100.00 %	191,196
CSF Expense Reimbursement	60,833	73,000	83.33 %	73,000
Advertising and Sales	41,230	45,200	91.22 %	36,716
Membership Income	64,152	69,500	92.31 %	79,241
Pro Hac Vice	288,551	290,000	99.50 %	390,701
Pro Hac Vice Contra	(242,500)	(240,000)	101.04 %	(311,676)
Interest Income	491,003	100,000	491.00 %	112,826
Miscellaneous Revenues	10,206	4,500	226.80 %	18,956
Total Revenues	12,381,711	11,869,518	104.32 %	11,837,149
Expenses				
Administration	1,981,459	2,497,233	79.35 %	2,379,493
Management Info Systems	0	0	0.00 %	647,023
General Counsel	3,064,936	3,911,511	78.36 %	3,584,216
Client Assistance Program	491,330	605,939	81.09 %	575,632
Communications	710,023	1,013,429	70.06 %	805,924
Lawyer's Assistance Program	63,712	62,500	101.94 %	64,582
Fee Arbitration	446,385	593,394	75.23 %	533,450
Law Practice Management	357,145	492,168	72.57 %	429,777
Sections	153,523	190,644	80.53 %	185,181
Savannah Office	212,189	270,047	78.57 %	250,564
Tifton Office	148,071	192,401	76.96 %	178,298
Young Lawyers	296,170	494,049	59.95 %	480,636
Unauthorized Practice of Law	698,672	855,067	81.71 %	812,092
Law Related Education	304,992	387,705	78.67 %	363,659
High School Mock Trial	106,129	154,192	68.83 %	150,683
MLAP	103,873	129,974	79.92 %	117,500
Pro Bono	176,846	212,216	83.33 %	212,216
Fastcase	240,436	244,000	98.54 %	228,522
Officers' Expenses	32,991	129,442	25.49 %	116,633
BASICS Program Contribution	150,000	150,000	100.00 %	150,000
Resource Center Contribution	110,332	110,332	100.00 %	110,332
Other Expenses	438,303	770,041	56.92 %	1,054,863
Unallocated Services	(103,861)	0	0.00 %	(155,077)
Total Expenses	10,183,656	13,466,284	75.62 %	13,276,199
Net Income	\$ 2,198,055	\$ (1,596,766)	(137.66) %	\$ (1,439,050)

State Bar of Georgia
Income Statement YTD - Operations
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD % of Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Other Expenses				
BOG and Member Meetings	89,009	339,006	26.26 %	487,736
Supreme Court Meetings	33,554	84,000	39.95 %	42,645
Executive Committee Meetings	43,333	40,800	106.21 %	39,019
Court of Appeals Meetings	0	7,500	0.00 %	3,636
Southern Conference	50,360	50,000	100.72 %	374
State Disciplinary Board Lawyers	0	30,000	0.00 %	30,000
Elections	25,193	39,685	63.48 %	34,683
Dues Notice	5,135	44,000	11.67 %	36,947
Letters of Good Standing	1,817	3,200	56.78 %	3,249
Bar Membership Cards	8,650	11,100	77.93 %	9,277
50 Year Certificates	2,075	2,750	75.45 %	1,677
Membership Database Project	0	15,000	0.00 %	0
State Bar Committees	26,841	28,000	95.86 %	25,874
Strategic Plan	40,000	40,000	100.00 %	40,000
Georgia Diversity Program	20,000	20,000	100.00 %	20,000
Conference Sponsorship	4,000	0	0.00 %	(186)
ABA Delegate Breakfast	2,592	2,500	103.68 %	2,419
1st Floor Office Furniture Project	0	0	0.00 %	216,567
1st Floor Painting	0	0	0.00 %	49,000
Commitment to Equality Awards	0	2,500	0.00 %	2,500
Organization of Bar Investigators	0	0	0.00 %	6,487
Bond Premium Amortization	36,463	0	0.00 %	2,959
Investment Service Fees	39,281	0	0.00 %	0
Access to Justice/Pro Bono	10,000	10,000	100.00 %	0
Other Expenses	<u>438,303</u>	<u>770,041</u>	<u>56.92 %</u>	<u>1,054,863</u>

State Bar of Georgia
Status and Use of Cash and Investments as of April 30, 2020

Cash and Investments - April 30, 2020 - Bar **24,765,357**

Less:

CCLC Cash Included in Above Amount (7,083,865)

Net Cash Available for State Bar **17,681,492**

Use of Cash:

Less:

Board Designated - See Separate Schedule Attached (8,331,641)

Temporarily Restricted - See Separate Schedule Attached (1,786,001)

Total Board Designated and Temporarily Restricted **(10,117,642)**

Other - Cash Allocated:

Collection of Outstanding Accounts Receivable 394,620

Payment of Accounts Payable (89,346)

Payment of Accrued Vacation (530,344)

Deferred Income (538,348)

Payment of Credit Card Bill (15,829)

Payment of Accrued Salary (469,357)

Payment of Accrued Taxes (35,906)

Other Accrued Expenses (primarily pension) (531,214)

Payment to Client Security Fund (618,829)

Operational Expenses for Remaining Bar Year (2,945,971)

Net Amount to be received from Related Entities 13,324

Total Other - Cash Allocated **(5,367,199)**

Estimated Cash and Investments - June 30, 2020 - Bar **2,196,651**

Cash and Investments - April 30, 2020 - Bar Center **170,540**

Other Cash Allocated - Bar Center:

Collection of Outstanding Accounts Receivable 136,727

Payment of Accounts Payable (19,125)

Deferred Income (360)

Other Accrued Expenses (72,782)

Receipt of Contribution from CCLC (to Bar Center) 523,796

Total Other - Cash Allocated - Bar Center **568,256**

Estimated Cash and Investments - June 30, 2020 - Bar Center **738,796**

Total Estimated Cash Balance at June 30, 2020 **2,935,447**

Note: The above schedule reflects the status of cash and investments as of the month end indicated above. There are no other State Bar funds or investments held in any institution that are not included on this schedule.

Also included in the above are the following assumptions: (1) Actual expenses for 2019 - 2020 would be 97.5% of budget. This is for Bar operations only and not Bar Center. (2) Additional revenue for Bar operations is based upon the assumption of achieving additional revenue through June 30, 2020 to equal 100% of the total budgeted revenue. (3) Bar Center would contribute additional cash flow through June 30, 2020 to equal their budget.

State Bar of Georgia
Board-Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted Net Assets
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020

	2017 June 30	2018 June 30	2019 June 30	2020 April 30
Board Designated				
General Operations - Bar	2,750,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	2,750,000
General Operations - Bar Center	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Litigation	300,000	300,000	300,000	229,738
Cornerstones of Freedom	600,000	600,000	0	0
Sections	2,445,106	2,660,285	2,793,143	3,264,084
YLD Meetings	11,052	33,481	29,716	87,819
Total Board-Designated excludes ICLE	8,106,158	8,343,766	7,872,859	8,331,641
Donor Temporarily Restricted				
Legislative	1,221,403	1,257,657	1,285,674	1,166,674
Law Related Education/Marshall fund	320,854	312,580	316,570	258,509
High School Mock Trial	13,287	9,018	14,095	14,412
National Mock Trial	20,067	20,161	0	0
Basics Program	74,218	65,414	67,032	67,750
Younger Lawyers	160,992	154,216	125,032	165,119
Lawyers Assistance	24,463	30,454	32,553	34,066
Georgia Diversity Program	9,790	17,588	18,957	19,574
Bar Media Conference	21,108	21,247	18,697	20,421
Justice Hunstein's Portrait	0	0	7,813	3,959
Law Day	6,247	6,276	6,356	6,387
Access to Justice	1,448	1,437	1,456	1,462
iCivics Program	559	(245)	603	851
Promote Inclusion	15,363	10,235	11,120	11,477
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	1,500	1,280	0	1,420
Military Vet Pro Bono	13,616	13,680	13,854	13,920
Unauthorized Practice of Law	100,049	100,518	0	0
Total Donor Temporarily Restricted	2,004,964	2,021,516	1,919,812	1,786,001
Net Board Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted	10,111,122	10,365,282	9,792,671	10,117,642

State Bar of Georgia
Summary of Members and Voluntary Legislative Contributions
With Contributions Paid Through April 30, 2020

Dues	2020-21 Dues Season	2019-20 Dues Season	2018-19 Dues Season
Total Number of Members at Apr 30 of Previous Bar year (active and inactive)	48,538	47,964	47,029
Active - Number Paid	1,606	40,379	36,888
Inactive - Number Paid	395	8,929	8,123
Total Number of Members With Dues Paid	2,001	49,308	45,011
Percent of Total Members With Dues Paid	4.1%	102.8%	95.7%
Number of Members Who Made A Contribution	316	3,704	5,339
Percent of Members Who Made A Contribution	15.8%	7.5%	11.9%
Total Contribution Amount	\$ 28,790	\$ 322,708	\$ 494,906
Average Amount Paid	\$ 91	\$ 87	\$ 93

Legislative Contribution Amounts by Dues Year

2020 - 2021	\$ 28,790
2019 - 2020	\$ 322,708
2018 - 2019	\$ 494,906
2017 - 2018	\$ 546,905
2016 - 2017	\$ 557,991
2015 - 2016	\$ 565,004
2014 - 2015	\$ 640,505
2013 - 2014	\$ 691,736
2012 - 2013	\$ 685,283
2011 - 2012	\$ 656,254

Purpose: The purpose of the above schedule is to reflect donations to the Legislative Fund for each period shown. The information reflects the total number of members who have made a contribution along with applicable percentages.

The number of members shown above is not the same as the number of members at the end of the month. The number of members above reflect the members who paid during the dues season indicated above. The dues season does not correspond to the fiscal year but starts in advance of the fiscal year. In addition, if members change status (active, inactive, emeritus, etc), this change will be reflected in the membership counts at month end but will not be reflected in the above schedule.

State Bar of Georgia
Summary of Members and Voluntary Contributions to Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP)
With Contributions Paid Through April 30, 2020

Dues	2020-21 Dues Season	2019-20 Dues Season	2018-19 Dues Season
Total Number of Members at Apr 30 of Previous Bar year (active and inactive)	48,538	47,964	47,029
Active - Number Paid	1,606	40,379	36,888
Inactive - Number Paid	395	8,929	8,123
Total Number of Members With Dues Paid	2,001	49,308	45,011
Percent of Total Members With Dues Paid	4.1%	102.8%	95.7%
Number of Members Who Made A Contribution	225	3,001	3,197
Percent of Members Who Made A Contribution	11.2%	6.1%	7.1%
Total Contribution Amount	\$ 28,693	\$ 366,674	\$ 295,454
Average Contribution Amount	\$ 128	\$ 122	\$ 92

GLSP Contribution Amounts by Dues Year

2020 - 2021	\$ 28,693
2019 - 2020	\$ 366,674
2018 - 2019	\$ 295,454
2017 - 2018	\$ 312,251
2016 - 2017	\$ 276,487
2015 - 2016	\$ 264,492
2014 - 2015	\$ 255,713
2013 - 2014	\$ 241,362
2012 - 2013	\$ 244,707
2011 - 2012	\$ 240,678

Purpose: The purpose of the above schedule is to reflect donations to the Georgia Legal Services Program for each period shown. The information reflects the total number of members who have made a contribution along with applicable percentages.

The number of members shown above is not the same as the number of members at the end of the month. The number of members above reflect the members who paid during the dues season indicated above. The dues season does not correspond to the fiscal year but starts in advance of the fiscal year. In addition, if members change status (active, inactive, emeritus, etc), this change will be reflected in the membership counts at month end but will not be reflected in the above schedule.

State Bar of Georgia
Legislative Activity Report
From July 1, 2019 Thru April 30, 2020

July 1, 2019 Beginning Balance **\$ 1,285,674**

Income:

Interest Income on Fund	15,354
Gain/Loss on Investments	(3,318)
Contributions	324,414

Total Income **336,450**

Expenditures:

Staff and Contract Lobbyists	420,229
Grassroots Efforts	9,747
Travel	3,094
Shared Office Allocation	13,319
Computer Hardware	929
Miscellaneous	8,132

Total Expenditures **455,450**

Net Donor Temporarily Restricted Balance at April 30, 2020 **\$ 1,166,674**

Client Security Fund
Summary of Client Security Fund Activity
For the Current Period Ending April 30, 2020

	2015 June 30	2016 June 30	2017 June 30	2018 June 30	2019 June 30	2020 April 30
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	2,141,984	2,432,608	2,035,238	1,836,994	1,450,249	1,031,012
Income:						
Interest Income	9,409	10,482	8,007	8,028	11,922	9,824
Gain/Loss Investment Interest Allocation	3,793	(155)	(142)	0	4,544	(1,218)
Client Security Fund Assessments	164,877	150,897	153,863	144,628	102,884	85,896
Restitution Income	14,532	9,744	5,386	25,250	30,451	28,476
Total Income:	192,611	170,968	167,114	177,906	149,801	122,978
Transfer from Bar:						
Miscellaneous Income	500,000	0	0	0	0	0
Total Transfer from Bar:	500,000	0	0	0	0	0
Expenses:						
Restricted Expenses	(73,000)	(73,000)	(73,000)	(73,032)	(73,000)	(60,833)
Client Security Fund Claims Payments	(328,986)	(495,338)	(292,358)	(491,619)	(496,038)	(471,177)
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0	0	0	0	(1,769)
Investment Service Fees	0	0	0	0	0	(1,362)
Total Expenses:	(401,986)	(568,338)	(365,358)	(564,651)	(569,038)	(535,161)
Net Income	290,625	(397,370)	(198,244)	(386,745)	(419,237)	(412,183)
Fund Balance, End of Period	2,432,608	2,035,238	1,836,994	1,450,249	1,031,012	618,829



State Bar
of Georgia

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

***BUDGET REPORT PACKAGE FOR THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING***

FOR THE BAR YEAR 2020 -2021

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Assumptions
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

1. Dues at \$254 (no change from the prior year of 2019-2020). Number of dues members were estimated based upon January 31, 2020 members and estimated additional members based upon the historical passing rate of the Bar exam.
2. CCLC will provide up to \$300,000 of a grant to cover Bar operational expenses.
3. Average investment (interest) income, bond amortization premium and investment expenses are based upon information as provided by the Bar's investment advisor, Graystone Consulting, along with the current rate of interest being paid by SunTrust Bank on deposits held at the bank.
4. Inflation has been at 1.5% based on Annual CPI—BLS South Region.
5. Vendor quotes or actual contracted amounts used whenever information was available
6. Salary increases are set at 0% due to the current Coronavirus pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, salary increases originally anticipated to be at 2.0 max % (1.5% cost of living, up to 0.5% merit increase) were approved by the Personnel Committee.
7. Imputed rent transfer from State Bar to Bar Center has been eliminated in both the 2019-2020 budget and the 2020-2021 budget.
8. Includes the effects of items approved by the Programs Committee, the Personnel Committee and the Executive Committee.
9. Includes projected officer reimbursement for projected officer slate, including out-of-Atlanta, if needed.

5/20/2020

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

Category	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Membership Numbers					
Active Members	38,802	39,193	39,902	39,400	40,200
Inactive Members	8,936	8,838	8,636	8,950	8,650
Provisional Members	0	0	0	0	250
Associates/Affiliates	15	13	17	14	14
Foreign Legal Consultants	6	6	6	6	6
Students	287	274	361	275	400
Emeritus	2,274	2,745	3,036	2,250	2,950
Total Membership Numbers	50,320	51,069	51,968	50,895	52,470
Revenue					
Dues Active	\$ 9,718,563	\$ 9,896,539	\$ 10,098,769	\$ 10,007,600	\$ 10,210,800
Dues Inactive	1,128,875	1,144,650	1,127,351	1,136,650	1,098,550
Dues Provisional	0	0	0	0	31,750
Dues Associates	1,300	1,400	1,550	1,400	1,400
Dues Foreign Legal Consultant	0	0	1,524	1,524	1,524
Dues Late Fees	247,125	197,730	242,525	186,720	220,000
Dues NSF Check Fee	280	320	140	280	300
Dues Prior Years	8,424	5,550	5,733	2,500	6,000
Total License & Dues	\$ 11,104,567	\$ 11,246,189	\$ 11,477,592	\$ 11,336,674	\$ 11,570,324
CCLC Contributions to SBG	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 300,000
Section Expense Reimbursement	\$ 196,015	\$ 191,196	\$ 190,644	\$ 190,644	\$ 187,835
CSF Expense Reimbursement	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 60,833	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000
Advertising and Sales	\$ 100,300	\$ 36,716	\$ 41,230	\$ 45,200	\$ 45,200
Membership Income	\$ 146,603	\$ 168,266	\$ 110,203	\$ 119,500	\$ 121,000
Interest Income	\$ 65,475	\$ 112,826	\$ 491,003	\$ 100,000	\$ 170,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 3,203	\$ 18,956	\$ 10,206	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,900
Total Bar Revenue	\$ 11,689,163	\$ 11,837,149	\$ 12,381,711	\$ 11,869,518	\$ 12,473,259
Total Bar Expenses	\$ 13,106,628	\$ 13,276,196	\$ 10,183,656	\$ 13,466,284	\$ 12,809,340
SBG Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,417,465)	\$ (1,439,047)	\$ 2,198,055	\$ (1,596,766)	\$ (336,081)
Total Bar Center Operations Revenue	\$ 3,943,792	\$ 4,042,903	\$ 2,035,066	\$ 3,185,888	\$ 3,231,138
Total Bar Center Operations Expenses	\$ 2,636,023	\$ 2,500,070	\$ 2,009,359	\$ 2,636,385	\$ 2,680,546
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,307,769	\$ 1,542,833	\$ 25,707	\$ 549,503	\$ 550,592
Combined Revenue	\$ 15,632,955	\$ 15,880,052	\$ 14,416,777	\$ 15,055,406	\$ 15,704,397
Combined Expenses	\$ 15,742,651	\$ 15,776,266	\$ 12,193,015	\$ 16,102,669	\$ 15,489,886
Total Combined Net Income (Loss)	\$ (109,696)	\$ 103,786	\$ 2,223,762	\$ (1,047,263)	\$ 214,511
Legend					
 Bar Operations Bar Center Combined Bar Operations and Bar Center					
<small>Note: Non-Cash depreciation expense and gain/loss on disposal of fixed assets are excluded from this schedule.</small>					

5/20/2020

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

Category	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts					
Bar Center Assessments	289,900	206,173	1,150	0	1,000
Conference Center Copier	1,087	738	506	1,000	850
Gain/Loss on Investments	0	23,210	(15,670)	0	0
CCLC Contributions to Bar Center	1,310,643	1,339,560	500,000	1,315,000	1,325,000
Transfer from Operations	616,188	628,512	0	0	0
Interest Income	21,197	51,941	65,560	42,000	64,000
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts	\$ 2,239,015	\$ 2,250,134	\$ 551,546	\$ 1,358,000	\$ 1,390,850
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements					
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0	12,407	0	12,000
Investment Service Fees	0	0	9,224	0	12,000
Parking Deck Construction	13,350	0	2,510	20,000	0
Subbasement Build out	1,900	0	0	0	0
Conference Center Contingency	10,048	5,780	37	10,000	0
Conference Center Renovations	0	93,304	29,299	26,475	54,400
Museum and Woodrow Wilson Exhibit	0	0	0	2,500	0
Audio Video, Furniture and Equipment	107,654	71,666	0	2,000	16,000
Rehabilitation	268,496	84,504	93,738	100,000	0
Tenant Improvements	59,486	0	0	0	0
2nd Floor Build out	37,190	0	0	0	0
President's Boardroom	0	2,848	610	5,000	5,000
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements	498,124	258,102	147,825	165,975	99,400
Bar Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 1,740,891	\$ 1,992,032	\$ 403,721	\$ 1,192,025	\$ 1,291,450
Conference Center Income and Expenses					
Room Rentals and Various Charges	20,296	16,113	12,284	19,400	15,800
Conference Center Operating Expenses	414,261	429,191	360,233	448,865	448,526
Conference Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (393,965)	\$ (413,078)	\$ (347,949)	\$ (429,465)	\$ (432,726)
Rental Income and Expenses					
Rental Income	1,331,358	1,365,050	1,178,494	1,447,488	1,447,488
Building Operating Expenses	1,493,679	1,493,785	1,251,805	1,694,355	1,805,430
Rental Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (98,321)	\$ (128,735)	\$ (73,311)	\$ (246,867)	\$ (357,942)
Parking Income and Expenses					
Parking Income	353,123	411,606	292,741	361,000	377,000
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	253,959	318,992	249,496	327,190	327,190
Parking Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 99,164	\$ 92,613	\$ 43,245	\$ 33,810	\$ 49,810
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,307,769	\$ 1,542,833	\$ 25,706	\$ 549,503	\$ 550,592

Note: Non-Cash depreciation expense and gain/loss on disposal of fixed assets are excluded from this schedule.

State Bar of Georgia

Board of Governors Meeting

5/20/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021

	2017-2018	2018-2019	Year To Date	2019-2020	2020-2021
	Actual	Actual	April 30, 2020	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
Revenues					
Dues - Active	\$ 9,718,563	\$ 9,896,539	\$ 10,098,769	\$ 10,007,600	\$ 10,210,800
Dues - Inactive	1,128,875	1,144,650	1,127,351	1,136,650	1,098,550
Dues - Provisional	0	0	0	0	31,750
Dues - Misc. Types	1,300	1,400	3,074	2,924	2,924
Dues - Late Fees	255,829	203,600	248,398	189,500	226,300
Total Dues & Licenses	<u>11,104,567</u>	<u>11,246,189</u>	<u>11,477,592</u>	<u>11,336,674</u>	<u>11,570,324</u>
CCLC Contributions to SBG	0	0	0	0	300,000
Section Expense Reimbursement	196,015	191,196	190,644	190,644	187,835
CSF Expense Reimbursement	73,000	73,000	60,833	73,000	73,000
Advertising and Sales	100,300	36,716	41,230	45,200	45,200
Membership Income	78,303	79,241	64,152	69,500	71,000
Pro Hac Vice	348,700	390,701	288,551	290,000	290,000
Pro Hac Vice Contra	(280,400)	(311,676)	(242,500)	(240,000)	(240,000)
Interest Income	65,475	112,826	491,003	100,000	170,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	3,203	18,956	10,206	4,500	5,900
Total Revenues	<u>11,689,163</u>	<u>11,837,149</u>	<u>12,381,711</u>	<u>11,869,518</u>	<u>12,473,259</u>
Expenses					
Administration	2,277,278	2,379,493	1,981,459	2,497,233	2,502,712
Management Info Systems	544,635	647,022	0	0	0
General Counsel	3,487,779	3,584,216	3,064,936	3,911,511	4,338,494
Client Assistance Pgm.	549,639	575,632	491,330	605,939	0
Communications	805,697	805,924	710,023	1,013,429	885,005
Lawyer's Assistance Program	56,832	64,582	63,712	62,500	85,000
Fee Arbitration	504,993	533,450	446,385	593,394	559,460
Law Practice Management	429,307	429,777	357,145	492,168	438,714
Sections	179,044	185,181	153,523	190,644	187,834
Savannah Office	238,589	250,564	212,189	270,047	258,120
Tifton Office	173,369	178,298	148,071	192,401	140,558
Young Lawyers	502,478	480,636	296,170	494,049	457,434
Unauthorized Practice of Law	790,019	812,092	698,672	855,067	842,308
Law Related Education	347,025	363,659	304,992	387,705	385,461
High School Mock Trial	127,571	150,683	106,129	154,192	159,730
MLAP	3,762	117,500	103,873	129,974	0
Pro Bono	212,216	212,216	176,846	212,216	212,216
Fastcase	216,417	228,522	240,436	244,000	244,000
Officers' Expenses	56,634	116,633	32,991	129,442	112,677
BASICS Program Contribution	140,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	37,500
Resource Center Contribution	110,332	110,332	110,332	110,332	110,332
Other Expenses	1,413,168	1,054,863	438,303	770,041	851,785
Unallocated Services	(60,156)	(155,077)	(103,861)	0	0
Total Expenses	<u>13,106,628</u>	<u>13,276,198</u>	<u>10,183,656</u>	<u>13,466,284</u>	<u>12,809,340</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ (1,417,465)</u>	<u>\$ (1,439,049)</u>	<u>\$ 2,198,055</u>	<u>\$ (1,596,766)</u>	<u>\$ (336,081)</u>

Note: The Client Assistance Program (formerly known as Consumer Assistance Program) is included in General Counsel for both budget and operational perspectives.

5/20/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021

	2017-2018	2018-2019	Year To Date	2019-2020	2020-2021
	Actual	Actual	April 30, 2020	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
Other Expenses					
BOG and Member Meetings	335,341	487,736	89,009	339,006	380,000
Supreme Court Meetings	64,417	42,645	33,554	84,000	45,000
Executive Committee Meetings	5,992	39,019	43,333	40,800	60,000
Court of Appeals Meetings	5,848	3,636	0	7,500	0
Southern Conference	0	374	50,360	50,000	0
State Disciplinary Board Lawyers	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	20,000
Elections	45,514	34,683	25,193	39,685	39,685
Dues Notice	36,136	36,947	5,135	44,000	40,000
Letters of Good Standing	3,093	3,249	1,817	3,200	2,900
Bar Membership Cards	8,895	9,277	8,650	11,100	11,100
50 Year Certificates	1,503	1,677	2,075	2,750	2,000
Membership Database Project	12,863	0	0	15,000	13,000
Website Redesign	201,335	0	0	0	0
Recruitment Costs	0	0	0	0	100,000
State Bar Committees	46,779	25,874	26,841	28,000	29,000
Strategic Plan	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0
Georgia Diversity Program	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conference Sponsorship	34,500	(186)	4,000	0	0
Incubator Contribution	85,000	0	0	0	0
ABA Delegate Breakfast	1,187	2,419	2,592	2,500	2,500
Cubicles Project	361,510	0	0	0	0
1st Floor Office Furniture Project	0	216,567	0	0	14,100
1st Floor Painting	0	49,000	0	0	0
Commitment to Equality Awards	0	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
Organization of Bar Investigators	0	6,487	0	0	0
Military/Veterans Pro Bono Asst	103,255	0	0	0	0
Bond Premium Amortization	0	2,959	36,463	0	34,000
Investment Service Fees	0	0	39,281	0	36,000
Access to Justice/Pro Bono	0	0	10,000	10,000	0
Chief Justice Commission on Prof.	10,000	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	<u>1,413,168</u>	<u>1,054,863</u>	<u>438,303</u>	<u>770,041</u>	<u>851,785</u>

Administration

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	1,222,956	1,219,504	1,055,562	1,265,045	1,283,046
Salaries-Hourly PT	0	441	0	0	0
Overtime	6,476	7,404	5,758	7,100	7,200
Taxes and Benefits	316,278	342,793	273,659	362,366	353,815
Pension	91,170	75,958	82,453	98,943	97,793
Total Personnel Services	1,636,880	1,646,100	1,417,432	1,733,454	1,741,854
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	309,905	370,460	326,316	391,579	388,008
Postage and Freight	10,215	9,052	8,196	11,500	11,000
Printing	22	375	0	150	150
Supplies	4,249	2,720	2,780	3,500	3,400
Telephone	3,600	3,600	3,000	3,600	3,600
Subscriptions and Books	732	374	725	850	650
Dues and Memberships	2,682	2,519	1,070	3,800	2,800
Licenses and Certifications	0	0	30	0	0
Seminars and Training	2,030	78	189	3,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	8,631	1,144	1,477	2,500	2,000
Attorney and Staff Travel	27,810	39,241	23,020	46,000	40,650
Executive Director Travel	6,452	10,990	12,917	14,000	12,600
Luncheons	354	176	209	600	600
Bank Fees	1,561	1,833	554	2,000	1,900
Credit Card Discount and Fees	189,985	207,574	116,860	197,000	197,000
Computer Hardware	11,633	3,895	1,713	1,800	9,800
Computer Software	0	339	349	500	900
Membership Software License	57,412	75,242	63,035	73,300	75,300
Contract Programming	2,906	2,281	0	6,100	7,500
Total Operating Expenses	640,179	731,893	562,440	761,779	758,858
Furniture/Equipment	219	1,499	1,587	2,000	2,000
Total Expenses	\$ 2,277,278	\$ 2,379,493	\$ 1,981,459	\$ 2,497,233	\$ 2,502,712

OGC & CAP Income Statement Combined

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	2,552,548 \$	2,552,734 \$	2,216,346 \$	2,668,037 \$	2,552,468
Salaries-Hourly PT	15,406	27,534	23,194	45,933	45,933
Overtime	2,985	4,336	1,010	4,300	4,300
Taxes and Benefits	585,794	646,414	564,436	690,071	707,067
Pension	175,090	171,828	167,788	201,346	186,929
Total Personnel Services	3,331,823	3,402,846	2,972,774	3,609,687	3,496,697
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	473,013	488,333	386,251	463,501	450,089
Postage and Freight	20,339	22,588	15,324	23,250	24,000
Printing	446	863	121	1,750	1,000
Supplies	7,708	7,816	6,468	7,500	9,800
Telephone	2,103	2,330	1,780	2,100	2,100
Subscriptions and Books	20,426	12,632	11,809	21,000	22,260
Dues and Memberships	8,774	9,353	7,471	10,000	10,000
Seminars and Training	6,677	6,945	6,206	9,400	9,400
Miscellaneous	2,058	1,888	2,175	3,500	3,000
Recruitment Costs	0	0	2,000	0	0
Attorney and Staff Travel	57,559	51,975	28,575	73,312	65,849
Investigator Travel	3,438	1,300	4,745	6,500	5,000
Lunches	1,680	899	2,298	2,500	2,625
Computer Hardware	14,666	10,559	15,590	13,700	12,300
Computer Software	0	1,875	3,504	500	2,000
Contract Labor	0	10,384	6,937	2,000	4,000
Contract Programming	7,344	7,429	0	8,500	8,500
Receiverships	2,684	3,189	5,741	10,000	10,000
State Disciplinary Board Panel	33,101	67,295	26,737	95,000	75,000
Contract Special Master	15,505	28,413	10,872	110,000	90,000
Lexis Online	14,352	16,262	16,251	18,750	19,875
Total Operating Expenses	691,873	752,328	560,855	882,763	826,798
Furniture/Equipment	13,722	4,675	22,638	25,000	15,000
Total Expenses	\$ 4,037,419	\$ 4,159,849	\$ 3,556,267	\$ 4,517,450	\$ 4,338,495

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

Communications

	<u>2017-2018 Actual</u>	<u>2018-2019 Actual</u>	<u>Year To Date April 30, 2020</u>	<u>2019-2020 Annual Budget</u>	<u>2020-2021 Annual Budget</u>
Personnel Services					
Salaries	251,238	279,240	265,933	328,569	277,262
Overtime	1,545	887	51	1,600	1,600
Taxes and Benefits	93,342	104,224	101,308	143,449	109,061
Pension	14,383	11,853	15,977	19,172	15,871
Total Personnel Services	360,508	396,204	383,269	492,790	403,794
Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	65,243	67,356	66,595	79,914	62,081
Postage and Freight	706	2,087	503	2,100	1,500
Supplies	344	951	122	1,000	1,000
Telephone	900	900	750	900	900
Subscriptions and Books	4,203	1,934	2,393	2,875	3,125
Dues and Memberships	405	320	405	405	405
Seminars and Training	1,325	1,322	2,465	5,200	5,200
Miscellaneous	839	1,571	1,433	1,650	1,650
Attorney and Staff Travel	14,033	16,714	7,950	17,900	17,900
Luncheons	2,575	2,791	0	100	100
Computer Hardware	3,827	246	2,028	1,000	4,150
Computer Software	2,250	1,861	1,816	2,000	1,600
Media Consultants	0	0	28,313	55,000	50,000
Website Server/Redesign	9,996	28,884	24,150	29,850	29,600
Law Day	0	0	0	0	0
Local and Voluntary Bars	0	494	0	0	0
Membership Certificates	1,374	2,420	1,009	2,000	2,000
Subtotal	108,020	129,851	139,932	201,894	181,211

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

Communications

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Furniture/Equipment	0	269	500	1,000	0
Subtotal	468,528	526,324	523,701	695,684	585,005
Publications					
Bar Journal	281,232	273,853	180,876	303,690	291,000
Supplemental Directory	5,317	5,746	5,445	6,555	6,000
Special Publications and Printing	409	0	0	7,500	3,000
Directory	50,212	0	0	0	0
Total Publications	337,170	279,599	186,321	317,745	300,000
Total Communications	805,698	805,923	710,022	1,013,429	885,005

Fee Arbitration

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	\$ 252,418	\$ 264,384	\$ 223,309	\$ 272,557	\$ 272,557
Overtime	1,493	641	390	1,500	1,500
Taxes and Benefits	90,093	97,396	82,076	104,996	105,314
Pension	14,947	18,071	15,800	18,960	18,857
Total Personnel Services	358,951	380,492	321,575	398,013	398,228
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	65,243	67,356	53,276	63,931	62,081
Postage and Freight	7,290	7,799	3,902	9,800	8,200
Printing	2,516	2,617	0	2,700	2,800
Supplies	2,255	1,537	259	2,300	2,200
Subscriptions and Books	349	326	327	550	500
Dues and Memberships	326	305	0	400	400
Seminars and Training	0	68	0	400	400
Miscellaneous	1,141	1,233	72	1,200	1,200
Attorney and Staff Travel	1,117	2	21	2,500	2,500
Luncheons	2,815	2,802	1,370	3,400	3,400
Computer Hardware	640	0	4,491	5,000	0
Contract Labor	61,330	68,000	60,248	100,300	75,000
Contract Programming	731	100	0	2,000	2,000
Total Operating Expenses	145,753	152,145	123,966	194,481	160,681
Furniture/Equipment	288	814	844	900	550
Total Expenses	\$ 504,993	\$ 533,450	\$ 446,395	\$ 593,394	\$ 559,459

State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Consultation	\$ 3,095	\$ 1,631	\$ 588	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,800
Publications	0	534	0	250	250
In-House Training Income	0	0	0	500	150
Vendor Directory	10,900	13,650	13,300	8,500	8,500
Miscellaneous Income	575	533	1,327	250	3,500
Total Revenues	14,570	16,348	15,215	12,000	14,200
Personnel Services					
Salaries	256,557	245,895	217,058	260,095	260,095
Overtime	2,176	2,486	1,103	2,300	2,300
Taxes and Benefits	81,237	92,452	81,638	115,048	104,403
Pension	17,024	14,137	14,546	17,456	17,353
Total Personnel Services	356,994	354,970	314,345	394,899	384,151
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	65,243	67,356	53,276	63,931	62,081
Postage and Freight	1,427	1,427	738	1,800	1,600
Printing	440	483	1,832	1,500	900
Supplies	132	573	1,160	750	750
Telephone	25	0	0	100	100
Subscriptions and Books	7,863	8,853	7,142	8,000	9,700
Dues and Memberships	1,290	725	1,25	1,850	1,500
Seminars and Training	100	149	338	1,500	500
Miscellaneous	300	68	(80)	750	350
Attorney and Staff Travel	15,655	8,137	3,300	10,000	10,000
Lunches	127	0	0	200	200
Computer Hardware	1,194	1,588	10,216	11,000	1,000
Computer Software	770	3,344	4,724	5,388	5,382
Total Operating Expenses	94,566	92,703	82,771	106,769	93,763
Total Expenses	451,559	447,673	397,116	501,668	477,914
Furniture & Equipment	762	1,314	0	2,500	0
Solo and Small Firm	8,444	2,862	24,756	0	25,000

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Net Income	\$ (429,308)	\$ (429,777)	\$ (357,145)	\$ (492,168)	\$ (438,714)

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	108,438 \$	103,115 \$	84,252 \$	108,308 \$	108,308
Overtime	201	168	0	500	500
Taxes and Benefits	45,359	31,806	25,043	32,086	32,602
Pension	4,302	6,130	5,449	6,539	6,539
Total Personnel Services	158,300	141,219	114,744	147,433	147,949
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	32,622	33,678	26,638	31,966	31,041
Supplies	1,018	993	0	2,000	1,400
Telephone	825	900	750	900	900
Dues and Memberships	0	0	135	0	150
Seminars and Training	0	874	295	500	300
Attorney and Staff Travel	6,081	9,240	5,768	8,430	7,055
Computer Hardware	1,031	904	0	1,000	1,000
Computer Software	0	477	364	600	365
Committee Brochures	6,825	7,435	6,263	7,500	7,500
President	21,268	38,689	12,858	32,721	27,813
Immediate Past President	31,290	23,185	7,643	25,032	21,277
Immed. Past President Carryover	28,614	19,572	10,141	21,277	18,085
Treasurer	0	8,511	0	0	0
Secretary	0	1,033	929	1,300	1,300
Meetings	52,730	52,730	52,730	52,730	47,500
Newsletter	53,566	48,181	13,339	55,000	49,500
Total Operating Expenses	235,870	247,434	138,351	242,256	216,486
Committees Activities					
Committees Income	(9,023)	(3,910)	(9,031)	(10,000)	(10,000)
Committees Expense	117,331	95,893	52,105	114,360	103,000
Total Committees Activities	108,308	91,983	43,074	104,360	93,000
Total Expenses	\$ 502,478 \$	\$ 480,635 \$	\$ 296,170 \$	\$ 494,049 \$	\$ 457,435

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	483,830	498,345	432,106	513,000	513,002
Overtime	108	153	85	255	255
Taxes and Benefits	159,030	163,617	143,235	180,438	181,159
Pension	33,769	34,710	30,185	36,222	35,706
Total Personnel Services	676,737	696,825	605,611	729,915	730,122
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	97,865	101,034	79,914	95,897	93,122
Postage and Freight	1,731	1,107	380	2,500	1,700
Printing	0	66	0	160	150
Supplies	1,260	397	630	2,200	1,500
Subscriptions and Books	693	801	750	816	800
Dues and Memberships	675	775	575	714	714
Seminars and Training	0	300	300	1,000	500
Miscellaneous	1,373	1,249	1,634	2,200	1,500
Attorney and Staff Travel	62	251	1,240	1,280	1,000
Investigator Travel	4,689	2,310	2,341	7,500	5,200
Luncheons	1,802	600	0	3,500	2,200
Computer Hardware	0	3,125	2,634	2,800	0
Lexis Online	2,913	3,252	2,663	4,585	3,800
Total Operating Expenses	113,063	115,267	93,061	125,152	112,186
Furniture/Equipment	218	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	\$ 790,019	\$ 812,093	\$ 698,672	\$ 855,067	\$ 842,308

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	\$ 82,798	\$ 81,892	\$ 72,567	\$ 87,789	\$ 87,816
Overtime	43	179	86	250	250
Taxes and Benefits	42,068	49,441	34,722	57,843	38,800
Pension	4,952	4,859	4,410	5,292	5,293
Total Personnel Services	129,861	136,371	111,785	151,174	132,159
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	16,311	16,839	13,319	15,983	15,520
Postage and Freight	100	50	7	100	100
Printing	0	0	0	100	100
Supplies	1,014	1,130	1,388	1,500	1,300
Telephone	15,487	12,087	11,400	14,000	15,700
Miscellaneous	0	28	266	500	500
Attorney and Staff Travel	0	1,782	1,249	2,600	2,600
Parking Savannah	4,227	3,414	1,766	4,000	4,000
Luncheons	0	29	17	100	100
Computer Hardware	1,558	905	0	0	3,750
Computer Software	80	74	75	90	90
Equipment Maintenance	1,960	7,077	2,860	3,700	4,000
Equipment Rental	0	0	35	0	100
Rent and Utilities	59,984	63,917	60,244	69,000	71,000
Facilities Maintenance	4,756	4,489	4,002	4,500	4,500
Building and Other Insurance (Not Group)	2,185	2,372	2,023	2,700	2,600
Total Operating Expenses	107,662	114,193	98,651	118,873	125,960
Furniture/Equipment	1,066	0	1,752	0	0
Total Expenses	\$ 238,589	\$ 250,564	\$ 212,188	\$ 270,047	\$ 258,119

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	78,832 \$	81,197 \$	68,587 \$	83,586 \$	52,000
Salaries-Hourly PT	15,801	16,662	15,761	20,408	20,408
Taxes and Benefits	19,623	18,206	13,716	20,473	6,733
Pension	6,317	6,510	5,822	6,987	1,227
Total Personnel Services	120,573	122,575	103,886	131,454	80,368
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	8,155	12,629	9,989	11,987	11,640
Postage and Freight	93	236	190	400	300
Printing	0	0	65	0	0
Supplies	1,665	1,694	1,327	2,500	2,000
Telephone	12,230	13,218	10,609	13,300	13,300
Subscriptions and Books	104	116	127	100	100
Miscellaneous	206	0	0	300	300
Attorney and Staff Travel	3,213	2,397	1,024	4,500	2,400
Lunches	12	0	75	60	50
Computer Hardware	3,003	0	776	800	2,000
Computer Software	178	90	100	200	200
Equipment Maintenance	1,488	1,891	1,139	1,700	1,700
Equipment Rental	0	0	18	0	100
Rent and Utilities	19,949	20,252	16,497	21,500	21,500
Facilities Maintenance	315	829	226	1,000	1,000
Building and Other Insurance (Not Group)	2,185	2,372	2,023	2,600	2,600
Total Operating Expenses	52,796	55,724	44,185	60,947	59,190
Furniture/Equipment	0	0	0	0	1,000
Total Expenses	\$ 173,369 \$	\$ 178,298 \$	\$ 148,071 \$	\$ 192,401 \$	\$ 140,558

Law Related Education

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 702	\$ 209	\$ 162	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Revenues	702	209	162	0	0
Personnel Services					
Salaries	189,904	195,600	169,566	201,317	201,317
Overtime	15	10	26	500	500
Taxes and Benefits	87,819	90,223	78,121	109,650	110,016
Pension	13,098	13,398	11,683	14,020	13,917
Total Personnel Services	290,836	299,231	259,396	325,487	325,750
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	48,932	50,517	39,957	47,948	46,561
Postage and Freight	24	18	9	2,000	150
Printing	0	998	134	1,200	1,000
Supplies	1,346	1,385	539	2,000	1,800
Subscriptions and Books	76	33	5	100	50
Seminars and Training	1,780	522	0	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous	476	1,270	501	1,500	1,400
Attorney and Staff Travel	3,783	6,732	3,684	5,070	7,600
Lunches	278	485	0	400	150
Computer Hardware	196	2,677	929	1,000	0
Total Operating Expenses	56,891	64,637	45,758	62,218	59,711
Total Expenses	347,727	363,868	305,154	387,705	385,461
Net Income	\$ (347,025)	\$ (363,659)	\$ (304,992)	\$ (387,705)	\$ (385,461)

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Miscellaneous Income	36,155	15,753	565	1,000	600
Total Revenues	36,155	15,753	565	1,000	600
Personnel Services					
Salaries	60,962	62,791	54,445	64,638	64,638
Taxes and Benefits	21,381	24,659	26,597	25,151	36,442
Pension	3,648	3,781	3,237	3,885	3,885
Total Personnel Services	85,991	91,231	84,279	93,674	104,965
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	16,311	16,839	13,319	15,983	15,520
Postage and Freight	845	861	837	1,200	900
Supplies	245	482	2,735	500	850
Telephone	8	0	0	35	20
Subscriptions and Books	0	0	53	0	0
Dues and Memberships	250	250	200	250	200
Miscellaneous	296	6	37	500	400
Attorney and Staff Travel	459	644	517	500	500
Lunches	470	396	362	550	400
Computer Hardware	0	1,062	0	0	0
Computer Software	0	0	373	0	325
Total Operating Expenses	18,884	20,540	18,433	19,518	19,115
HSMT Events					
Law Academy	4,458	3,204	812	4,500	1,000
Regional Competition	15,960	10,107	(4,486)	0	(2,250)
State Competition	9,665	13,237	493	11,000	12,500
National Competition	16,108	12,814	851	14,000	16,000
District Competition	12,548	5,004	5,888	12,500	9,000
2019 NHSMTC-Athens	111	10,298	423	0	0
Total HSMT Events	58,850	54,664	3,981	42,000	36,250
Total Expenses	163,726	166,436	106,693	155,192	160,330
Net Income	(127,571)	(150,683)	(106,128)	(154,192)	(159,730)

Military Legal Assistance Program

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Personnel Services					
Salaries	3,077 \$	80,046 \$	69,406 \$	82,400 \$	0
Taxes and Benefits	685	17,560	14,991	18,508	0
Pension	0	0	4,699	5,638	0
Total Personnel Services	3,762	97,606	89,096	106,546	0
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	0	16,839	13,319	15,983	0
Postage and Freight	0	103	99	200	0
Printing	0	375	0	0	0
Supplies	0	1,240	0	1,300	0
Dues and Memberships	0	0	0	195	0
Miscellaneous	0	431	430	500	0
Attorney and Staff Travel	0	505	0	2,500	0
Computer Hardware	0	0	929	1,250	0
Computer Software	0	0	0	1,500	0
Total Operating Expenses	0	19,493	14,777	23,428	0
Furniture/Equipment	0	402	0	0	0
Total Expenses	3,762 \$	117,501 \$	103,873 \$	129,974 \$	0

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Other Activities and Miscellaneous					
Other Activities					
SBG President	12,379	47,455	14,622	57,469	48,849
SBG President Carryover	0	16,215	0	0	0
SBG President Elect	18,671	29,255	11,949	36,504	31,029
SBG President Elect Elect	766	697	0	3,500	2,000
SBG Treasurer	2,000	2,000	1,958	2,000	4,000
SBG Secretary	2,000	2,000	813	2,000	4,000
SBG Immed. Past Pres.	20,575	14,360	3,649	24,469	20,799
SBG Immed. Past Pres. Carryover	0	1,152	0	0	0
SBG Past Past President	243	3,499	0	3,500	2,000
Total Officer's Expenses	56,634	116,633	32,991	129,442	112,677
Miscellaneous					
BOG and Member Meetings	335,341	487,736	89,009	339,006	380,000
Supreme Court Meetings	64,417	42,645	33,553	84,000	45,000
Executive Committee Meetings	5,992	39,019	43,333	40,800	60,000
Court of Appeals Meetings	5,848	3,636	0	7,500	0
Southern Conference	0	374	50,360	50,000	0
Lawyer's Assistance Program	56,831	64,582	63,712	62,500	85,000
Sections	179,044	185,181	153,523	190,644	187,835
State Disciplinary Board Lawyers	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	20,000
Elections	45,515	34,683	25,193	39,685	39,685
Dues Notice	36,135	36,947	5,136	44,000	40,000
Letters of Good Standing	3,093	3,249	1,817	3,200	2,900
Bar Membership Cards	8,896	9,277	8,649	11,100	11,100
50 Year Certificates	1,502	1,677	2,076	2,750	2,000

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018	2018-2019	Year To Date	2019-2020	2020-2021
	Actual	Actual	April 30, 2020	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
Other Activities and Miscellaneous					
Fastcase	216,418	228,521	240,436	244,000	244,000
Membership Database Project	12,863	0	0	15,000	13,000
Website Redesign	201,335	0	0	0	0
Recruitment Costs	0	0	0	0	100,000
State Bar Committees	46,779	25,874	26,841	28,000	29,000
Strategic Plan	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0
Georgia Diversity Program	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conference Sponsorship	34,500	(185)	4,000	0	0
Incubator Contribution	85,000	0	0	0	0
ABA Delegate Breakfast	1,186	2,418	2,591	2,500	2,500
Cubicles Project	361,511	0	0	0	0
1st Floor Office Furniture Project	0	216,568	0	0	14,100
1st Floor Painting	0	49,000	0	0	0
Commitment to Equality Awards	0	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
Organization of Bar Investigators	0	6,486	0	0	0
Military/Veterans Pro Bono Asst	103,255	0	0	0	0
Resource Center Contribution	110,332	110,332	110,332	110,332	110,332
BASICS Program Contributed	140,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	37,500
Bond Premium Amortization	0	2,959	36,464	0	34,000
Investment Service Fees	0	0	39,281	0	36,000
Access to Justice/Pro Bono	0	0	10,000	10,000	0
Chief Justice Commission on Prof.	10,000	0	0	0	0
Total Miscellaneous	2,115,793	1,793,479	1,156,306	1,527,517	1,516,452
Pro Bono	212,216	212,216	176,847	212,216	212,216
Total Other Activities	2,384,643	2,122,329	1,366,144	1,869,175	1,841,345

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	<u>2017-2018 Actual</u>	<u>2018-2019 Actual</u>	<u>Year To Date April 30, 2020</u>	<u>2019-2020 Annual Budget</u>	<u>2020-2021 Annual Budget</u>
Other Activities and Miscellaneous					
Unallocated Services	<u>(60,156)</u>	<u>(155,077)</u>	<u>(103,861)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Grand Total	<u>13,106,634</u>	<u>13,276,196</u>	<u>10,183,655</u>	<u>13,466,284</u>	<u>12,809,340</u>

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Shared Office Overhead					
Telephone	68,105	74,788	62,786	75,000	75,000
Computer Software	0	1,396	4,227	3,900	4,100
Equipment Rental	58,431	64,943	43,158	67,000	65,000
Kitchen	22,928	21,489	15,833	23,460	23,000
Facilities Maintenance	16,783	28,776	12,250	28,000	34,000
Transfer to Bar Center	616,188	628,512	0	0	0
Payroll Service	20,843	22,897	13,186	24,000	16,000
Actuary-Pension Plan	0	0	0	2,000	0
Audit	24,668	25,438	23,726	24,000	26,000
Building and Other Insurance (Not Group)	114,720	111,645	92,434	130,000	113,000
Supplies and Printing	53,101	44,598	43,324	51,000	51,000
Subtotal	995,767	1,024,481	310,924	428,360	407,100
Other Services					
Accounting	297,649	403,236	337,815	411,284	440,410
Human Resources	161,428	185,997	166,253	200,756	200,795
Mailroom	78,206	73,650	64,075	77,316	78,538
Receptionist	145,379	136,928	116,419	163,914	152,817
Management Information System	0	0	471,774	603,716	570,631
Subtotal Other Services	682,662	799,811	1,156,336	1,456,986	1,443,191
Total Shared Office Overhead	1,678,429	1,824,292	1,467,260	1,885,346	1,850,291
Total Allocated Services	(1,738,585)	(1,979,371)	(1,571,122)	(1,885,346)	(1,850,291)
Unallocated Services	(60,156)	(155,079)	(103,862)	0	0

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-2019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Related Organizations - Shared Office Allocations					
Georgia Bar Foundation	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,917	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Continuing Legal Education	81,554	96,223	66,595	79,914	77,602
TILPP	32,622	38,490	39,956	47,948	46,560
Pro Bono	28,107	40,089	30,274	36,328	54,577
Professionalism	3,000	3,500	2,916	3,500	3,500
Sections	32,622	33,678	26,639	31,966	31,041
ICLE	212,040	303,103	253,061	303,673	318,166
Subtotal	392,945	518,583	422,358	506,829	534,946
State Bar Departments - Shared Office Allocations					
Administration	309,905	0	0	0	0
Memberships	0	84,196	66,595	79,914	77,602
Meetings	0	33,678	26,638	31,966	31,040
Executives	0	252,586	233,083	279,699	279,366
Management Information Sys	48,932	67,356	0	0	0
General Counsel	391,459	404,137	319,656	383,587	450,088
Client Assistance	81,554	84,196	66,595	79,914	0
Communications	65,243	67,356	66,595	79,914	62,081
Fee Arbitration	65,243	67,356	53,275	63,931	62,082
Law Practice Management	65,243	67,356	53,276	63,931	62,081
Savannah Office	16,311	16,840	13,319	15,983	15,520
Tifton Office	8,155	12,629	9,990	11,987	11,640
Younger Lawyers	32,622	33,678	26,638	31,966	31,041
Unauthorized Practice of Law	97,865	101,034	79,914	95,897	93,122
Law Related Education	48,932	50,517	39,957	47,948	46,561
High School Mock Trial	16,311	16,839	13,319	15,983	15,520
Military Legal Assistance Prog	0	16,839	13,319	15,983	0
Military Veterans Pro Bono	16,311	0	0	0	0
Conference Center	65,243	67,356	53,276	63,931	62,081
Legislative Program	16,311	16,839	13,319	15,983	15,520
Subtotal	1,345,640	1,460,788	1,148,764	1,378,517	1,315,345
Total Allocated Services	\$ 1,738,585	\$ 1,979,371	\$ 1,571,122	\$ 1,885,346	\$ 1,850,291

**2020-2021 State Bar of Georgia Budget
Percentage of Shared Office Overhead Expense**

2/3/2020														
Exec	Mtgs	Memb	MIS	OGC	CAP	COM	F.A.	LPM	TIF	SAV	YLD	HSMT	MLAP	UPL

19-20 Emp	17.5	2	5	0	24	5	4	4	0.75	1	2	1	1	6
%19-20 Emp.	14.08%	1.61%	4.02%	0.00%	19.32%	4.02%	3.22%	3.22%	0.60%	0.80%	1.61%	0.80%	0.80%	4.83%
%19-20 Emp.	15.18%	1.74%	4.34%	0.00%	20.82%	4.34%	3.47%	3.47%	0.65%	0.87%	1.74%	0.87%	0.87%	5.21%

20-21 Emp	18	2	5	0	29	4	4	4	0.75	1	2	1	0	6
%20-21 Emp.	14.49%	1.61%	4.02%	0.00%	23.34%	0.00%	3.22%	3.22%	0.60%	0.80%	1.61%	0.80%	0.00%	4.83%
%20-21 Emp.	15.62%	1.74%	4.34%	0.00%	25.16%	0.00%	3.47%	3.47%	0.65%	0.87%	1.74%	0.87%	0.00%	5.21%

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TILPP	CONF	LRE	LEG	CLE	SEC	ICLE	GBF	PB	PROF	Total	BAR
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3	4	3	1	5	2	19	3	3	3	124.3	115.3
2.41%	3.22%	2.41%	0.80%	4.02%	1.61%	15.29%	2.41%	2.41%	2.41%	100.0%	
2.60%	3.47%	2.60%	0.87%	4.34%	1.74%	16.49%				100.0%	

3	4	3	1	5	2	20.5	3	4	2	124.3	115.3
2.41%	3.22%	2.41%	0.80%	4.02%	1.61%	16.50%	2.41%	3.22%	1.61%	100.0%	
2.60%	3.47%	2.60%	0.87%	4.34%	1.74%	17.79%				100.0%	

Conference Center

State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 629	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Room Rentals	2,400	500	0	0	0
Set Up Fees	800	2,765	600	4,800	1,600
After Hours Fees	10,042	8,225	7,675	10,000	8,000
Beverage Service	3,039	1,895	2,057	1,400	3,000
Cleaning Fees	3,386	1,300	1,052	2,000	2,000
Audio Video Support	0	1,428	900	1,200	1,200
Total Revenues	20,296	16,113	12,284	19,400	15,800
Personnel Services					
Salaries	201,708	208,261	180,447	214,226	214,226
Overtime	10,049	8,553	8,397	11,500	11,500
Taxes and Benefits	71,423	72,592	64,817	82,191	93,055
Pension	12,761	12,974	11,430	13,717	13,614
Total Personnel Services	295,941	302,380	265,091	321,634	332,395
Operating Expenses					
Shared Office Allocation	65,243	67,356	53,276	63,931	62,081
Postage and Freight	10	0	0	0	0
Supplies	1,828	3,384	2,470	4,000	3,000
Subscriptions and Books	277	362	0	300	300
Seminars and Training	0	23	0	200	0
Miscellaneous	760	726	950	1,000	850
Conference Center Copier	3,296	2,301	0	1,000	1,500
Computer Hardware	455	5,003	929	1,000	0
Computer Software	0	63	0	100	100
After Hours Security	6,226	8,737	6,148	7,000	8,500
Room Turn Around Costs	3,325	3,118	1,320	8,000	2,000
Contract Programming	188	0	0	1,000	800
Equipment Maintenance	4,542	6,076	3,699	6,000	6,000
Furniture Repairs and Maintenance	8,499	9,837	7,365	8,500	9,000
Kitchen	12,949	8,557	6,793	13,000	10,000
Audio Video	10,200	11,050	11,397	10,200	10,000
Total Operating Expenses	117,798	126,593	94,347	125,231	114,131
Total Expenses	413,739	428,973	359,439	446,865	446,526

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Conference Center

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Furniture/Equipment	523	218	794	2,000	2,000
Net Income	\$ (393,965)	\$ (413,078)	\$ (347,949)	\$ (429,465)	\$ (432,726)

Other Bar Center Operations

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Interest Income	\$ 21,196	\$ 51,941	\$ 65,561	\$ 42,000	\$ 64,000
Gain/Loss on Investments	0	23,211	(15,670)	0	0
Bar Center Assessments	289,900	206,173	1,150	0	1,000
Transfer from Operations	616,188	628,512	0	0	0
CCLC Contributions to Bar Center	1,310,643	1,339,560	500,000	1,315,000	1,325,000
Conference Center Copier	1,088	737	505	1,000	850
Total Revenues	2,239,015	2,250,134	551,546	1,358,000	1,390,850
Operating Expenses					
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0	12,407	0	12,000
Investment Service Fees	0	0	9,224	0	12,000
Parking Deck Construction	13,350	0	2,510	20,000	0
Subbasement Build out	1,900	0	0	0	0
Conference Center Contingency	10,048	5,780	37	10,000	0
Conference Center Renovations	0	93,304	29,299	26,475	54,400
Museum and Woodrow Wilson Exhibit	0	0	0	2,500	0
Audio Video, Furniture and Equipment	107,654	71,666	0	2,000	16,000
Rehabilitation	268,496	84,504	93,738	100,000	0
Tenant Improvements	59,486	0	0	0	0
2nd Floor Build out	37,190	0	0	0	0
President's Boardroom	0	2,848	610	5,000	5,000
Total Operating Expenses	498,124	258,102	147,825	165,975	99,400
Total Expenses	498,124	258,102	147,825	165,975	99,400
Net Income	\$ 1,740,891	\$ 1,992,032	\$ 403,721	\$ 1,192,025	\$ 1,291,450

Rental

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Income Rental Operations	\$ 1,328,222	\$ 1,326,790	\$ 1,178,494	\$ 1,447,488	\$ 1,447,488
Storage Rental Operations	3,136	38,260	0	0	0
Total Revenues	1,331,358	1,365,050	1,178,494	1,447,488	1,447,488
Operating Expenses					
Personnel Management Salary	30,412	46,518	40,432	35,000	51,000
Administrative Taxes and Benefits	6,421	3,431	4,074	11,250	7,464
Travel	0	68	62	630	630
Supplies	100	78	588	1,500	1,500
Telephone Expense	1,221	1,116	1,002	1,200	1,200
Management Fees	54,835	56,480	48,336	56,895	56,895
Tenant Services	0	0	0	1,750	1,750
Bank Fees	1,228	1,276	1,183	1,380	1,380
R&M Salaries	167,011	157,763	139,505	202,000	167,000
R&M Taxes and Benefits	61,478	61,008	44,067	65,000	63,000
R&M HVAC	60,578	39,610	19,528	101,000	183,640
R&M Plumbing	3,087	20,411	16,962	32,800	11,600
R&M Fire/Life Prevention	1,457	3,700	2,162	7,000	7,000
R&M Electrical/Lamps	22,534	27,379	20,306	29,000	29,000
R&M Water Treatment	9,980	10,273	8,278	12,000	12,000
R&M Life Safety Contract	11,133	7,314	5,507	9,750	9,750
R&M Tools/Radios	2,938	3,009	3,009	3,000	3,000
R&M Elevators	25,445	27,127	25,461	26,000	26,000
R&M Pest Control	2,563	2,336	2,208	4,000	4,000
R&M Rubbish Removal	9,539	10,794	9,188	10,500	14,592
R&M Other: Locks and Keys	5,892	0	0	1,000	1,000
R&M Painting	233	7,120	0	8,000	8,000
R&M Other: General Building	2,731	5,222	7,306	5,500	3,340
R&M Lobby	0	0	0	500	500
Uniforms	1,519	1,438	53	2,300	2,300
Bad Debt	6,516	0	0	0	0
Electric	386,211	419,986	350,218	460,000	460,000
Water	58,832	58,168	49,774	60,000	60,000
Gas	24,102	21,460	17,181	25,000	25,000
Security Contract	244,651	257,874	212,925	270,000	328,289
Cleaning	174,731	188,695	176,104	190,000	204,000
Grounds Supplies and Maintenance	7,551	9,193	5,603	10,000	10,200
Insurance	44,750	44,374	40,783	50,400	50,400

Rental

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Total Operating Expenses	1,429,679	1,493,785	1,251,805	1,694,355	1,805,430
Total Expenses	1,429,679	1,493,785	1,251,805	1,694,355	1,805,430
Net Income	\$ (98,321)	\$ (128,735)	\$ (73,311)	\$ (246,867)	\$ (357,942)

Parking

**State Bar of Georgia
Budget Report
For the Bar Year 2020 - 2021**

	2017-2018 Actual	2018-20019 Actual	Year To Date April 30, 2020	2019-2020 Annual Budget	2020-2021 Annual Budget
Revenues					
Monthly Parking Operations	\$ 179,221	\$ 195,304	\$ 145,284	\$ 187,000	\$ 189,000
Daily Parking Operations	48,053	50,866	46,668	49,000	53,000
Special Events Parking Operations	125,849	165,436	100,789	125,000	135,000
Total Revenues	353,123	411,606	292,741	361,000	377,000
Operating Expenses					
Salaries	99,226	111,925	93,389	108,000	108,000
Payroll Taxes	12,161	12,225	9,806	11,750	11,750
Workers' Compensation	9,984	10,673	8,872	10,100	10,100
Medical Ins/Benefits	16,078	15,985	13,401	18,000	18,000
Signs	255	492	0	900	900
Uniforms	211	83	262	240	240
Repairs and Maintenance	18,108	30,440	12,911	23,000	23,000
Tickets	429	0	534	1,000	1,000
Cell Phone/Beeper	7,415	4,742	3,478	8,100	8,100
Office Expenses	8,635	6,833	5,120	8,000	8,000
Invoicing Expenses	4,176	3,420	2,850	4,400	4,400
Bank Charges	2,216	1,994	2,599	2,500	2,500
Credit Card Fees	3,465	3,431	1,817	4,000	4,000
Garage Insurance	3,802	6,170	5,232	6,200	6,200
Business License	1,428	650	671	2,400	2,400
Management Fee	4,200	4,200	3,500	4,200	4,200
Security	96,340	93,626	79,818	102,000	102,000
Payroll Processing	1,781	2,152	2,363	1,900	1,900
Equipment and Supplies	1,370	4,402	835	1,000	1,000
Cleaning	0	4,365	0	6,400	6,400
Fire Safety	119	315	0	500	500
Incentive Management Fees	2,560	4,869	2,038	2,600	2,600
Total Operating Expenses	293,959	318,992	249,496	327,190	327,190
Total Expenses	293,959	318,992	249,496	327,190	327,190
Net Income	\$ 59,164	\$ 92,613	\$ 43,246	\$ 33,810	\$ 49,810

MOTION

1. That the President be authorized to secure a blanket fidelity bond to cover all officers, employees and other persons handling State Bar funds as is required by Article V, Section 8 of the Bylaws.
2. That the State Bar of Georgia and related entities open appropriate accounts with such banks in Georgia, but excluding any bank that does not participate in the IOLTA Program, and other such depositories as may be recommended by the Finance Committee and/or Investment Committee, and designated by the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia, and that the persons whose titles are listed below are authorized to sign an agreement to be provided by such banks and customary signature cards, and that the said banks are hereby authorized to pay or otherwise honor any check drafts, or other orders issued from time to time for debit to said accounts when signed by two of the following: the Treasurer, the President, the Immediate Past President, the Executive Director, the Office Manager and the General Counsel, provided either the President or the Treasurer shall sign all checks or vouchers and that said accounts can be reconciled from time to time by said persons or their designees. The authority herein given is to remain irrevocable so as said banks are concerned until they are notified in writing of such revocation of authority and in writing, acknowledge receipt thereof.
3. That Mauldin & Jenkins be designated as the independent auditing firm to audit the financial records of the State Bar of Georgia for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

D-R-A-F-T
STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, January 11, 2020/9:00 a.m.
The Fox Theatre/Atlanta, GA

The 281st meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Darrell Sutton, President, presided.

Special Recognition

Sutton recognized the members of the judiciary, the past presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance. Sutton also recognized two new Board of Governors members, C. Lee Davis (Cobb Circuit Post 3) and the Honorable Kathryn Powers (Clayton Circuit Post 1).

Roll Call

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

Future Meetings Schedule

Sutton reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

18th Annual Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award

The Bench and Bar Committee's Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award honors one lawyer and one judge who have and continue to demonstrate the highest professionalism conduct and paramount reputation for professionalism. The recipients of the 18th Annual Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award were the Hon. Harris P. Hines and Christopher A. Townley.

Sutton reported that since Chris Townley was unable to attend the Midyear Meeting due to health issues, he and Executive Director Jeff Davis presented the award to Chris on January 8 at his home. Thereafter, Sutton presented the 18th Annual Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award for the Honorable Harris Hines posthumously to his wife, Helen Hines.

Distinguished Service Award

Immediate Past President and Court of Appeals Judge Ken Hodges presented the Honorable Herbert A. Phipps with the Distinguished Service Award. This is the highest accolade bestowed by the State Bar of Georgia for conspicuous service to the cause of jurisprudence and to the advancement of the legal profession in the state of Georgia.

Midyear Members' Meeting

Sutton called to order the Midyear Members' Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia. Pursuant to Article II, Section 4 of the State Bar Bylaws, at least fifty active members were present at the meeting, thereby constituting a quorum.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Following a report by Sutton, the Board of Governors approved the following proposed Bylaws changes (Exhibit B) by unanimous voice vote:

- 1) Bylaw Article I Members, Section 10. Member Unable to Practice Law due to a Disability
- 2) Bylaw Article I Members, Section 3. Inactive Member Status
- 3) Bylaw Article VIII Committees—Generally—Section 1. Standing Committees and Section 2. Special Committee

Board of Governors Meeting Convened

Following a motion, second and unanimous voice vote, Sutton adjourned the Members Meeting and reconvened the Board of Governors Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia.

Proposed Rules Changes

Following a report by Sutton, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia the following proposed Rules changes (Exhibit C):

- 1) Rule 10.104. Board of Trustees
- 2) Rule 1-202. Membership Status

Amendments to Standing Board Policy 100

Following a report by Sutton, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved proposed amendments to Standing Board Policy 100 (Exhibit D).

Minutes of the 280th Meeting of the Board of Governors

Secretary Akins presented the minutes of the Board of Governors meetings held October 19, 2019, at the DeSoto Hilton in Savannah, Georgia. The Board of Governors approved the minutes by unanimous voice vote.

Programs Assessment

Sutton recapped the basis for the assessment of Bar programs, including Bar leadership's desire to implement and follow a process that ensures any future dues increases are only what are absolutely necessary. This process required an objective review of the Bar's programs, and the Programs Committee undertook that effort.

The Board of Governors was then directed to the following information related to members' inquiries: 1) BASICS Budget Information, 2) Georgia Resource Center Funding Sources, 3) Dues History, and 4) Executive Summary & Attachments. Sutton then reviewed the Cash Activity Projections, License Fee and Assessments notices, the Definition of Ratings used by the Programs Committee, the State Bar of Georgia Programs and Related Entities Chart, and the original programs recommendations considered by the Board of Governors. Following this, Sutton reported about the status of each recommendation.

First, he reported that the recommendation to eliminate funding for The Resource Center had been eliminated, and the Board took no further action about this recommendation.

Second, Sutton reported that the recommendation to sunset the MLAP was rendered moot by GLSP's agreement to fund the program in conjunction with MLAP becoming a subset of the Bar's Pro Bono Project.

Third, Sutton reported that discussions between Bar leadership and the BASICS program's leadership have resulted in an agreement that would eliminate the need for any action on the recommendation to the Board to eliminate the funding of the BASICS program. Under that agreement, BASICS will seek funding from the Georgia Bar Foundation (GBF) in July 2020. The Bar will meanwhile allocate up to one quarter's funding (\$37,500) for the program as part of the Bar's 2020-21 fiscal year budget, to be used by BASICS if and to the extent there is a delay in receipt of funding from GBF, a shortfall in funding received from GBF, or if funding is refused by GBF. Also, the approximately \$70,000 in restricted funds housed at the Bar but belonging to BASICS will be available to BASICS once it is no longer being funded by the Bar, for use in funding any shortfall, gap or wind-down that may be necessary and that exceeds the \$37,500 provided by the Bar. No member of the Board of Governors voiced an objection to this agreement. Sutton thanked Michael Terry and Seth Kirschenbaum for their leadership and work reaching this agreement.

Sutton reported that this left for Board action only the recommendation to eliminate Bar funding for iCivics. The Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved a motion eliminating the funding for the iCivics program.

Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) Board Appointments

The Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved the appointments of Matthew Howell and Meghan Magruder to the GLSP Board of Trustees to fill two unexpired terms through June 2020.

Nominations of ABA Delegates

The Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, nominated the following attorneys for two-year terms to the Georgia ABA Delegate Posts indicated. These positions are open to Georgia lawyers who are members of the ABA, and anyone else interested in running for any of the three posts can do so by filing a petition as outlined in Article VII, Section 1 of the Bylaws.

<u>Post</u>	<u>Delegate</u>
1	Robert Rothman
3	C. Elisia Frazier
7	Gerald Edenfield

Nominations of State Bar Officers

The Board of Governors received the following nominations for State Bar officers for the 2020-2021 Bar year. There being no others, the Board of Governors unanimously declared the nominations closed.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
Secretary	Hon. Dax Eric Lopez Patrick T. O'Connor (Seconding)	J. Antonio DelCampo
Treasurer	Ivy N. Cadle Nicole C. Leet (Seconding)	Sarah (Sally) Brown Akins
President-elect	Carl R. Varnedoe Amanda R. Clark-Palmer (Seconding)	Elizabeth L. Fite

Advisory Committee on Legislation (ACL)

ACL chair Amy Howell reported on the activities of the ACL. She gave a special thanks to Senators (and Board members) Jen Jordan and John Kennedy, and House Judiciary Chair Barry Fleming, who participated in the legislative panel held a day earlier. Amy also thanked Director of Governmental Affairs Christine Butcher Hayes and the Bar's legislative consultants, Rusty Sewell, Mark Middleton, and Roy Robinson, for their work and support. Thereafter, the Board of Governors took action on the following proposed legislation.

<u>Legislative Proposal</u>	<u>Germane to Purposes of the Bar</u>	<u>Support on Merits 2/3 Majority</u>
Judicial Council of Georgia 1) \$800,000 FY 2020-21 Budget Request for The Resource Center	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by unanimous voice vote

Real Property Law Section

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Support for Remote Online Notary Legislation (so long as it has the necessary fraud protections and a carve out for trusts and estates) | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Legislative Update

Director of Governmental Affairs Hayes reported that the General Assembly will convene Monday, January 13, and also thanked the legislators who participated in the prior day's legislative panel. Hayes reported that budget discussions will comprise a large part of the General Assembly's work this year, as will talks about legalizing sports game betting and the state takeover of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. She indicated the Bar will be keeping an eye on any bills that may result from a recent study on the impact of tort reform, and the potential creation of nine new judgeships. Lastly, she told everyone to watch for legislative updates via the Bar's website, and to contact her or the Bar's legislative consultants as needed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Elizabeth Fite reported on the Bar's finances and investments.

She reviewed the timeline for setting the 2020-21 dues and budget. The Executive Committee will receive a recommendation from the Finance Committee on the dues level, and the dues level will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval at the Spring Board meeting. The Executive Committee will also receive a recommendation from the Finance Committee on the budget, and the budget will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval at the Annual Meeting.

She stated that since ICLE's October financials were not complete, they were not included with the agenda for this meeting, but will be included with the agenda for the Spring Board of Governors meeting. Elizabeth also reported that we are currently working on solutions regarding the Clients' Security Fund, whose balance is now less than \$1 million. Lastly, Elizabeth encouraged Board members to educate their constituencies about the importance of giving to the Bar's legislative fund.

The Board of Governors received the combined Operations and Bar Center Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures Report as of October 31, 2019; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Summary as of October 31, 2019; Income Statement YTD-Operations as of October 31, 2019; Status and Use of Cash Investments as of October 31, 2019; Board-Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted Net Assets as of October 31, 2019; Summary of Members and Voluntary Legislative Contributions Paid through October 31, 2019; Summary of Members and Voluntary Contributions to GLSP Paid through October

31, 2019; Legislative Activity Report from July 1, 2018 through October 31, 2019; and Clients' Security Fund Activity Summary as of October 31, 2019.

Young Lawyers Division (YLD)

YLD President Will Davis reported on the activities of the YLD. The YLD continues to be active statewide and meetings continue to attract first-time attendees.

Will announced that the HSMT regional competition will take place February 1, 2020, and the finals March 21-22, 2020. Will indicated both competitions need volunteers.

Will also reported that the 2020 Leadership Academy kicked-off its first session a day earlier. Session 2 will take place at the YLD Legislative Affairs Committee's 32nd Annual Capital Leadership Luncheon February 4, 2020. Session 5 will be held in conjunction with the 11th Circuit Judicial Conference May 9, 2020, where Academy participants can be sworn in to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Will further reported that the 14th annual Signature Fundraiser will benefit GLSP and be held March 21, 2020. Following just a month after this will be the YLD Spring Meeting, which will be held in Athens April 24-26, 2020.

Lastly, Will recognized the YLD Women in the Profession Committee, co-chaired by Samantha Dorsey and Jena Emory, for its outstanding work.

The Board of Governors also received a written report on the activities of the YLD.

Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP)

LAP Committee chair Lynn Garson reported on the committee's activities.

Lynn reported that LAP confidentially assists Bar members with all forms of substance abuse and mental health issues, including depression, anxiety and stress. There has been an increase in usage of the counseling services promoted by LAP due in part to the #UseYour6 promotion and other outreach by LAP and the Wellness committee. LAP also has created a peer-to-peer volunteer program called Lawyers Helping Lawyers (LHL). It is an online matching system for attorneys seeking peer support.

Lynn further reported that with Court of Appeals Judge Ken Hodges assistance, Court of Appeals judges will speak about LAP/LHL for a few minutes when making presentations to bar-related organizations and other legal entities. LAP is encouraging ICJE to do the same at its judicial seminars.

Lynn urged Board members outside the metro area to encourage their colleagues to become engaged with LAP.

Lastly, Lynn reported on the ABA's Well-Being Pledge & Campaign, which is a pledge campaign to improve mental health and well-being of lawyers. Many large law firms have already pledged to support the initiative and adopt its framework.

Senior Lawyers Committee

Senior Lawyers Committee chair Bill Gentry reported about the committee's activities. The committee's purpose is to develop resources for attorneys and educational programs about cognitive impairment, financial planning, and law practice succession, and to assist the Office of General Counsel. Bill reported that the committee helped bring about the designation of a successor attorney on the dues statement, and members' response to that has been very good. Ongoing committee projects include the creation of a retired member status to help those attorneys experiencing cognitive issues make a dignified exit from the practice, and working on a web portal where attorneys can obtain resources to use preparing their succession plan and designated attorneys can find information about how to manage the transition of another lawyer's practice.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (CJCP)

CJCP executive director Karlise Grier reported about the upcoming Suicide Awareness Program April 28, 2020, at the State Bar Conference Center. Sally Yates will moderate the event and confirmed speakers include State Bar Past President Robin Frazer Clark and Executive Committee Member R. Javoyne Hicks, Dr. Ben Hunter, Eric Lang, and Judge Bill Reinhardt. The program will also be livestreamed.

Karlise also announced that the 21st Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service will be held March 14, 2020 at the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center.

Office of General Counsel

The Board of Governors received a written report from the Office of the General Counsel.

Communications Media Report

The Board of Governors received a written media report from the Communications Department.

Professional Liability Insurance (PLI) Committee Report

The Board of Governors received a written media report from the Professional Liability Insurance Committee.

Law Practice Management Program

The Board of Governors received a written report from the Law Practice Management Program.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

The Board of Governors received a written report from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

Military Legal Assistance Program

The Board of Governors received a written report from the Military Legal Assistance Program.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Ira Foster announced that Justice Robert Benham is the guest speaker at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast Saturday morning, January 18, 2020, at the First Baptist Church in Warner Robins.

Remarks/Q&A/Comments/Suggestions

Sutton opened the floor to remarks, questions, comments and suggestions.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11: 25 a.m.

Sarah (Sally) B. Akins

Darrell L. Sutton, President

D-R-A-F-T
STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, April 3, 2020/9:30 a.m.
(Via Zoom Webinar)

The 282nd meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and time and in the format shown. Darrell Sutton, President, presided.

Welcome and Call to Order

Sutton called the meeting to order. He asked for a moment of silence for those who have lost their lives during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presidents Report

Sutton reported that we are meeting today amidst what, for most of us, is uncertainty, worry, fear, anxiety, and grief – all unlike any we have ever before experienced. Our world as we know it has been shuttered – in many cases literally - and even though so many of us and those we know and love have already lost so much, matters are made worse because we know that so much more loss is likely to come. He stated that for so many of us, we will look back upon this time as the most difficult of our lives.

In the face of this difficulty it is a struggle to find hope, but since March 12th he has time and again seen strength; time and again witnessed support and care for others demonstrated; time and again observed concern for one another. This is where hope can be found.

Hope can be found in the dedication of those like MIS Director Lamont Burwell. On March 12 we made the difficult decision to close the Bar Center in Atlanta and the Bar's satellite offices in Savannah and Tifton. Since then that closure has been extended to April 7 and will now be extended to April 30th. In the process, the more than 100 staff members – like so many of you and so very many others – in an instant were required to work remotely even though the Bar did not necessarily have in place the infrastructure needed for them to do so. Through Lamont's tireless effort, as of Monday March 30 nearly two-thirds of the Bar's staff had the server access, hardware and other infrastructure necessary for them to function remotely just as they would if in the office, and 100% of Bar staff have access to their Bar email accounts.

Hope can be found in the random acts of kindness demonstrated by Georgia's lawyers. Despite the closure of the Bar Center, the Bar's security staff have remained on-site 24 hours per day. The security staff are familiar to many of us, being the first faces we see each time we enter the Bar Center building. Perhaps because of this, Bar members have shown concern for them, too. This includes Bar member Nancy Prager, who has arranged to have pizza delivered to the security guards each Wednesday since the Bar Center's closure was announced.

Hope can be found in the concern about the ability of Georgia's lawyers to continue working. For the past three weeks, Director of Government Affairs Christine Butcher Hayes and our legislative program team have worked every day to secure the various orders needed for Georgia's lawyers to continue operating their practices. An order permitting remote real estate closings and remote notarization and witnessing in the context of real estate transactions is one example. An order that permits lawyers and law firms to continue operating during a statewide shelter-in-place, is another example. Even now, as she attends this meeting, Christine and the legislative program team are hard at work to devise solutions that will satisfy member requests for orders permitting remote notarization and witnessing of a broad array of legal documents.

Hope can be found in the desire of Georgia lawyers to help others. The pandemic and its fallout have impacted us all, but in particular the less fortunate in our state and country. Those in need of civil legal services; those facing food insecurity; those needing a donation of blood. Georgia's lawyers are helping fulfill those needs.

Last week a task force among the State Bar, the Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS) and the Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) was formed to address issues related to the delivery of civil legal services for the poor that have arisen and continue to arise as a result of this pandemic. The Bar's role in this task force will be fulfilled by a special committee created last week and being chaired by Board member Paul Painter, III that will provide support to ALAS and GLSP as they continue to fulfill their missions under these trying circumstances. Under Paul's leadership, the committee will also identify other issues arising as a result of the pandemic affecting both the legal system and the legal profession, develop solutions to them, and then work with Bar leadership and other appropriate entities to implement those solutions.

Under the leadership of YLD President Will Davis, the YLD Signature Fundraiser raised more than \$20,000 for GLSP despite the fact that the event was cancelled as a result of the pandemic. Will and the YLD have converted their Build a Better Georgia Day, originally devoted to Habitat for Humanity builds, into a day of blood donation drives in conjunction with local Red Cross offices across the state. The YLD is using their annual partnership with the state's community food banks through the Legal Food Frenzy to ensure that every Georgian, especially Georgia's children, have access to food as the pandemic continues. The Legal Food Frenzy will take place between April 20 and May 1, raising funds and food so that Georgia's eight community food banks can continue, among other things, providing free breakfast and lunch to children who rely on free or reduced-priced school meals, which they no longer have access to.

It is in this hope we will find the strength to endure what lies ahead. In our community and collective support of each other this is how we will ensure our resurgence

Proposed Rules Changes

Following a report by Sutton, the Board of Governors took the following action by poll votes on these proposed Rules changes:

<u>Proposed Rules Changes</u>	<u>Action</u>
Rule 1-202. Classes of Members	Approved by majority poll vote (Exhibit B)
Rule 4-202. Receipt of Grievances: Initial Review by Bar Counsel	Approved as a block by majority poll vote (Exhibit C)
Rule 4-204. Investigation and Disposition by State Disciplinary Board-Generally	
Rule 4-221. Confidentiality of Investigations and Proceedings	
Rule 4-222. Limitations	
Rule 4-228. Receiverships	A motion to approve was withdrawn so the rule can be amended to provide for a bonding requirement
Rule 1.2 Scope of Representation and Allocation of Authority Between Client and Lawyer	Approved, as revised, by majority poll vote (Exhibit D)

Standing Executive Committee Policy 1000 (informational)

Sutton reported that this establishes a policy about emails for Executive Committee and Officer elections. The Bar will send one email to the Board of Governors on behalf of candidates for Officer positions in advance of the Midyear Meeting and the same on behalf of candidates for Executive Committee in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Proposed Standing Board Policy Regarding Nominations (informational)

This proposed policy was reserved for discussion at a later meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Financial information as of December 31, 2019, was provided in the Board book. Treasurer Elizabeth Fite also notified the Board that Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner implemented a paperless system to sign checks and a new GL software this year, which has enabled the Bar to electronically process checks. An unintended benefit to this has been the Bar's ability to continue operating while ensuring the safety of staff and the Officers. Fite thanked Turner and his team for their foresight.

Fite then reminded the Board of Governors that the dues amount and other items that will appear on the dues statement will be decided at this meeting. Based upon the dues amount set today, the Finance Committee, chaired by Patrise Perkins-Hooker, along with senior bar staff, will develop a budget for the 2020-2021 Bar year.

Fite also reminded Board members that a revised Board agenda was provided the night before the meeting with items for consideration that differ from those originally reflected in the Board book. This is so because the Executive Committee modified its recommendations in order to balance the unprecedented territory in which we find ourselves with our obligations to act as responsible stewards of the Bar's finances. Fite reported that the Executive Committee is able to make these recommendations in light of the work that was performed over the past year to address issues we have discussed throughout the year regarding the Bar's finances. Those recommendations are:

- 1) Maintaining Bar dues at their current level of \$254 active and \$127 inactive.
- 2) Not imposing the CSF assessment for fiscal year 2020-2021.
- 3) Section dues ranging from \$10 - \$40 (as determined by the Sections).
- 4) Professionalism fee of \$11 (down from \$15 for fiscal year 2019-2020).
- 5) Contributions to the Legislative and Public Education Fund (\$100 optional contribution).
- 6) Contributions to the Georgia Legal Services Program (\$350 suggested individual contribution/\$100 suggested contribution for YLD).

Fite reminded the Board that at the Annual Meeting, the Board of Governors received information previewing the likely need for a dues increase during fiscal year 2020-2021. While conducting operations at a loss for reasons we have repeatedly reported, we knew the time of budgeting in the negative was coming to an end. We highlighted that our unallocated cash (those funds not attributed to any section, program, or bar designated reserve/fund) only covered a month or two of Bar operations, and Bar Center operations (parking deck, conference space, tenants) significantly subsidized our Bar operations, thereby keeping our dues artificially low.

In order to avoid this dues increase without doing what we could to cut expenses, the Bar undertook a programs assessment, which was discussed at length at the Fall Meeting. Simultaneously, senior bar staff reviewed internal operations and trimmed expenses. The Programs Committee's recommendations resulted in some programs finding new homes and others securing new sources of funding, which was discussed at the Midyear Meeting. These changes resulted in cost savings for the Bar. Gone are the days

that we expect to hit 92%-93% of our budgeted expenses. Instead, 95%-96%, even 97% is now the Bar's intention (at least it was pre-pandemic).

We also introduced a new financial form at the Midyear Meeting detailing the balance of the Clients' Security Fund (CSF) and advised that it had dipped below the \$1 million threshold, which triggers an automatic assessment of all members in an amount up to \$25, and that we were investigating a way to address that funding issue.

Fite then reported that the Finance Committee met in early February and recommended a \$6 per active member dues increase, concluding that while this amount would not balance the budget, it would avoid digging a deeper hole, so to speak. The Executive Committee met at the end of February and recommended a \$12 per active member dues increase. In addition to other factors, the Executive Committee was cognizant that the Governor's budget cuts impacted some of our tenants and created uncertainty at the time about whether all would remain, and meanwhile the Bar Center assessment had been eliminated. This left the Executive Committee even more convinced that it was imperative for Bar operations to operate in the black. And after considering the various elimination of expenses achieved over fiscal year 2019-2020, \$12 per active member was the amount that would balance the Bar operations budget.

Similarly, the Executive Committee received recommendations from the CSF trustees and recommended imposing a \$15 per member assessment to infuse capital into the fund. The amount resulting from this assessment would provide the trustees not only the ability to pay claims, but help avoid dipping below the assessment threshold in the future.

While the Executive Committee was prepared to recommend a \$12 per active member dues increase and a \$15 assessment for all members, things changed in the meantime. The Executive Committee met twice this week and decided that considering the financial uncertainty our members are facing, those recommendations are not in the best interests of the Bar and its membership. The Executive Committee instead concluded that a \$6 per active member dues increase would better align with our responsibilities as stewards of the Bar. While this amount would by no means balance the budget, it would ensure the soundness of the Bar's finances. The Executive Committee also resolved to go back to the drawing board to identify temporary funding assistance for the CSF.

Following a flurry of phone calls, some innovative quick-thinking and collaboration, the Bar was able to obtain two once-in-a-lifetime grants from the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency (CCLC) as follows:

- 1) One grant for up to \$300,000, which would cover the proposed \$6 per active member dues increase, thereby allowing the Bar to keep dues at the same for fiscal year 2020-2021 as it was for fiscal year 2019-2020, and
- 2) Another grant to the CSF sufficient to bring the fund above the \$1 million threshold, thereby avoiding a per-member assessment.

The Executive Committee voted to accept these grants, which resulted in the modified recommendations being presented today. Fite expressed her personal gratitude to the members of the CCLC and the Supreme Court of Georgia for providing these extraordinary measures in extraordinary times.

Fite asked the Board to recall that without these grants, the Board would have received a recommendation to increase dues by approximately \$6 (or \$12), and that while the current dues recommendation is \$254, we are operating as if our dues are now approximately \$260. Fite also reported that this will make the

budget process more challenging this year. Predictions about investment income are difficult to assess; potential losses expected from lack of use of the Bar Center and parking deck loom; and the impact of quarantines on our ability to meet in person will impact our budget. Also, we have realized savings on the cancellation of the Spring meeting, savings from staff and officer travel, and the like.

Dues 2020-2021

The Board of Governors, by majority poll vote, approved Active Dues at \$254 (no increase from fiscal year 2019-2020) and Inactive Dues at \$127 for fiscal year 2020-2021.

Approval of Other Dues Items

The Board of Governors, by majority poll vote, approved the following other due items:

- 1) Clients' Security Fund (\$100 @ \$25/year for new members per Bar Rule 1-506).
- 2) Professionalism Fee (\$11/year, which is \$4 reduction from fiscal year 2019-2020).
- 3) Legislative and Public Education Fund Contribution (\$100 optional contribution).
- 4) Georgia Legal Services Program (\$350 suggested individual contribution/\$100 suggested contribution for young lawyers).
- 5) Section Dues (\$10 to \$40).

State Bar Liability Insurance Renewal

Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith reported that every year when the Bar is renewing its liability insurance policy, we have to ask the Board of Governors if anyone has any knowledge of an act, error, or omission which might reasonably be expected to rise to a coverable liability claim or action. Thereafter, a poll was taken and the results given to Bill.

Remarks/Q&A/Comments/Suggestions

Sutton responded to questions posed by the Board members.

Closing Remarks

Sutton said that in this difficult time he has hope. He misses the interaction with Bar staff, but found hope in talking with them every day. They are incredible and he hopes the Board of Governors members take time to thank them, too.

Sutton also reported that Jeff Davis and Sharon Bryant have postponed their departure dates to the end of calendar year. He indicated that the Bar is nevertheless continuing to work on the search for their replacements and are dedicated to finding those. Sutton said he is working closely with President-elect Dawn Jones and the Officers so that this can be done to their satisfaction.

He thanked the Board members for taking time out of their day and hopes this meeting has given them hope, too.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Sarah (Sally) B. Akins

Darrell L. Sutton, President

**State Bar of Georgia
2021 Election Schedule**

2020

- August Deadline for submission of election schedule for publication in October issue
Georgia Bar Journal
- October Official Election Notice, October Issue *Georgia Bar Journal*
- December 2 Nominating petition package mailed to incumbent Board of Governors
Members and other members who request a package

2021

- January 7-9 Nomination of Officers at Midyear Board Meeting, Georgia State University
College of Law and The Candler Hotel, Atlanta GA
- January 22 Deadline for receipt of nominating petitions for incumbent Board Members
including incumbent nonresident (out of state) members
- Feb 19 Deadline for receipt of nominating petitions for new Board Members
including new nonresident (out of state) members
- March 5 Deadline for write-in candidates for Officer to file a written statement (not less
than 10 days prior to mailing of ballots (Article VII, Section 1 (c))
- March 5 Deadline for write-in candidates for Board of Governors to file a written
statement (not less than 10 days prior to mailing of ballots (Article VII, Section
2 (c))
- March 22 Ballots mailed
- April 23 11:59 p.m. Deadline for ballots to be cast in order to be valid
- April 30 Election service submits results to the Elections Committee
- May 7 Election results reported and made available

In Memoriam

Since the 2019 Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia, 156 members have passed away. At this time, we pause to pay tribute to them. As we reflect upon the memory of these members, we are mindful of the contributions they made to the Bar in our state. Each generation of lawyers is indebted to the one that precedes it. Each of us is the recipient of the benefits of the learning, dedication, zeal and standard of professional responsibility that those who have gone before us have contributed to the practice of law. We are saddened that they are no longer in our midst, but privileged to have known them and to have shared their friendship over the years.

Jack B. Albanese
Demetrice J. Allen
David S. Baker
A. Quillian Baldwin Jr.
W. D. Ballard
Charles T. Ballard
Rupert M. Barkoff
Philip Crum Barnes
Emory B. Bazemore
Rebecca Gilmer Benefield
Margo M. Bentley
Fred D. Bentley Sr.
Robert J. Berghel
Harry Bexley
Barry E. Billington
Francis M. Bird Jr.
James B. Blackburn
Fred Bright Jr.
Benjamin P. Brinson
William M. Butsch
James N. Butterworth
Elizabeth C. Calhoun
Elaine Lynn Carlisle
Price Hugh Carroll
Roosevelt Carter II
John Dudley Cartledge
Fred S. Clark
Nelson C. Coffin
Daniel McGrayne Conaway
George H. Connell Jr.
Sheila Ann Connors

Andre Coure
Zachary Robert Bruce Croft
Rowena Anastania Daniels
Mark A. Deininger
Cecil B. Delorme
Gordon Lee Dickens Jr.
Tom A. Edenfield
Timothy Lee Eidson
Robert A. Elsner
Elizabeth N. Feagin
Douglas J. Flanagan
John Fleming
Francis N. Ford
David H. Fritts
Ira Genberg
Jan R. Gilbert
Marc H. Glick
Stephen S. Goss
John A. Gram
Thomas E. Greer
Harry L. Griffin Jr.
David Jonathan Grindle
Justin Troy Hall
Paula Kosky Hamann
John S. Harrison
Riccarda N. Heising
Douglas L. Henry
Martha Henson
Steven Irwin Holm
Cynthia Lynne Horton
George Housen

Kathleen Marie Hurley
Sam Powel Inglesby Jr.
G. Conley Ingram
Lou Ella B. Jenkins
William D. Jennings III
Amy Leigh Jett
Leroy R. Johnson
John L. Kimmey III
Linda Carter King
Lawrence P. Klamon
W. Donald Knight Jr.
Frederick Peter Kross III
T. Harold Lambert
Jackson Allen Lancaster
Charles W. Lane
Joshua Scott Lane
John S. Langford Jr.
John K. Larkins Jr.
N. Kent Lawrence
Edwin R. Lee
Thomas Marvin Little
Joseph E. Loggins
Daryll Love
Steven W. Ludwick
Thomas William Malone
Philip John Marzetti
Malcolm G. McCarn
Sam J. McFadyen Jr.
Max R. McGlamry
Rajesh Mehta
John M. Melvin
Jocelyn Marie Moore
Milton M. Moore Jr.
Thomas R. Moran
Handsel G. Morgan
Nicholas William Morrison-Buhr
Matthew M. Myers
Max Olim
Michael A. Pannier
Donald J. Parrott Sr.
Alan R. Peters
N. William Pettys Jr.
Bobby Joe Phillips
Evan Harris Pontz
Alfred J. Powell Jr.
Emily Pate Powell
Jeffrey Stanton Purvis

Albert N. Remler
Lindsay C. Roach
Sheri Capes Roberts
John Alfred Roberts
Fred G. Robertson
Hugh Robinson
William L. Ronning
Frank P. Samford III
Anderson Butler Scott
Christina Andretta Scott
Jeanette S. Scott
Lorraine Ruth Silvo
Charles W. Smegal
William P. Smith III
Lisa Jean Sowers
Barry L. Steinberg
Donald H. Stephens
Nancy S. Stephenson
Carl J. Stimmel
Edward E. Strain III
Donald Eugene Strickland
Charles Dempsey Strickland
Robert Walton Sudlow Jr.
Carl H. Swickerath
Clinton William Tate
Bernard R. Thomas Sr.
Tyrone Thomas
Kara Lynn Thompson
Christopher A. Townley
Christine A. Van Dross
Paul E. Von Nessen
Thomas Ray Blaco Wardell
William Byrd Warlick
Clifton Bruce Welch
Sidney F. Wheeler
E. Mullins Whisnant
Francis Earl Wiggers Jr.
John W. Wilcox Jr.
Donald E. Wilkes Jr.
Donald N. Wilson
John G. Wolinski
Alexander P. Woollcott
K. Martin Worthy
Donald E. Wright
Lawrence Douglas Young
William C. Youngquist
Glenn Zell

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, April 2, 2020/3:00 p.m.
Conference Call**

Members Participating:

Darrell L. Sutton, President; Dawn M. Jones, President-elect; Elizabeth Louise Fite, Treasurer; Sally B. Akins, Secretary; Kenneth B. Hodges, III, Immediate Past President; William T. Davis, YLD President; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD President-elect; Rizza O'Connor, YLD Immediate Past President; Ivy N. Cadle; Tony DelCampo; R. Javoyne Hicks; Amy V. Howell; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughan.

Staff Participating:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Sarah Coole, Director of Communications; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Christine Butcher Hayes, Director of Governmental Affairs; Bill NeSmith, Deputy General Counsel; and Ron Turner, Chief Financial Officer.

Call to Order

President Darrell Sutton called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

President's Report

Sutton reported that at its February meeting, the Executive Committee approved recommending to the Board of Governors 1) a license fee increase to \$266 for active members and \$133 for inactive members, and 2) a \$15 per member assessment for the Clients' Security Fund (CSF), both effective the 2020-2021 Bar year. Because of circumstances that have developed in the meantime due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and after several discussions with Bar members, Sutton suggested it is inappropriate to proceed with these recommendations.

Sutton further reported that Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner ran calculations to determine the additional dues amount needed per member in order for the Bar to operate next year without encountering perilous financial circumstances. Turner determined this will require a license fee increase of between \$4-\$6 per active member.

Following discussions with various stakeholders, it was suggested the Bar seek a grant from the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency Lawyer (CCLC) to both cover the amount that would be generated from a license fee increase of this amount, as well as to replenish the short fall in the CSF so as not to activate an automatic per member assessment. Sutton further reported that the Supreme Court of Georgia endorsed this, after which the CCLC Board approved both grant requests.

2020-2021 License Fee Recommendations to the Board of Governors and Other Dues Items

Considering this, Sutton suggested the Executive Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that license fees for fiscal year 2020-2021 remain at the same amount as fiscal year 2019-2020 and that there be no per member CSF assessment during fiscal year 2020-2021. A motion that the Executive Committee rescind its previous recommendation to the Board of Governors in favor of a recommendation that the Board of Governors set license fees for the 2020-2021 Bar year at \$254 for active members and \$127 for inactive members, and not institute the \$15 per member CSF assessment, was approved by unanimous voice vote.

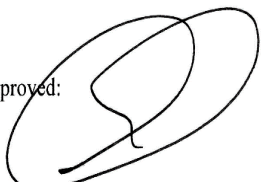
Turner then reported that beginning fiscal year 2020-2021, the Bar intended to charge members a convenience fee of \$3 per credit card transaction. He suggested that considering current circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Committee should authorize a suspension of this procedure, even though it is a \$90,000-\$95,000 expense for the Bar. Following a discussion by the Executive Committee, a majority of the Executive Committee endorsed suspending implementation of the convenience fee during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

New Business


YLD President Will Davis thanked everyone who contributed to the Signature Fundraiser. Even though the event had to be cancelled, the YLD raised more than \$20,000 for the Georgia Legal Services Program

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved: 

Darrell L. Sutton, President



Sarah B. (Sally) Akins, Secretary

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, April 20, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Call**

Members Participating:

Darrell L. Sutton, President; Dawn M. Jones, President-elect; Elizabeth Louise Fite, Treasurer; Sally B. Akins, Secretary; Kenneth B. Hodges, III, Immediate Past President; William T. Davis, YLD President; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD President-elect; Rizza O'Connor, YLD Immediate Past President; Ivy N. Cadle; Tony DelCampo; R. Javoyne Hicks; Amy V. Howell; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughan.

Staff Participating:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Sarah Coole, Director of Communications; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Bill NeSmith, Deputy General Counsel; and Ron Turner, Chief Financial Officer.

Call to Order

After obtaining the required 2/3 vote in favor of holding the specially called Executive Committee meeting, President Darrell Sutton called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Provisional Admission for Recent Law School Graduates

Sutton reported on the recent Supreme Court of Georgia order (Exhibit A) approving a provisional admission to the practice of law for recent graduates of law schools. The order requires anyone who enrolls for provisional admission to pay a fee to the Bar, up to what is charged for inactive membership. The order also requires that the recent graduates be under the supervision of a lawyer. Upon being admitted under the provisional admission order, provisional membership expires 30 days after the release of the results of the second Georgia bar examination for which such provisional admittee could have sat. The order is effective June 1, 2020.

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, approved charging the provisionally admitted attorneys the same dues as inactive attorneys (\$127).

Sutton reported that Executive Director Jeff Davis, General Counsel Paula Frederick, and the Membership Department have been working on the structure for keeping track of these members.

Davis reported that all certification work will be handled by the Office of Bar Admissions. When provisional members submit to the Bar their provisional certificate and declare their lawyer supervisor, they will be assigned a Bar number ending with the letter "P." In their membership records, we will include a brief paragraph explaining what provisional lawyers are allowed to do and a link to the Supreme Court order.

Frederick reported that provisional members are subject to our jurisdiction and that the Supreme Court of Georgia has the authority to revoke or suspend a provisional admission upon the finding of a violation of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct (Rules). She said the Bar will develop a certification form for the supervising lawyers that will also inform them that as the supervising lawyer they are also subject to the Rules. Frederick also reported that the Bar will need to keep a record of any provisional membership that is revoked or suspended. She also plans to develop an FAQ for the provisional members.

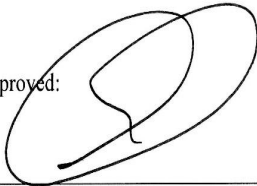
2020-2021 License Fee Deadline

Following a report by Sutton, and comments and input by Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a motion to alter the payment schedule for the 2020-2021 license fee so as to create a July 1, 2020 due date, with the only penalty assessed on unpaid members being \$100 on January 1, 2021, at which time the member will also become ineligible to practice law. The Office of General Counsel will send a motion on this new payment schedule to the Supreme Court of Georgia for its approval.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Approved:



Darrell L. Sutton, President



Sarah B. (Sally) Akins, Secretary



MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Board of Governors

From: Paula Frederick

Date: June 13, 2020

Re: Annual Report of the Office of the General Counsel

The Office of the General Counsel typically provides its annual report in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. The pandemic has disrupted our usual schedule, and we do not yet have final statistics for the year. The Office will provide the annual report at the Board's Fall Meeting.

In the meantime, thank you for all that you do for the State Bar of Georgia. Please contact me if you have comments, questions or suggestions about the Office. You can reach me at 404-527-8730 or paulaf@gabar.org.

pjf



Georgia Legal Community Stocks Food Banks for Families in Need

The Coronavirus caused a 30 - 60 percent increase in demand for Georgia's food bank services. Throughout the pandemic, food bank events have been running out with people still in line. Attorney General Carr would like to personally thank the legal community for stepping up to support Georgia's food banks during the Legal Food Frezzy. Totals are still coming in, but Georgia's legal community raised well over \$700,000 for those in need – shattering past records.

Ahmaud Arbery Case

Regarding the Ahmaud Arbery case, Attorney General Carr believes the family, the community and the state of Georgia deserve answers. He has appointed District Attorney of the Cobb Judicial Circuit, Joyette Holmes, to lead the case moving forward. Carr also requested both the GBI and the U.S. DOJ to investigate the handling of the case.

Keeping Consumers Informed

Since day one of the pandemic, the Department of Law's Consumer Protection Division (CPD) and the Georgia COVID19 Fraud Task Force – members include all three U.S. Attorneys, Governor Kemp's office and the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia – have been working diligently to ensure that consumers are educated about the latest trends from scam artists and do not fall victim to scams and misinformation campaigns. Attorney General Carr even enlisted the help of Georgia football legend, Herschel Walker, in this effort. And, the office has been using the Ask Consumer Ed column to address important consumer questions related to work-from-home job scams, restocking fees, extended-stay hotel evictions, garnishments, debt collection practices, price gouging and more. To date, CPD has received over 1,000 complaints to our intake system. All businesses that receive complaints are immediately put on notice, and our office begins a thorough review. We have also partnered with several members of Georgia's business community, establishing an open line of communication to more quickly and efficiently rid bad actors from the scene.

Carr Joins AG Colleagues in Effort to Strengthen Illegal Robocall Enforcement

Attorney General Carr recently joined a bipartisan coalition of 52 attorneys general in calling on USTelecom – the leading organization representing telecommunications providers – and its Industry Traceback Group (ITG) to continue its collaboration with state attorneys general by bolstering technological capabilities to improve enforcement against illegal robocallers. In a letter sent to USTelecom the coalition is urging the association to further develop robocall traceback and other tools suited to law enforcement needs.

“The people of Georgia and our fellow Americans have been forced to accept unwanted, illegal robocalls for far too long,” said Attorney General Chris Carr. “My colleagues and I will continue to fight back until that is no longer the case. We will do everything we can to support law enforcement agencies and help provide them with the tools necessary to stop bad actors from taking advantage of good people.”

State Bar of Georgia Coastal Georgia Office Statistics January 2019 to May 2020

Month	Client/Misc Mtgs	Depositions	Mediation/ Arbitration	Walk-ins	CLE Opportunities/ Training	Total Events	Total Number of People Using Facility (Clients and Attorneys)
Jan-19	8	4	2	0	5	19	201
February	1	6	9	4	5	25	241
March	4	5	6	0	10	25	240
April	10	4	5	1	2	22	122
May	14	5	6	2	0	27	113
June	9	2	5	0	0	16	73
July	10	2	3	1	1	17	77
August	11	10	3	1	3	28	135
September	8	3	6	1	4	22	119
October	7	9	7	0	3	26	154
November	6	9	8	0	5	28	163
December	12	7	4	0	6	29	87
Year Total:	100	66	64	10	44	284	1725

Attorney Locations For 2019: Savannah, Atlanta, Pooler, Rincon, Statesboro, Brunswick, Richmond Hill, Hinesville, Macon, Athens, Augusta, Valdosta, Lawrenceville, Duluth, Bloomingdale, Tucker, Canton, Metter, Albany, McDonough, Kansas City(MO), Cordele, Sylvania, Lexington, Covington, Decatur, Douglasville, Jonesboro, Chamblee, Alpharetta, Roswell, & Marietta.

Month	Client/Misc Mtgs	Depositions	Mediation/ Arbitration	Walk-ins	CLE Opportunities/ Training	Total Events	Total Number of People Using Facility (Clients and Attorneys)
Jan-20	14	5	10	2	5	36	199
February	11	7	6	1	8	33	193
March*	10	5	1	0	5	21	112
April	CLOSED DUE TO	COVID-19					
May	CLOSED DUE TO	COVID-19					
June	TBD						
July	TBD						
August	TBD						
September	TBD						
October	TBD						
November	TBD						
December	TBD						
Year Total:	35	17	17	3	18	90	504

*March 1-13th counted only. March 13-31st we were closed due to COVID-19. Locations not listed for 2020.

State Bar of Georgia South Georgia Office Statistics July 2019 to June 2020

Month	Misc. Meetings	Depos/Video C.	Mediations	Walk-Ins	CLE/Training	Total Events	Total Using Office
Jul-19	5	9	1	46	0	15	101
August	4	10	5	38	2	21	85
September	0	11	3	41	4	18	73
October	1	9	4	56	2	16	81
November	7	3	3	45	2	15	86
December	4	3	4	37	5	16	73
Jan-20	7	5	2	40	5	0	57
February	5	1	3	60	8	17	108
March*	2	4	1	18	1	8	28
April	CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19		0	0	0	0	0
May	CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19		0	0	0	0	0
June	TBD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fiscal YearTotal:	35	55	26	381	29	126	692

*March 1-13th counted only. March 13-31st we were closed due to COVID-19.

Atty. Locations:

Adel, Albany, Alma, Alpharetta, Americus, Ashburn, Atlanta, Atlantic Beach, FL, Bainbridge, Baxley, Blackshear, Blakely, Brunswick, Beverly, Mass., Carrollton, Columbus, Cordele, Dawson, Douglas, Eastman, Fitzgerald, Greer, SC, Hartford, CT, Hazelhurst, Homerville, Jacksonville, FL, Macon, McCrae, Moultrie, Nashville, Norcross, Ocilla, Pelham, Perry, Pinehurst, Port St. Joe, FL, Quitman, Rome, Sacramento, CA, San Antonio, TX, Santa Rosa Beach, FL, Savannah, Snellville, Statesboro, St. Simons, Sylvester, Tallahassee, FL, Thomasville, Tifton, Valdosta, Warner Robbins, Waycross, Winston

FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT TO

**THE HONORABLE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT
AND THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF
GOVERNORS
OF THE STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**

**BY
THE COMMITTEE ON THE ARBITRATION OF ATTORNEY FEE
DISPUTES**

The Committee on the Arbitration of Attorney Fee Disputes is privileged to submit the following report concerning the Fee Arbitration Program's fortieth year of operation.

1. Committee Membership.

Ms. Judy C. King, a lawyer in Lawrenceville served on the Committee as its Chairperson. Mr. Mark C. Bips with Bips & Bips, P.C. in Decatur, and Mr. John DeFoor, a lawyer in Atlanta were re-appointed for three year terms. The lawyer members returning to serve on the Committee were Mr. Stanley W. Levitt, a lawyer from Marietta, Mr. David Lipscomb, a lawyer in Lawrenceville, and Ms. Rosalind A. Rubens-Newell, a lawyer with Invest Atlanta. Mr. Alan Granath, from Dunwoody, was re-appointed as a public member for a three-year term. The public members returning to serve were Ms. Jacquelyn C. Poole, from Marietta, and Ms. Iris Rice, from Smyrna.

2. Participation.

Interest by the public and the profession continued during the Program's fortieth year. Eleven Hundred and Eighty (1,180) parties requested and were mailed

information regarding the Fee Arbitration Program during the year. Referrals by the Client Assistance Program of the Office of the General Counsel accounted for 53% of the inquiries, while 46% of the inquiries were direct calls to the Fee Arbitration staff from the parties involved in the dispute. Referrals from the Office of General Counsel accounted for less than 1% of the inquiries. Many more telephone calls were received, and a number of fee disputes were resolved informally by the Fee Arbitration staff without the filing of a Petition. Copies of the Program's Rules and a Petition form were sent to all persons who requested further information. An informational brochure was also provided to aid them in understanding this service of the State Bar. In addition, the parties were encouraged to initiate settlement communications prior to returning the completed Petition. The staff furnished consultation time in each case to explain the Fee Arbitration process. Under the Rules, the State Bar administers the Program in a neutral, rather than representative, capacity. Therefore, no advice was rendered on the merits of the matter in issue.

3. Current Activity.

Today 221 cases are in process. Approximately 98 new disputes over attorney fees are reported to the Fee Arbitration Program each month. The Committee, its staff, and the parties are able to resolve a majority of these without the necessity of the full arbitration process. Approximately 25 hearings are scheduled each month, but due to last minute settlements, hearings and awards to conclude the disputes are required in about 7 cases per month. Amounts in controversy vary widely from nominal sums to fees as high as \$4,000,000, with the average case involving

\$15,155. Many fields of law are involved, but the areas of family law at 28% and criminal law at 31% produce the most cases.

4. Hearings.

The cases were heard by our Arbitrators who volunteered to be on a panel an entire day to hear as many as five cases for the Fee Arbitration Program. Each arbitrator who served received a lapel pin or a State Bar flash drive in appreciation and recognition of their volunteer service to the Bar through the Fee Arbitration Program. Each arbitrator also received a letter of appreciation from the Supreme Court of Georgia.

5. Rules Changes.

The Committee is currently working on rules changes that will provide a single path for confirmation of the arbitration award in accordance with The Georgia Arbitration Code, O.C.G.A. § 9-9-1 et seq.

6. Appreciation.

The Committee wishes to take this opportunity to thank and express its appreciation to Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, as well as all the other members of the Supreme Court, for their overall support and assistance in establishing rosters of volunteer arbitrators throughout Georgia and for their dedication in acknowledging with letters of appreciation to those lawyers and public members who serve voluntarily to the Program.

Appreciation also goes to the arbitrators who volunteered, many of whom have served since the inception of the Program forty years ago. The success of the

Program has resulted to a great extent from the dedicated efforts and sound judgment of these volunteers.

The Fee Arbitration Program is an effective system and one of the most utilized of all the public service programs operated by the State Bar in furtherance of its goal to improve the administration of justice in Georgia. It continues to serve as a model for other jurisdictions implementing similar programs.

The Committee hopes that all those who read this report will encourage other qualified attorneys and public members to volunteer as arbitrators for future cases. This important service benefits our profession and the public whom we serve. The Committee is most appreciative of your continued assistance in informing potential arbitrators of this method of illustrating the professionalism of the members of the State Bar of Georgia.

*Respectfully submitted, this
19th day of May, 2020,
Committee on the
Arbitration of Attorney Fee
Disputes*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy C. King".

*Judy C. King
Chairperson*

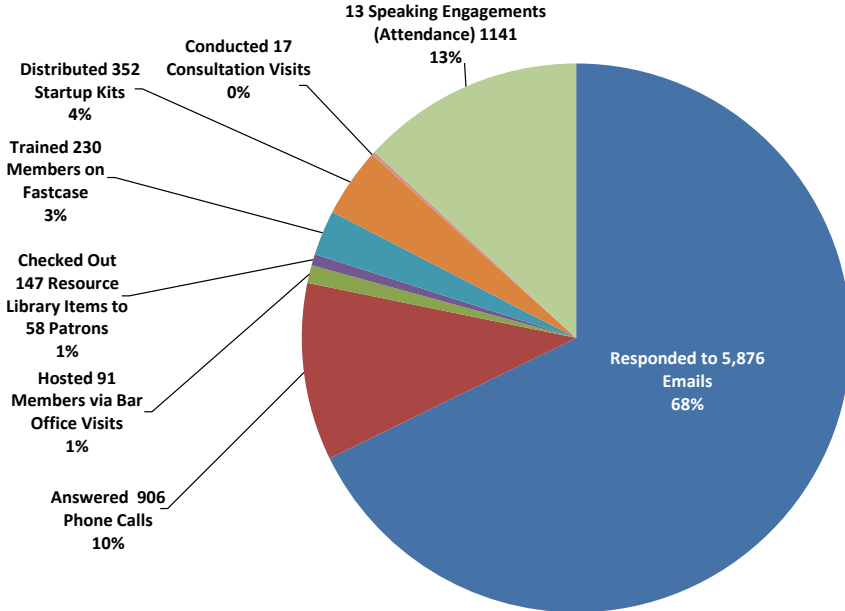
Law Practice Management Program

(Abbreviated report for the 2019-2020 Bar Year)

Members Served by LPMP

Total Number of Members Served – 8,671

July 1, 2019 – May 15, 2020



Office Visits/Phone Calls/Emails

A total of **91** members visited LPMP. There were **4** startup discussions, **80** walk-in visits, and **2** visits to the software library conducted by the Program. In addition, LPM distributed **352** *Starting Your Georgia Law Practice* booklets as requested by attorneys, as well as, answered and responded to **906** phone calls and **5,876** emails to and from members.

Consultations

There were **17** general consultation visits during this period in Abbeville, Alpharetta, Atlanta, Clarkston, Decatur Norcross and Peachtree Corners. Firms assisted were in (**14** firms) solo practice (**3** firms); 2-4 attorney firms.

Resource Library

Our lending library has a grand total of **1,618** books, CDs, and DVDs for checkout to members and their staff with an option to pick up materials at the Bar Center or to be mailed. During this period, there were a total of **147** checkouts by **58** patrons.

Speaking Engagements

There were a total of **13** completed and scheduled programs during this period. The Program's staff has given **10** continuing legal education and special presentations to Georgia lawyers and other related groups. These presentations have been held in various local and national venues; and have been made directly to at least **1141** Georgia Bar members. **6** programs are scheduled at a future date.

MB | MemberBenefits

State Bar of Georgia – Private Exchange Report

May 14, 2020

INDIVIDUAL MARKETPLACE		
Individual Visits	25,090	Individuals that have visited the Individual Marketplace Registration page at least once
Individual Registrations	20,073	Individuals that have registered to begin shopping for benefits
Product Enrollments	3,759	Total Individual Product Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical 	1,735	Total Individual Major Medical, Short-Term Medical and Limited Medical Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicare Supplement 	17	Total Individual Medicare Supplement Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dental 	585	Total Individual Dental Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vision 	289	Total Individual Vision Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teladoc 	129	Total Individual Teladoc Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LifeLock 	34	Total Individual LifeLock Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life/AD&D 	691	Total Individual Life/AD&D Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability 	216	Total Individual Disability Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-Term Care 	63	Total Individual Long-Term Care Enrollments

EMPLOYER GROUP EXCHANGE		
Employer Visits	2,669	Employers that have visited the Employer Registration page at least once
Employer Registrations	689	Employers that have submitted a quote request to initiate the sales process
Product Enrollments	898	Total Product Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical 	526	Total Medical Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancillary 	264	Total Ancillary Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers' Comp 	14	Total Workers' Comp Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Liability 	92	Total Professional Liability Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyber Security 	2	Total Cyber Security Enrollments

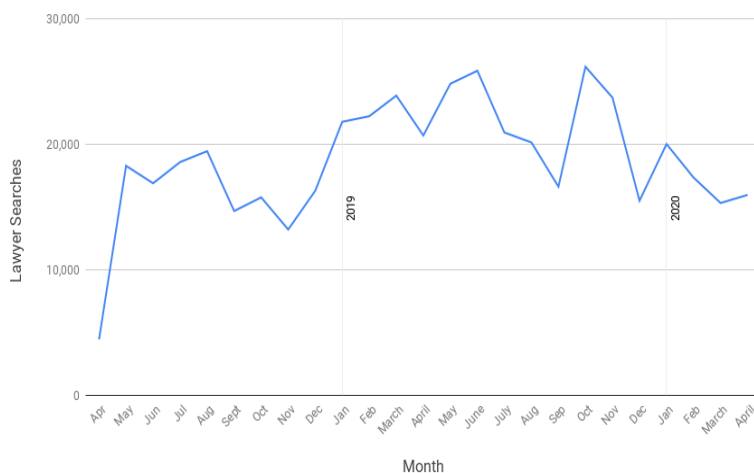
CloudLawyers Report

The State Bar of Georgia began its partnership with CloudLawyers.com to develop its new Find a Lawyer directory and provide members with an enhanced membership directory listing.

Over **468,310** searches have been performed to find Georgia lawyers utilizing this service. The directory is also maintaining a steady stream of page views and to date **741,459** pages have been viewed in the directory. Over **578** messages were sent to Georgia lawyers through contact forms on the lawyers' profiles since January in addition to the potential clients who contact a lawyer directly from the phone number and email address on the lawyers' profile.

Since inception, and as of May 15th, **3,206** (increase of 132 members) logged into their CloudLawyers' profile.

State Bar of Georgia Searches



Fastcase Report

July 1, 2019 – May 15, 2020

During this period, a total of 230 members and 7 staff person have attended Fastcase CLE seminars. Since January 2011, 2,507 attorneys and 114 staff members have attended Fastcase live training. Others have taken advantage of webinar training.

Since January 2011, 28,321 members have logged on at least once with an increase of 285 first time users this period: Over 50% of our members have used Fastcase since January 1, 2011.

As of October 7, 2019 Fastcase 7 is the default opening screen for our members although they will still have the option to use the toggle switch to return to the Fastcase 6.

Fastcase Partner Usage Report

July 1, 2019 – May 1, 2020

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
First Time Logins	80	69	50	84	90	78	91	68	61	65	736
Total Logins	14,406	15,241	13,373	15,672	11,796	10,318	14,016	12,912	11,680	8,847	128,261
Total Users Who Logged In	3,544	3,575	3,334	3,679	3,188	3,030	3,399	3,383	3,094	2,616	32,842
Searches Conducted	81,799	86,172	76,541	60,560	39,310	34,384	48,413	45,102	39,099	30,426	541,806
Documents Viewed	129,062	135,177	120,904	121,490	92,385	82,802	102,730	113,852	96,072	87,962	1,082,436
Documents Printed	12,769	13,934	12,249	13,419	11,542	9,602	12,555	11,428	10,084	8,079	115,661
Total Transactions	241,660	254,168	226,451	214,904	158,311	140,214	181,204	186,745	160,090	137,995	1,901,742

Fastcase Report

Fastcase Reported Problems	
Member Reported Issue(s)	Fastcase Response / Resolutions
<p>11/1/19 Numerous Members Report: Discrepancies on Authority Check page, number of bad law cases not consistent on the top of page and in the list of cases.</p>	<p>11/1/19 Fastcase Response: They are working to clear this up. The newest data pulled into the report sometimes needs to be refreshed.</p>
<p>11/1/19 Numerous Members Report: The bar site now has a new Fastcase version which is very difficult to maneuver around or not intuitive.</p>	<p>11/1/19 Fastcase Response: Generally, they are working on updates to make various area's clearer.</p>
<p>11/2/19 Member Reported: Authority Check not showing the citation in context.</p>	<p>11/2/19 Fastcase Response: I have not heard a consistent good response on this.</p>
<p>12/11/19 Members Comments: Older members that call or come to training are decidedly averse to FC7. Younger members seem to prefer it.</p>	<p>12/2/19 Fastcase Response: Good generally. I send specific problems to FC support on a regular basis. I see much progress; changes are being made to make it more user friendly. I am most concerned about the citations in Authority Check not showing up in the context of the citing cases. This is a big flaw and defeats the main benefit of being able to check for the status of a case via authority check in terms of finding negative history.</p>
<p>01/10/20 Members Comments: Member expressed desire to have Fastcase training in other bar locations such as Tifton.</p>	<p>1/12/20 Bar Response: I passed this request on and currently we are planning to do a tech roadshow in several parts of Georgia which will include Fastcase training.</p>
<p>01/20/2020 Members Comments: Member was having trouble with printing cases in Fastcase using word or pdf. The downloaded case will not open properly, gives error that file cannot be found.</p>	<p>01/21/2020 Fastcase Response: Erin from Fastcase instructed our member how to update his web browser Firefox. Member tried this but it was not the problem. Finally, the member discovered that he had an old message under details form one of the court filing services and once deleted he was able to open his case to a word or pdf file.</p>
<p>01/22/2020 Members Comments: Member had trouble with printing cases.</p>	<p>01/22/2020 Bar Response: I instructed the member on how to clear their cache.</p>
<p>01/29/2020 My Comments: I have repeatedly noted that the authority check report does not show citing cases in the relevant paragraph making it useless and requires me to redirect the users to the old Fastcase 6. I sent several emails with my research gained by testing the system over the past months to try to be able to give an accurate report to FC on the trouble areas our members experienced.</p>	<p>01/21/2020 Fastcase Response: Fastcase repeatedly reported that they would escalate my problem to the developers but the problem persists. In January and February Erin Page at Fastcase worked with me doing testing that showed that 9 out of 10 times.</p>

<p>2/11/2020 My Comments: I sent several email with my research gained by testing the system over the past months to try to be able to give an accurate report to FC on the trouble areas our members experienced.</p>	<p>2/11/2020 Fastcase Response: In January and February Erin Page at Fastcase worked with me doing testing that showed that 9 out of 10 times pertinent information was not readily seen when using the authority check report.</p>
<p>2/12/2020 My Comments: Just wondering why the stem word suffocat* was not picked up for highlighting within the body of my case below? I re-ran the search using suffocate* and this case doesn't come up. Then I used the full word suffocation and the highlighting took effect.</p>	<p>2/12/2020 Fastcase Response: So the search system and the highlighting system are currently running as two separate programs and the search system is more sophisticated that the highlighting system at the moment. So the highlighting is not currently gracefully handling the wildcards that the search system is. The current plan is to get those to the same point (which I am told will happen in 1-2 months?).</p>
<p>2/20/2020 My Comments: Fewer members are contacting me about their dislike of Fastcase 7 as they either take classes or take advantage of our department resources by phone, email or by using resources offered by Fastcase.</p>	<p>02/20/2020 Fastcase Response: Erin Page has been invaluable in assisting me and our members in the best practices when using Fastcase. She also sends my concerns to the dev team and gets back with me in a timely manner.</p>
<p>2/27/2020 My Comments: I was able to speak to Damien Riehl, director and lead for integration of the Fastcase Legal Research platform at the ABA TECHSHOW. I went over a number of my concerns and concerns of our members. He was able to clearly see the problems and understand my concerns.</p>	<p>02/27/2020 Fastcase Response: Mr. Riehl got his phone out during our conversation on the exhibit floor and send direction to the dev. Team to fix the design problems and unstable areas of the cite. Upon return from the TECHSHOW the changes are not yet in effect.</p>
<p>03/02/2020 Members Comments: To be blunt, I hate the new FastCase. It is the most difficult research tool I have ever used. If we're spending money on benefits to members, let's spend it on something better than FastCase</p>	<p>3/4/2020 My Response: I sent this comment to Fastcase and helped the member one on one by phone. He was appreciative and plans to come to my classes. He was also glad he could return to Fastcase 6 which he preferred.</p>

PUBLISHED ARTICLES 2019-2020			Headline	Circulation
Date	Newspaper			
5/29/2019	Dalton Daily Citizen		Congratulations to area firms for Georgia Legal Food Frenzy success this year	6,748
5/30/2019	Dekalb Champion, Decatur		Congratulations to Decatur law firm for Georgia Legal Food Frenzy success	544
6/4/2019	Augusta Chronicle		Augusta excelled in Food Frenzy	28,830
6/5/2019	Calhoun Times		Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	3,896
6/14/2019	Gainesville Times		Letter: Congratulations to Nicki Vaughan on Georgia Appleseed Award	5,000
6/14/2019	Marietta Daily Journal		Around Town: Cobb Fills the Bar	12,287
6/15/2019	Albany Herald		Former Dougherty DA Hodges reflects on year heading State Bar Association	9,569
6/15/2019	Newnan Times-Herald		Jason Swindle re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	7,540
6/15/2019	Valdosta Daily Times		Congratulations to Valdosta Bar Association on successful Law Day event	8,067
6/18/2019	Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge		Payne appointed to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	4,500
6/19/2019	Polk County Standard Journal, Cedartown		McRae re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	2,632
6/19/2019	Coastal Courier, Hinesville		Carl Varnedoe re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	5,500
6/19/2019	Walker County Messenger, Lafayette		Catoosa County Solicitor Doug Woodruff re-elected to Board of Governors	1,862
6/19/2019	Catoosa County News, Ringgold		Catoosa County Solicitor Doug Woodruff re-elected to Board of Governors	1,310
6/20/2019	Johns Creek Herald		Fulton County native to lead State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division	20,000
6/20/2019	Marietta Daily Journal		Cobb County Bar Association honored by State Bar of Georgia	12,287
6/20/2019	Savannah Morning News		Savannah attorneys re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	19,652
6/21/2019	Atlanta Tribune		GABWA Earns Top Honors from State Bar of Georgia	10,000
6/22/2019	Thomasville Times-Enterprise		Valdosta attorney re-elected to state bar's board of governors	4,339
6/24/2019	Dunwoody Crier		Dunwoody resident receives State Bar of Georgia Award	18,000
6/24/2019	Statesboro Herald		Boro native Ashley Akins installed to state bar position	8,000
6/26/2019	Adel News-Tribune		Mickey Johnson Re-Elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	3,320
6/26/2019	Savannah Morning News		Savannah attorney Waring cited by state bar for equality efforts	19,652
6/26/2019	Savannah Tribune		Savannah Attorney Receives State Bar of Georgia Commitment to Equality Award	8,000
6/27/2019	Lincoln Journal, Lincolnton		Sanders re-elected to serve on the Board of Governors	1,500
7/2/2019	Albany Herald		Underwood re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar	9,569
7/2/2019	Johnson Journal, Wrightsville		Joseph Sumner is re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	847
7/3/2019	Walton Tribune, Monroe		Walton County Bar honored	4,126
7/4/2019	Augusta Chronicle		Augusta attorneys re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar	28,830
7/4/2019	News-Reporter, Washington		Sanders re-elected to State Bar of Ga. Board of Governors	2,246
7/6/2019	Walton Tribune, Monroe		Geoffroy elected to Bar Board of Governors	4,126
7/7/2019	Rome News-Tribune		Congratulations to Berry on selection to GNTC board	9,556
7/8/2019	Daily Report		Ga. Legal Community Mourns Loss of Professor Donald Eugene Wilkes	2,607
7/9/2019	Statesboro Herald		Susan Cox is re-elected to State Bar Board	8,000
7/11/2019	The Citizen, Fayetteville		Chief Judge Edwards elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	5,000

7/11/2019	Hartwell Sun	Local lawyer re-elected to state bar board	4,269
7/11/2019	Pickens County Progress, Jasper	Will Pickett Jr. re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of GA	6,199
7/11/2019	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Congratulations to Judge Tadia D. Whitner	59,838
7/11/2019	Toccoa Record	Irvin is re-elected to board	3,689
7/12/2019	Daily Citizen-News, Dalton	Smalley re-elected to state bar board of governors	6,748
7/13/2019	Albany Herald	Dent honored by State Bar's Young Lawyers Division	9,569
7/14/2019	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Gwinnett attorneys picked to serve on Board of Governors for State Bar	59,838
7/14/2019	Statesboro Herald	Congratulations and thanks to Judge Gary Mikell	8,000
7/15/2019	The Islander, St. Simons Island	Roberts reelected to Board of Governors State Bar of Georgia	3,421
7/15/2019	Savannah Morning News	Akins installed as State Bar of Georgia secretary	19,652
7/16/2019	The Telegraph, Macon	State Bar of Georgia leadership posts	17,854
7/17/2019	Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth	Curtis Jenkins reelected to State Bar Board of Governors	4,297
7/17/2019	Soperton News	Justice Ellington Honored by State Bar of Georgia's Young Lawyers Division	1,000
7/18/2019	Richmond County Neighbors, Augusta	Augusta attorneys re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar	5,000
7/18/2019	Tifton Gazette	Letter to the editor: Congratulations to the Tifton Circuit Bar on successful Law	3,005
7/21/2019	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Duluth attorney receives service award	59,838
7/21/2019	Newman Times-Herald	Coweta attorney honored by Young Lawyers Division	7,540
7/22/2019	Brunswick News	Young lawyers group honored	10,927
7/24/2019	Americus Times-Recorder	Judge Rucker Smith re-elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	1,912
8/2/2019	Savannah Morning News	Judge Moore deserving of professionalism award	19,652
8/3/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations to new chief magistrate	12,287
8/4/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	State Bar congratulates Bob Barr	12,287
8/8/2019	Savannah Morning News	Recognizing a distinguished career	19,652
8/16/2019	Daily Report	Congratulations and thanks to Ben Easterlin	2,607
9/3/2019	Athens Banner-Herald	Congratulations to Judge Stephens on Boy Scout award presentation	8,199
9/8/2019	Albany Herald	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Stephen Goss	9,569
10/2/2019	Daily Report	State Bar Congratulates Behavioral Health Reform Panel Appointees	2,607
10/9/2019	Dahlonega Nugget	Congratulations and thanks to Judge Stanley Gunter	4,310
10/9/2019	White County, Ellijay	Congrats to Judge Weaver	4,883
10/10/2019	White County News, Cleveland	Congratulations to Judge Stanley Gunter	4,197
10/10/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations to Bryan Tyson on board appointment	12,287
10/26/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Fred Bentley Sr.	12,287
10/30/2019	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Sen. Leroy Johnson	2,607
10/30/2019	News Observer, Blue Ridge	Judge Brenda Weaver named to new health reform commission	6,346
11/3/2019	Albany Herald	Tommy Malone remembered as legal giant	9,569
11/20/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations to Chuck Clay on commission reappointment	12,287
12/13/2019	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations to new Judicial Qualifications Commission director	12,287

12/13/2019	Moultrie Observer	Georgia legal community mourns Rep. Powell	3,338
1/3/2020	Savannah Morning News	Local attorney praised for new role	19,652
1/7/2020	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Emily Powell	59,838
1/7/2020	Moultrie Observer	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	3,338
1/27/2020	Albany Herald	State Bar recognizes Joe Dent for reappointment	9,569
1/28/2020	Savannah Morning News	New scholarships honor trailblazing jurist	19,652
2/3/2020	Daily Report	In Memoriam: Bill Smith Shaped Georgia's Lawyer Discipline System	2,607
2/6/2020	Savannah Morning News	Legal community mourns Blackburn's death	19,652
2/29/2020	Griffin Daily News	State Bar of Georgia congratulates Coker, Broder	3,757
3/1/2020	Albany Herald	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Don Strickland	9,569
3/1/2020	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations and thanks to retiring Cobb Superior Court judges	12,287
3/2/2020	Daily Report	State Bar Executive Director Jeff Davis to Step Down	2,607
3/25/2020	Dahlonega Nugget	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	3,994
3/25/2020	Walker County Messenger, Lafayette	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Chris Townley	1,862
3/25/2020	Catoosa County News, Ringgold	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Chris Townley	2,399
3/26/2020	White County News, Cleveland	Congratulations to new judge	4,197
4/1/2020	North Georgia News, Blairsville	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	11,050
4/1/2020	Towns County Herald, Hiwassee	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	3,670
4/1/2020	Walton Tribune, Monroe	Legal community mourns John Laseter	4,249
4/13/2020	Savannah Morning News	Savannah attorney to head State Bar committee to help low-income Georgians	16,322
4/14/2020	Calhoun Times	Calhoun attorney Charles M. Williams recognized for 50 years of service	4,365
4/16/2020	Albany Herald	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Nancy Stephenson	9,569
4/16/2020	Times-Georgian, Carrollton	Legal community provides hope	3,476
4/24/2020	Savannah Morning News	Saddened by passing of local attorney	16,322
5/1/2020	Daily Report	In Pandemic Podcasts, Georgia Lawyers Address Mental Health	2,243
5/14/2020	Calhoun Times	Congratulations to Charles Williams on 50 years of service	4,365
5/14/2020	Griffin Daily News	State Bar of Georgia congratulates Miller	3,657
5/14/2020	Moultrie Observer	Legal community mourns loss of Rowena Daniels	3,138
5/19/2020	Savannah Morning News	Condolences on local lawyer's death	16,322
5/21/2020	Savannah Morning News	Legal community mourns lawyer's death	16,322
		TOTAL CIRCULATION	1,051,846

Memorandum

To: Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia

From: M. Christopher Pitts, Director of the Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP)

Date: May 21, 2020

Subject: Report on the Military Legal Assistance Program

(1) **Overview:** This will be my last Board of Governor's report before MLAP is adopted within the Georgia Legal Services Program. However, though the adoption as not yet happened, we are seeing many fruits that this event will bear. On May 15, GLSP/MLAP submitted a joint proposal with the University of Georgia Veterans Legal Clinic (VLC) seeking \$40,000 in grant money for a remote clinics project. This project will allow for the acquisition of technology and equipment that will allow the project to reach rural Georgia veterans who may have trouble accessing legal assistance and do so in a way that promotes physical distancing. If chosen as a grantee, GLSP/MLAP and the VLC will determine 6 different regions to host these remote clinics over the next year, with the aim of having 2 clinics per quarter starting in the second quarter. The VLC through the use of its students, will be tasked with taking inquiries about the clinics from potential clients and scheduling them for a virtual or remote consultation appointment. GLSP and MLAP will be responsible for recruiting volunteer attorneys who will be able to participate in the clinics from their office or home. MLAP will then have the project attorney (myself) travel to a physical location to set up at most 3 remote consultation rooms. These rooms will be equipped with computers, audio/visual equipment, and wifi hotspots, to allow clients with appointments (or walk-ins as able) to contact an attorney remotely for their consultation. Personal protective equipment will be on hand and sanitation will occur between each appointment. The purposes of having the remote consultation stations are these: (1) in rural areas, many homes lack any access to the internet or speeds are too slow to allow for visual/audio meetings; (2) many in rural areas face economic hardships in purchasing and maintaining the necessary equipment to participate in these virtual consultations from their home; and (3) even if the veteran has internet access and the equipment to participate in consultations from home, they often lack the requisite computer training to make such virtual consultations effective. Having a project attorney with the necessary computer training to set up and maintain these remote consultation stations will allow for as broad of a reach as possible, which will be vital to the success of the project. For those veterans who can access the consultation from home, they will be free to do so.

It should be noted that this program is helped by the members of the Committee and the Military/Veterans Law Section who have supported service-members and veterans in a variety of ways. These include:

- **Legal Assistance Clinics staffed by law students and attorney mentors** have been established at three colleges of law: Emory University in February 2013, Georgia State University in November 2014, and the University of Georgia in August 2018.
- **Legal Assistance Clinics at VA medical facilities** have been established at five locations: Augusta, Carrollton, Decatur, Fort McPherson, Rome, and soon-to-be Savannah. Volunteer lawyers staff those legal assistance clinics.

- **VA Accreditation CLE programs** have been conducted at least annually the past eight years for lawyers who desire to become accredited initially or to maintain their accreditation (required biennially) in order to handle VA benefit award cases. The most recent VA CLE program was held on October 10, 2019, in Atlanta.
- **Jeff Bramlett Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs** is scheduled to occur this May in conjunction with the ABA Equal Justice Conference.
- **Legal and Practical Issues in Veterans Benefits and Discharge Upgrades** – This will be a workshop on veterans benefits and discharge upgrades that will be taught at the ABA Equal Justice Conference. The panel will include myself, Kier Prince (Equal Justice Works Fellow for the Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans, sponsored by Eversheds-Sutherland and the Home Depot) and Margaret Kuzma (Director of the Discharge Upgrade Project at the Connecticut Veterans Legal Center).
- **CLE trips** abroad, with self-supporting funds from participating lawyers, were planned and carried out under sponsorship of the Mil/Vets Law Section and with coordinating help from the MLAP Committee: **one to Normandy, France**, in 2014, in part commemorating the **70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings**, and **one to Belgium and France**, in 2017, commemorating the **100th Anniversary of The First World War**.

(2) **Updates to MLAP Eligibility Criteria:** The Military Legal Assistance Program Committee is still amending and revising the eligibility criteria for the program. At this time, the program helps: (a) Active duty, active reservists, and National Guard members ranked e-5 and below; (b) All service members for issues related to deployment; (c) Military retirees and service-connected disabled (100%) veterans facing a financial hardship. Financial hardship is presumed if their income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; (d) All veterans with issues related to VA benefits where attorney’s fees would not otherwise be recoverable.

Case exclusions: With the goal in mind that the Program is to help service members and veterans who cannot afford legal help, no referrals for cases where there is no barrier for initial legal help; i.e., contingency fee cases, personal injury, malpractice, social security, etc.

The Military Legal Assistance Program committee has formed an ad hoc subcommittee to review these eligibility criteria and suggest further changes as necessary. As those changes are made, they will be submitted.

(3) **MLAP Cases Processed:** Below is a summary of the number and types of requests for legal assistance received and referred to lawyers under the State Bar’s Military Legal Assistance Program. Under the program, **a total of 2,323 cases have been processed**. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a complete and accurate reporting of the numbers could not be obtained. A final tally of cases processed by MLAP before the adoption by GLSP will be provided at a later time. A summary of cases processed by the MLAP by category follows:

Family Law		1,181 (including 59 previous)
Divorce	504	

Divorce Enforcement	28	
Child Support	154	
Guardianship/Adoption	127	
Child Custody/Visitation	305	
TPO	1	
Other	4	
Consumer Law		143
Housing/Property		158
Foreclosure		27
Veterans Benefits/Disability		321
Wills/Estates/Probate		129
Employment/USERRA/SCRA		60
Bankruptcy		29
Insurance		21
Property Damage		3
Contract		10
Injury-related		66
Immigration		5
Discharge Upgrade		9
Department of Defense Benefits		1
Non-profit Formation		1
Other		<u>159</u>
		2,323

(4) **The MLAP/Georgia Legal Services Legal Clinic:** MLAP previously reported scheduling three clinics in the rural Georgia area. The first was a clinic to be scheduled in Brunswick in partnership with Rachael Henderson of GLSP, Doug Alexander, and Sherri Allen that was to take place in April. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, that clinic has been postponed and may be assumed under the joint GLSP/MLAP and VLC project assuming a successful grant application.

The second and third clinics were to be organized jointly between MLAP and Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans (VCV) and UGA's VLC. The clinic with the VCV was to take place in Columbus along with help from GLSP's Columbus office. The clinic with VLC was to take place in the Athens area with help from the local bar association. Both clinics are still intended to be held in late September and early October, subject to additional need for physical distancing due to the ongoing pandemic.

(5) **Jeff Bramlett Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs 2020.** The Jeff Bramlett Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When it is determined that the symposium may be held safely, we will intend to do so.

(6) **Joint Project Grant Proposal Between GLSP/MLAP and VLC.** As mentioned in my overview, GLSP/MLAP has submitted a joint grant proposal to the ABA along with the University of Georgia's Veterans Legal Clinic. The ABA is seeking grant proposals from institutions with projects based in Georgia to help veterans in Georgia access legal services during the COVID-19 pandemic. After 2020, the project grants will open up to projects around the United States.

In particular, the ABA is seeking to fund 3 projects in Georgia to develop "regional solutions for improving local legal services capacity and direct services for the veteran population." The grants will range from \$5,000 to \$40,000. Our proposal focuses on providing remote versus

virtual legal clinics for rural veterans. The difference between “remote” versus “virtual” clinics is that the latter is entirely online, with no proposed physical location to serve as a base for the clinic. Remote clinics, on the other hand, provide a physical location that potential clients who may not have the technological capability of accessing virtual clinics can use to utilize legal services. GLSP/MLAP will be providing the equipment and volunteer attorney base to help staff the clinics. The VLC, among other things, will be in charge of client intake, appointment scheduling, and assisting in providing a physical location for the remote clinics. The project attorney (myself) will be in charge of transporting, setting up, maintaining, and cleaning any equipment used in the clinic.

I have attached the full proposal to this report as Attachment 1.

M. Christopher Pitts
Director
Military Legal Assistance Program

ATTACHMENT 1

ABA VETERANS LEGAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

Application Questions

This is an example of the application questions. Applications will only be accepted through the online application system. It is recommended that you compose the answers ahead of time and then paste the text into the online application, as you cannot save a draft through the online application system

I. Contact Information

A. Organization Contact Information

Name Rick Rufolo
Title Executive Director
Address 104 Marietta Street, Suite 250
Atlanta, GA 30303
Telephone 404-563-7710 ext. 1609
Email rrufolo@glsp.org
Website www.glsp.org

B. Project Contact Information

Name Michael Monahan
Title Director of Pro Bono Resource Center
Address 104 Marietta Street, Suite 250
Atlanta, GA 30303
Telephone 404-572-8762
Email mikem@gabar.org

II. Organization Information

Name of organization: Georgia Legal Services Program

Mission statement: Please provide your organization's mission statement. (250 word maximum)

For this project, the Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) will partner with the University of Georgia's Veterans Legal Clinic (VLC) to deliver legal services through remote technology to veterans in Georgia. GLSP is the primary requester; VLC will be a sub-contractor. Upon award and receipt of funds, GLSP will distribute half of the grant to VLC in accordance with grant and Program policies.

GLSP is a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to provide free, civil legal services for persons with low incomes, creating equal access to justice and opportunities out of poverty.

The (VLC) serves veterans and their dependents throughout Georgia, helping them obtain the benefits they have earned through service to our country and gain access to information and advice on legal issues.

Organization’s services: Describe the services that your organization provides, including the geographic locations and population served, total numbers serviced, and other important characteristics. (500 word maximum)

GLSP

Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) provides free advice and representation to low-income clients outside of Georgia’s metro-Atlanta area. Its expert staff help survivors of domestic violence gain legal protection, keep tenants in their homes, obtain or reinstate public benefits, draft wills for homeowners, and much more. GLSP closed 10,818 cases in 2019. 6% of these were completed in partnership with our pro bono volunteers and nearly 10% of all cases helped veterans or their family members. While GLSP’s services are not veteran-specific, its staff and pro bono volunteers have long represented veterans on civil matters that affect veterans and non-veterans alike.

GLSP is expanding this outreach through its Pro Bono Project Transformation: by developing a series of statewide “signature projects” that will coordinate private attorneys to serve clients throughout GLSP’s service area. These projects will identify mechanisms for remote service, recruit and train volunteers, and streamline case referrals to improve both the client and volunteer experience.

GLSP will absorb the Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) of the State Bar of Georgia on July 1, 2020. Since 2009, MLAP has coordinated a statewide system of referrals for veterans and active duty service members, matching veterans with low cost legal services throughout the state; it has successfully processed more than 2,000 veteran requests. MLAP services focus on legal matters specific to veteran needs, including veterans’ benefits, discharge upgrades, and employment needs, which form roughly 17% of its client caseload.

VLC

The VLC represents veterans and their dependents with claims for benefits from the VA, from Social Security, and from the military services. The VLC also provides brief service and referrals on a broad range of civil legal issues. The VLC is a statewide law practice that has a mission to help veterans and their dependents throughout the state, especially in rural areas.

The VLC also provides a carefully supervised learning experience to law students earning credit at the University of Georgia School of Law. As a teaching law practice that serves the entire state, the VLC has substantial expertise in delivering legal services and educational programs using remote technology. Existing staff have long experience in using Zoom and similar software both for legal services and for delivery of training and education.

The VLC operates year-round with three attorneys. Since the VLC opened, Law students have contributed over 10,000 hours of service and currently contribute an average of 2,550 hours per semester. The VLC has had contact with 255 veterans since May 29, 2013 and has provided representation and quick advice to 114 (45%) and referrals for an additional 59 (23%).

This project thus merges GLSP, MLAP, and the VLC in a shared effort to increase veterans' access to legal advice and representation throughout the state of Georgia.

Tax Status: Please upload the most recent IRS document that validates your organization's 501(c)(3) status.

Final

III. Project Information

Grant amount requested (\$40,000 maximum): \$40,000

Grant goals and objectives: Describe your project for which you are seeking funding. Explain in detail how this project meets at least one of the Grant's primary objectives to address the needs of veterans: (1) providing outreach and legal services; (2) collaborating with other legal services; and/or (3) creating or improving referral databases. (500 word maximum)

The Georgia Veterans Outreach Project (GVOP) will establish a rotating, remote clinic that ties volunteer legal services throughout Georgia to areas of the state that lack veteran-specific legal assistance. The project's objectives thus directly address objective 1), "providing outreach and legal services." At the same time, the project's design and delivery addresses the other two objectives in significant ways.

As to objective 1, the current pandemic shines a bright light on the need for remotely accessible legal services. Allowing veterans access to legal service providers through remote technology increases access to justice, while also protecting the health of veterans and service providers.

GVOP will also prioritize access to clinics for those who are traditionally marginalized by virtual services and veterans clinics in general. Many veterans experience homelessness, have phones with limited or no data plan, lack technological expertise, or face other obstacles to obtaining legal services. These veterans will be able to make contact through project computers set up at pre-designated venues as well as through their own phone or internet service. Project staff will maintain safe, healthy working conditions for on-site operations, consistent with guidance from public health authorities.

Finally, GVOP will focus on the legal needs arising from the pandemic. GLSP and the VLC have begun to identify and prepare materials that address emerging legal needs relating to shelter, health care, unemployment, debt, and family issues. GVOP will solicit feedback directly from veterans and their communities, so as to ensure that its services match the most urgent needs of veterans. GVOP will survey veterans in advance of the first clinic events, will ensure the availability of service providers with the necessary expertise, and will solicit feedback to allow it to tailor its services to the needs identified by its clients.

In addition to providing outreach service (Objective 1), GVOP also addresses the other two objectives of this grant. As to collaboration (Objective 2,) the proposal embodies a collaboration between GLSP, MLAP, and VLC. Each of these organizations in turn has its own network of collaborators on which it can draw in developing and delivering the service, including the bar, the University, the Law School, and other non-profit service providers. The project will emphasize local champions and gatekeepers at identified clinic sites. These partners can both enhance our knowledge, provide additional client materials, and identify and fill service gaps.

As to "referral databases" (objective 3,), MLAP already embodies the sole and still

primary network for connecting veterans and active duty service members to no- or low-cost legal services in Georgia. Its participation assures that GVOP can build on an already strong network through more assertive outreach with attorneys and other advocates both inside and outside the Atlanta metro region. Both GLSP and VLC also bring extensive networks of legal referrals to integrate into GVOP's services.

Final

Services provided: Which specific services will be provided by this project? Describe in detail the project's service methodology. Explain the organization's staff and volunteer responsibilities (if any). (1,000 word maximum)

The GVOP clinic model arises from the experiences of the various project partners trying to provide services to veterans living in rural and small-city Georgia. GVOP's partners have identified several key challenges. First, past attempts to organize clinics in underserved areas relied heavily on a local managing attorney to find venues, screen clients, and manage the event. Second, many regions in Georgia have few or even no lawyers or skilled advocates, requiring volunteers to travel to participate. Third, using VA properties as venues often resulted in the prohibition of service relating to VA benefits.

GVOP seeks to overcome all of these obstacles. It will rely on existing networks of service providers in each region and in particular, the strong existing networks within the veterans community. It creates a single system for scheduling and registration, fostering consistency in intake and screening. Through remote technology, it harnesses services by attorneys and law students while minimizing travel costs. Finally, it will use venues that impose few if any restrictions on the focus of the legal services provided.

The timeline for each GVOP clinic event will include: 1) identifying communities and venues; 2) publicity, including details on how to register; 3) pre-screening of participants; 4) identification and training of volunteers; 5) the delivery of service on the clinic day; and 6) post-event feedback and debriefing.

1) All partners in GVOP will make the decision about the communities in which it will hold its clinic events during the grant year. Once a community is identified, the VLC will take the lead in identifying and securing a venue at which GVOP will locate project equipment on the clinic day. The search for venues will focus on locations to which veterans and their dependents already go, such as libraries, veterans service organizations, extension offices, and the like.

2) Once the region, date, and venue are decided, the VLC will take responsibility for publicizing the event, both electronically (email, e-flyers, and social media) and through traditional advertising mediums (newspapers, radio, and television). The VLC will create a website that will include information about scheduled events as well as a registration form and a section for client materials.

3) Clients will pre-register for the event, using the project website and other means. VLC staff will screen all applicants, collect documentation as needed, and schedule clients for participation in the clinic. VLC will also send clients a link to Zoom and/or the physical address for the clinic event depending upon the participant's preference. Walk-in clients will be required to register either on-site with project or virtually with VLC.

MLAP and GLSP will identify those who might volunteer as service providers, using new and existing network contacts. Before the event, GLSP and the VLC will hold a minimum of two training sessions for volunteers: one on how to use the technology and process of the event itself; and a second on substantive legal issues likely to arise for clients. The substantive

sessions will include free CLE credit for attorneys volunteering with GVOP. The content of these sessions will be shaped by a legal needs assessment of veterans conducted in the grant planning quarter and will likely address pandemic-related veteran needs.

Just before the clinic event, project staff will travel to each location and set up between one and three “consultation stations” for any in-person participants: a computer with webcam; and a portable printer/scanner for the transmission of documents as needed. Stations will conform with the space available at the venue and with the need to assure confidential communications. Project staff will test equipment in advance and will be available during the session to troubleshoot any issues that may arise.

On the day of the event, participants will connect either from their own location using their own phone or computer or by visiting the local venue to use project equipment. Contact at the local venue will occur using project equipment, as described in the previous paragraph and with the assistance of clinic staff on site. Contact from the participant’s own location will occur using Zoom videoconferencing software, with precautions taken to assure the confidentiality of communication. A clinic staff person will act as the coordinator of the Zoom session, using Zoom’s waiting room, main room, and breakout room features to direct incoming participants to the appropriate breakout room for consultation.

Remote service providers, including lawyers and law students, will connect through the ongoing Zoom session. Each provider will occupy a single breakout room; clinic staff will “move” participants assigned to that provider into the breakout room for consultation. We do not anticipate any in-person service; all services will occur through Zoom.

Generally speaking, participants will fall into two categories: those whose income renders them eligible for service from GLSP; and those whose income renders them ineligible for GLSP services. Advance screening by the VLC will ensure that clients only consult with the service providers for whom they are eligible. GLSP will determine which providers can assist clients of either category and will ensure that all partners sign the requisite consents for each kind of service.

Participating volunteers will make no commitment to represent a client beyond the services provided on the day of the event. If further services are necessary, only GLSP-eligible clients will be referred to GLSP attorneys. All other clients would be referred either to the VLC or to MLAP’s existing pool of referrals.

GVOP staff and volunteers will make referrals for non-legal services as appropriate, using resource lists developed and maintained by GLSP and the VLC staff.

After the clinic, GLSP will survey all event participants about their experiences. Survey responses will be relayed to the event team, which will meet shortly after the event to discuss best practices, obstacles, and ideas for future clinics.

Served population and locations: Who will be eligible for the project's services and benefit from this project? Where will this project's services be provided (e.g. cities/counties/state)? If this project provides services in multiple jurisdictions, please specify these locations, along with the specific locations that would be supported by this Grant. Note that eligible projects for this Grant must deliver services to veterans only in the United States. (500 word maximum)

GVOP clinics will be limited to Georgia residents, with preference given to residents in the target region for each specific clinic event. Veterans and their families will receive information about both legal and non-legal services. Referrals for non-legal services to partner agencies will depend on criteria established by the partners during the planning phase of this grant.

Veteran participants with household incomes below 200% of the federally established poverty limit may be eligible for services from GLSP that go beyond consultation during the clinic. As to this category, exceptions may be made for elderly (60 years or older) or other veterans in accordance with grant and other GLSP or federal compliance policies.

GVOP will conduct six clinics in six different regions of Georgia and will prioritize residents of those regions in its pre-registration and walk-in process. GVOP will select regions using several different criteria, including the availability of other legal resources in that region; proximity to military bases or VA hospitals; distance from existing GLSP offices and the VLC; and other factors.

All media and outreach efforts will be limited to an event region, so that a clinic participant can reasonably attend the clinic in person, if necessary. This does not bar Georgians who reside outside each region; at the same time it prioritizes local participants and maximizes the clinic's impact for those whom access to services was already more difficult. Above all, it fosters local involvement, allowing GVOP to better assess and address veteran needs at the regional level.

Venue for each clinic will be selected based partner experience, local expertise and community partner input. All sites must be able to ensure at least one station for clients to access legal services confidentially, electrical access for project equipment, and free entry for project participants. Venues may not limit access to event participants based upon legal problem, participant demographics, or other participant qualities unless it threatens the safety and security of event volunteers and/or participants. In light of the pandemic, sites that provide additional assistance in accordance with social distancing and cleanliness guidelines will be highly prioritized.

All community service providers involved in the project will have services available and active for Georgia veterans. All pro bono volunteers will be eligible to practice in Georgia per regulations set by the State Bar of Georgia. Legal services available under GVOP will only be given to those veterans with eligible civil legal problems in Georgia or where federal law permits attorney practice regardless of state.

Linkages and collaboration: Will your organization lead or participate in any partnerships or collaborations with other non-profit organizations? Describe the needs of these collaborations in your community, the anticipated outcomes, and the list of partner organizations. If you will not collaborate with other non-profit organizations for the project, please explain. If there is an opportunity for the ABA to directly collaborate on this project, explain how you see that collaboration occurring. (500 word maximum)

GLSP and the VLC comprise the primary partnership of GVOP's team. GLSP will take responsibility for pro bono recruitment, volunteer recognition, and the function of the physical clinic site. The VLC will take responsibility for confirming venues, publicizing the event, registering and screening participants, and production of client materials. Both partners will collaborate to identify venues, train clinic volunteers, confirm screening/referral processes, schedule consultations, recruit non-legal veteran service providers, and conduct a client needs assessment of veterans.

GVOP will use its various existing partnerships with stakeholders and experts to lay a foundation for successful events. This includes work with The Warrior Alliance, the largest coordinator of non-legal veteran services in Georgia; officials from military bases; legal aid providers; and others to identify best practices, partnership opportunities, and service gaps in the remote clinic model.

GLSP and MLAP can also rely on the Military/Veterans Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia, which has already lent its experience with past clinics and will continue to offer guidance in navigating the obstacles already encountered. MLAP also has long-standing connections to the Emory Volunteer Clinic for Veterans, which may result in further diversifying the services provided by GVOP.

The VLC can bring other collaborations to bear on this project:

- The University of Georgia is itself a land-grant institution with a centuries-old mission to make its research and expertise available to all Georgians. The VLC has strong contacts with VLC's Office of Public Service and Outreach, which in turn has offices, projects, and networks in every county in Georgia.
- The VLC is one of 18 clinics at the UGA School of Law and will collaborate with those clinics in preparing and delivering service, especially on family law, health, and shelter issues. The director of the Jane W. Wilson Family Justice Clinic has indicated a strong interest in developing materials and training on family law issues.

GLSP and VLC welcome participation and assistance from the American Bar Association in identifying and meeting service gaps. Experiences of other veteran legal programs, training material samples, and other resources at the ready may expedite and improve clinic readiness and quality. Participation from the ABA may be in direct attendance at planning meetings and/or in one-on-one contact with project staff.

Project timeline: Provide a detailed timeline with associated deliverables for this project and your plans for the project beyond the Grant period. (500 word maximum)

Upon award of the grant, GLSP and the VLC will convene a kickoff meeting involving the providers of direct services, supervisors, relevant administrators, and relevant substantive legal experts from each organization. The team will discuss the grant purpose, deliverables, and deadlines. It will also allow for early input on potential obstacles that may impact our ability to move forward, especially in the planning quarter. Initial decisions about the regions for each clinic will occur.

Quarter 1 of the grant will focus on system planning, document creation, completing a client needs assessment, creation of a website, and coordinating with partners/referral agencies.

- GLSP staff will purchase technology and prepare template documents, such as clinic closing letters, to support the regular function of the clinics. Equipment noted in the budget will be ordered in accordance with GLSP and grant policies. GLSP will develop an initial base of volunteers and finalize a substantive volunteer training schedule of regular CLE events. It will also finalize a recruitment system with both the Project Director and the Pro Bono Content Coordinator.
- VLC staff will create materials to be used for publicity, screening protocols to comply with GLSP screening requirements, and protocols for managing the flow of consultation in Zoom. VLC will also create and design a website for use in publicizing clinic events, registering clients, and disseminating client materials. As areas of focus for legal topics are identified, VLC staff will create client educational materials to be distributed to participants and made available on the website.

Quarters 2, 3 and 4 of the grant will see the full project implemented. Two remote events will be delivered in each quarter. The project partners will train volunteers before each event, will collaborate in delivering each event, and will engage in post-event assessment:

- GLSP will recruit volunteers, will set up each venue for in-person participation, will document participation and success for each event, and will conduct post-event surveys of client satisfaction. In quarters 2 and 4, GLSP will also prepare reports as required by the ABA.
- The VLC will identify venues, create and distribute publicity for the event, register and screen participants, manage Zoom software during the event, and supervise law student participation during the event. VLC will also provide information to GLSP as necessary to report to the ABA.

Community partner involvement and communication will continue throughout the grant period. This includes in preparation of training content for pro bono volunteers, hosting of clinic sites, the development of outreach strategies, creation of issue-spotting forms that holistically assess veteran needs, develop a collaborative referral process and more. Partners will also participate in identifying and filling gaps in services available.

Method of evaluation: How will the project be evaluated? Provide a description of metrics that will be utilized to determine project achievements, including the qualitative and quantitative data on areas of need, services delivered, and outcomes achieved through the Grant. (500 word maximum)

GVOP will be evaluated based on the completion of its deliverables, creation of project supporting documents, and participation of partner agencies and veterans.

Both GLSP and VLC will provide a brief kickoff analysis, which includes a finalized project timeline, list of partner agency participants, anticipated regions for focus and anticipated areas of veteran legal needs. When completed, GLSP will also provide a summary of the veteran needs assessment results, and a statement of how these impact GVOP.

The services delivered will include quantitative counts of the number of pro bono volunteers, community partners, and law school partners. We will also provide the number of attendees at substantive CLE trainings conducted by the project and the number of trainings held, including a brief description of the substantive issues discussed.

GVOP will measure the strength of community partnership by the number of agencies involved in clinic events. We will also include a brief description of services offered by each partner outside of the general clinic services.

To measure client services delivered, GVOP will count the number of client participants and the types of legal problems for which clients receive assistance. We will also include a count of referrals generated to partner agencies. Neither GLSP nor VLC will provide specific information regarding client participants or their individual legal matters in reporting materials.

Finally, project outcomes will be measured in terms of final number of volunteers/community partners, gaps in services addressed over the course of the grant, and client feedback generated from any completed client satisfaction forms.

Accomplishments and outcomes: If this project already exists, please explain its accomplishments and outcomes, and how funding from the Grant could improve these efforts. Also explain if and how this project could be replicated by other entities. (500 word maximum)

Funding from the ABA Veterans Legal Assistance Grant will allow both GLSP and VLC fully realize a remote clinic system and improve their outreach efforts to veterans statewide. The financial and networking resources of the ABA lend support and expertise to the project from similar nationwide efforts and improves our ability to share best practices with others. GVOP will be more sustainable, stable, and impactful because of this.

GVOP has already undergone a small amount of testing under MLAP and in conjunction with GLSP partners. In March 2019, MLAP hosted its first clinic with GLSP's Columbus Regional Office. The event was completed in-person, with volunteers from Muscogee County, and was attended by 15 veterans seeking help with their veterans' benefits, discharges, and family law matters. One participant drove from Savannah for his consultation—highlighting the need for services outside Atlanta. A second event was scheduled in Brunswick for April of 2020. This event, also planned in-person, was postponed indefinitely due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The VLC already operates as a statewide law practice serving veterans and their families throughout the state of Georgia. Nearly two thirds of the VLC's contacts come from veterans who reside beyond driving distance from the VLC's office. As a result, the VLC does most of its work using phone and teleconference resources and handles most of its internal work through cloud-based software.

In addition, the VLC has already begun the process of creating a remote clinic event in its own service area. On May 9, 2020, VLC staff helped to create and deliver a Zoom-based webinar providing information and advice on tenant's rights during the COVID-19 pandemic. Using funding for two student fellows, the VLC will deliver an entirely remote, half-day clinic event in early July, 2020, using a network of existing service providers in Athens and a surrounding 18-county region. The VLC will work with MLAP and GLSP staff to ensure that this pilot event contributes to the overall design of the GVOP project.

In terms of outcomes, GVOP will eliminate barriers faced with purely in-person clinics, including the health, safety, and logistical ones brought to light by the pandemic. The project also anticipates community input, involvement, and buy-in to improve our understanding and ability to meet the needs of veterans regardless of their proximity to volunteers and resources.

Upload files (optional): Upload up to three documents pertaining to this request, such as a project [Marketing brochure](#), flyer, etc.

IV. Project Budget Information

Project budget: Please upload the project's detailed budget.

See excel sheet

Funding from others: If you have additional funding from other sources for this project, please identify the source(s) and amount(s) of such funds.

Georgia Legal Services Program will contribute \$23,348.00 to support the project. Funding will come from its existing GLSP Pro Bono Department funding, granted by the Legal Services Corporation.

The University of Georgia School of Law will contribute \$67,495.00 to support the project. This contribution consists primarily of personnel costs to deliver and supervise students and staff participation in the project, with much smaller amounts attributable to website development, publicity, and mileage and travel. Funding will come from private donations to the Law School to support the clinic's mission of service and outreach to veterans throughout Georgia, especially in rural areas.

2019-20 Section Annual Reports

Administrative Law

Animal Law

Aviation Law

Child Protection & Advocacy Law

Construction Law

Family Law

Franchise & Distribution Law

General Practice & Trial Law

Intellectual Property Law

Military Law

Nonprofit Law

May 4, 2020

Mary Jo Sullivan
Sections Director
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Administrative Law Section Annual Report 2019-2020

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I hope this letter finds you well. This letter shall serve as the Administrative Law Section's annual report for 2019-2020.

On December 19, 2020, the Section held its annual Holiday Party at Fadó in Midtown Atlanta. The Holiday Party is a great networking opportunity and permits Section members to discuss administrative law with their peers in the public and private sectors. This past Holiday Party was a tremendous success, with more than 50 attendees.

Regrettably, plans for a first or second quarter Administrative Law Section event did not materialize, in part due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Section is planning to hold events once normal operations resume, including its annual meeting, a lunch and learn on planned updates to the Administrative Rules of Procedure, and a CLE on the practitioner's perspective of administrative law proceedings.

Currently, the Section has 197 members and its budget is in excellent condition.

Sincerely,

Dominic Capraro
President
Administrative Law Section

Annual Report by the Animal Law Section- State Bar of Georgia 2019/2020

OFFICERS: Chair- Alyssa Myers
Vice Chair- David Zagoria
Secretary- Megan Boyd
Treasurer- Karyn "KC" Pagnotta

FINANCIALS:

Initial balance of 2019/2020 Section funds was reported as _____. End of year balance of Sections funds was _____. Expenditures were _____.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

The year started strong with many planned activities. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent closures, some activities did not move forward. The Board held a very productive meeting in August which resulted in several planned activities including a volunteer activity, CLE, end of year cocktail party, and end of year Board meeting. The cocktail party and Board meeting were unfortunately unable to be held.

VOLUNTEER WORK:

The Section volunteered in November at Project Chimps in Blue Ridge, GA. This is a facility that rescues lab animals. The Section established a relationship with the facility last year under former Chair, Betsy Choder.

CLE: Vice Chair, David Zagoria and his colleague, presented a fantastic Lunch and Learn CLE at Seasons 52 Perimeter in February. The topic was dog bites and such was presented from both the Plaintiff and Defendant sides of the case. The event was well attended and a delicious lunch was provided to members. It was discussed that this should be a recurring event as it was so successful.

UPCOMING 2020/2021 BOARD MEMBERS:

David Zagoria- Chair
Megan Boyd- Vice Chair
Karyn "KC" Pagnotta- Secretary

NOTE: Under last year's bylaw amendment, should one of these officers decide to step down in the middle of the year, the officer below that position would step up to fill the role for the remainder of the year.

ALAN ARMSTRONG
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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BUILDING 5, SUITE 350
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30341

(770) 451-0313
FAX (770) 451-0317

alan@alanarmstronglaw.com
www.alanarmstronglaw.com

April 9, 2020

Via Email

Board of Governors
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta St. NW
Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: 2020 Annual Report of Activities of the
Aviation Section of the State Bar of Georgia

Dear Members of the Board of Governors:

My feelings at the time I write this Annual Report to you are complex. Our nation is in the midst of a pandemic. Many of our civil rights and civil liberties have been suspended in the midst of a national emergency. On the date this Annual Report is written, I was supposed to be chairing a dinner sponsored by the Aviation Section for Robert "Hoot" Gibson, a retired United States Navy Commander, aeronautical engineer, test pilot, space shuttle commander, U.S. Navy fighter pilot, and Reno air race pilot. But, alas, the circumstances in which we find ourselves will not allow social gatherings of this nature.

We were to have convened a seminar on April 9, 2020, dealing with Aviation Law. Commander Gibson was to have been one of the speakers.

America will rebuild itself from this devastating attack on the welfare of our citizens and the economic structure of this country. So, too, will the Aviation Section reconstitute itself and, in time, conduct the Aviation Law Seminar, the particulars of which are set out on Exhibit A attached to this letter.

In terms of pedestrian matters, as the Chair I can report to you that the Aviation Section is comprised of 177 members and we have a balance in our account of \$15,175.76. It is with pride that I render this report to you. My pride is in the character of the members that constitute this Section. They are men and women of honor, intelligence and a devotion to the law. I also write this letter with a sense of humility, because I am humbled to be a Chairman of this Section and appreciate the kindness and courtesies that have been bestowed upon me in this capacity.

In summary, this report is a summary about the year that might have been, but did not become a reality. Perhaps, in time, we can put our Section and our country back together.

Respectfully,


Alan Armstrong

AA/kjw

Thursday, April 9, 2020

ICLE: Atlanta Series

AVIATION LAW

6 CLE HOURS INCLUDING | 1 ETHICS HOUR | 1 PROFESSIONALISM HOUR | 2 TRIAL PRACTICE HOURS

AGENDA

PRESIDING:

E. Alan Armstrong, Attorney at Law, Atlanta

10:30 **REGISTRATION** (All attendees must check in upon arrival.)

3:45 **BREAK**

10:50 **WELCOME**
Alan Armstrong

3:55 **EVIDENCE**
John D. Hadden, The Hadden Law Firm LLC, Atlanta

11:00 **AERODYNAMICS**
Robert "Hoot" Gibson (Cmdr. USN, ret.), B.A.
Aeronautical Engineering, Test Pilot, Space Shuttle Commander, US Navy Fighter Pilot, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

4:55 **VOIR DIRE**
Ronald E. Daniels, Daniels Law LLC, Easton

5:55 **ADJOURN**

12:00 **MEDIATION**
Nigel Wright, Miles Mediation & Arbitration, Atlanta

1:00 **LUNCH**

1:45 **ETHICS** (Legal Ethics)
William D. Nesmith III, Office of General Counsel, State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta

2:45 **PROFESSIONALISM** (Professionalism)
Frank J. Beltran, The Beltran Firm, Atlanta



ICLE will provide only digital class materials.

SPACE IS LIMITED.

ICLE cannot guarantee admission to onsite registrants.
Early registration closes 48 hours before the seminar.





JUVENILE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY
197 Carl Griffin Drive
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31405-1362

(912) 652-6700

Honorable LeRoy Burke, III

John Paul Berlon
Senior Staff Attorney
Direct: 912-652-6918

April 29, 2020

Mr. Darrell Sutton
President, State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta St, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Child Protection and Advocacy Section
2019-20 Annual Report

SENT VIA US MAIL AND BY EMAIL

Dear President Sutton:

Pursuant to Article X, Section 6 of the bylaws of the State Bar of Georgia, a report of the activities of the Section during the 2019-20 year is hereby submitted for your consideration.

The Child Protection and Advocacy Section (hereinafter "Section") is concluding its eighth year of operation. The membership of the Section represents a broad spectrum of lawyers and judges who practice in child advocacy and protection. As of February 9, 2020, the Section has grown to 509 members. The Section usually recruits new members during the annual full day CLE program however the Section could not justify a full-day IACLE seminar at the increased price of \$250 per person and the pro bono policy was incompatible with the practice for the vast majority of the membership. Due to the aforementioned reasons, the Executive Committee replaced a full-day CLE program with a professionalism lunch and learn.

The Section serves as a forum for dissemination of information on aspects of juvenile law practice related to children. The Section consists of various representatives in juvenile justice: child directed representation, best interest representation, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, many agency representatives including, but not limited to, Department of Juvenile Justice, Division of Family and Children Services, Georgia Department of Education, education representatives, Georgia Legal Services, Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Georgia Appleseed, and other government and non-government organizations.

CPAS 2019-2020 Annual Report
April 29, 2020 Letter to President Sutton

An Annual Meeting of the Section was held on January 30, 2020. During the meeting, proposed changes in the Section's bylaws were presented. The changes in the bylaws reflect the initiative led by Chairperson Nicki Vaughan on having an Executive Committee reflect the multifaceted roles within child welfare and from all parts of the Georgia. The Section approved the minutes and awaiting final adoption by the State Bar's general counsel, Executive Committee and Board of Governors for approval.

Nicki Vaughan, one of the founding members of the Section and Chairperson for the last eight years, was celebrated for her efforts in creating the Section and for her leadership. Chairperson Vaughan was a tireless advocate for the Section and its many pursuits. The Section adopted the Nominating Committee's slate of nominations. By unanimous vote, the following were voted as officers of the Section: John Paul Berlon, Chair; Tonya Boga, Vice-Chair; Randee Waldman, Treasurer; and Laurie Thomas, Secretary. Nicki Vaughan will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past Chairperson. The Section has identified areas of Judicial Districts that are not represented by the Executive Committee. The Section is pursuing current members of the Section from unrepresented rural areas of the State to serve on the Executive Committee. The following members of the Executive Committee will focus increased outreach efforts in the following judicial circuits:

Judicial District	Name	Email Address	Telephone
1	John Paul Berlon	jpberlon@chathamcounty.org	912-652-6918
2	To Be Determined		
3	Ira Foster	ifoster@glsp.org	404-206-5175
4	Laurie Thomas	lauriethomaslaw@yahoo.com	912-964-1115
5	Afiyah Hinkson	afiya@thehinksonfirm.com	678-914-7715
6	To Be Determined		
7	Hon. Carolyn Altman	carolyn.altman@paulding.gov	770-443-4532
8	Vicky Kimbrell	vkimbrell@glsp.org	404-563-7710 ext. 1603
9	Nicki Vaughan	nvaughan@hallcounty.org	678-283-5177
10	Amanda Monaco	amandah.monaco@gmail.com	631-219-5155

CPAS 2019-2020 Annual Report
April 29, 2020 Letter to President Sutton

The Section's annual holiday tradition is to give presents to kids in foster care. This years benefactor was Guardian Ad Litem Angels (GALA) in Chatham County. The Section also supported back-to-school events for kids in foster care and/or committed kids under the delinquency system. These contributions benefitted students in Screven and Jenkins counties as well as in Perry, Georgia. The Section supported programs like the School Drop Out Prevention Program/High School Pipeline Program. The Section also sponsored social networking events for members of the Section throughout the year and in various locations across the state: Atlanta (August 2019), Savannah (July 2019).

The Section published "Kids Matter", a quarterly publication that provides highlights of the Section's activities and disseminates information such as updates in child welfare law, community initiatives, and other thought-providing issues facing practitioners of child welfare and advocacy. The newsletter is emailed to members and made available on the Section's webpage. The Section held a hot-topics CLE seminar in January 2020. The Honorable Steven Teske, Judge of Clayton County Juvenile Court, presented on the topic of professionalism.

Another priority of the Section is to provide scholarships for members to attend training conferences and take advantage of national educational opportunities.

The Executive Committee has compiled a list of resources for Section members to review in addressing the impacts of COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,



John Paul Berlon

cc: CPAS EC
Mary Jo Sullivan, Sections Director
M. Lane Sosebee, Sections Coordinator

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL
ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mary Jo Sullivan
Lane Sosebee,
Section Liaisons State Bar of Georgia

FROM: Peter Crofton, Chair
Gregory Smith, Vice-Chair

DATE: April 26, 2020

RE: Construction Law Section of The State Bar of Georgia Annual Report 2019-2020

The Construction Law Section had a great first full year. Since its formation on November 2, 2018, we have grown the membership to 265, and we have \$4,475 in our account with the Bar. The recent epidemic has disrupted several of the programs we have in the works; however, we are looking forward to moving forward with these as Georgia and our nation resume operations. Our significant projects this year include:

1. Oral History Project

Most member of the State Bar are unaware of the pivotal role that Georgia lawyers played in developing the field of construction law. Our entire Section stands on the shoulders of these pioneers. To preserve this important history, the Construction Law Section has undertaken an ongoing oral history project to capture the stories of Georgia lawyers instrumental in founding and steering the development of construction law. This project aims to honor these members of the Bar by creating a permanent record of their contributions, while also initiating an ongoing process to preserving the history still being made today.

In February 2020, we recorded interviews with four Georgia pioneers of the construction bar. We are preserving those interviews for future use and study by producing interview videos that highlight the life story and rich history experienced by these pioneers. These videos will be posted on the Section's website.

Additionally, we are preparing a short (5-7 minute) video that explores the relationship between the development of the City of Atlanta and the development of the field of Construction Law. Told in the words of these Bar pioneers who contributed to the development of both, the video explains this history so all Bar members can take pride in how their fellow Bar members helped to shape today. This video also promotes the oral history project itself to raise interest in and support for this project. We hope to send a link to the video to all members of the Bar, and to post the video on the Section's website so anyone can access it.

The epidemic has delayed completion of this project. The short video is almost completed, however, final completion and the "viewing party" for the section to see it have been postponed by current conditions. We look forward to completing this project as soon as possible.

2. Women in Construction Roundtable Discussion

In February 2020, we held an event that celebrated the strides made by women in the construction industry. The event began with a panel discussion that highlighted the expanding role of women and women attorneys in the construction industry. The event featured four panelist from widely varied parts of the construction industry – the owner of a construction company, two in-house counsel with large general contractors, and a partner in the construction practice of a large firm.

After the roundtable, the attendees and panelist continued the discussion at a reception. The reception fostered small group discussions that lasted well past the scheduled end time. The reception also allowed the attendees to network while building fellowship within the Section.

The event was attended by over 40 people, most of whom were women attorneys. The event was designed to celebrate the accomplishments of women in construction, and to raise awareness of the challenges women in the industry continue to face. Those attending received an hour of professionalism CLE credit.

3. Hispanic Outreach

Hispanics make up a substantial part of the labor in the construction industry, with some estimates as high as 40%. Yet, Hispanic contractors and laborers are underserved by the construction bar due to language and other barriers. This situation too often results in unfair, and sometimes outright illegal, treatment of Hispanic contractors and laborers.

In the fall of last year, the Mexican Consulate reached out to the Section to see if it could help a group of Hispanic workers who were unable to recovery wages owed to them. We went to work assembling a group of individuals and organizations who could assist these and other workers, while also providing educational programs to Hispanic companies on both obligations to their workers, and their rights to obtain payment from those who hire the companies. We

officially launched the program in December 2019 as a joint effort of the Section, the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, and a few individual law firms. We are also working with the Georgia State and Emory law schools to involve bilingual students in the program as well.

Prior to the epidemic, we were working with the Mexican Consul to schedule a presentation about the program during the monthly meeting Central and South American Consuls. The program also assisted with a presentation to the Georgia Hispanic Construction Association; however, follow-up presentations have been postponed for the time being.

It has been a productive year, and our membership continues to grow as we strive to reach our goal of supporting the members in their practices.



May 2019

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FAMILY LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF
GEORGIA BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FAMILY LAW
SECTION 2019-2020**

The Family Law Section is uniquely situated to touch and impact not only the members of our section, but our community and other practice areas of the bar, as well. Most of us are lucky enough to be a part of a family, whether one we are born into or a family that we create. As such, during our lifetimes, most of us have or will have to address a family matter -- whether the beauty of an adoption or the disappointment of divorce. Aware of that opportunity, the Section strives to support our member base and the community we serve, while embracing other sections of the bar. Review of the actions and accomplishments of Family Law Section during the past year affirms the positive efforts and influence of the section. Those actions and accomplishments support presenting the Section of the Year award to the Family Law Section. A summary of the activities we have undertaken follow:

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE) PROGRAMS

The Family Law Section continues its commitment to organizing and sponsoring inclusive and diverse continuing legal education programs designed to support the education and practice of attorneys in the family law arena, whether the attorney is new or seasoned or practicing inside or outside a metropolitan area. This past year our Section sponsored the following programs:

The Family Law Institute

Our Section held its 37th *Annual Family Law Institute* at the Omni Amelia Island, Florida on May 23, 24 and– 25, 2020. The Institute has long been heralded at the Section’s most important annual function and organizing the Institute has long been a labor of love for the Vice Chair and Executive Committee. The 2019 agenda consisted of three (3) days of CLE programming and other social and wellness activities including the historical nightly receptions coupled with new activities including the Opening Night Movie on the Lawn, Karaoke Night, Morning Yoga on the Beach and more. The agenda is attached to this report as **Exhibit “A”**.

In 2019, the *Institute* was titled “*Lights, Camera, Action! Reel to Real Family Law...*” encompassed an old movie theme and included groundbreaking diversity in topics, speakers and attendees. The 37th *Annual Family Law Institute* was a prime example of our concerted effort to include the entirety of our members...whether by virtue of age, gender, orientation, religion, location or client base. Though approximately twelve (12) continuing legal education hours have customarily been offered at our Institutes, the 2019 *Institute* offered more than sixteen (16) credit hours including, but not limited to, topics relating to cognitive bias, the changing face of family (surrogacy, ART, IVF), same sex and LGBTQ issues, mental health, addiction, people with disabilities, navigating religion, evidence principles and child support. The old movie theme resonated throughout the three (3) days and each session was illustrated and captioned with an old

movie title. For example, the movie title *To Kill A Mockingbird* introduced and set the stage for *Considering and Countering Cognitive Bias in or Courts and with our Clients: What it is and Why it Matters*. The *Institute's* speakers included attorneys and judges from the width and breadth of Georgia, including attorneys from the pro bono (Atlanta Legal Aid, Southern Poverty Law, Georgia Legal Services Program, Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network) and multi bar sectors. Some of the multi bar associations represented include the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorney's, Atlanta Bar Association, Dekalb Bar Association, Younger Lawyers Division, AAML and Stonewall Bar Association. Speakers from the following bar sections also presented at the Institute: bankruptcy, real property, taxation, fiduciary, elder law, professional liability and entertainment law. As such, attorneys from different practice areas were able to meet us where the practice areas crossed and guide us the minefields. And, attorneys from all sectors of society were able to bring their and their clients' perspectives and respective cultural considerations to our attendees. Charmingly, one of Friday's highlights included *Etnie*, the support dog who joined us during *The Miracle Worker, People with Disabilities: Securing Access on Myriad Fronts* segment. *Etnie* was patient with her fans and allowed a warm respite from the day. Friends from near and far joined our ranks to share their knowledge and expertise at the Institute. California, the state at the helm of the movie industry, supported our thematic efforts. Meagan Hunter (*A Streetcar Named Desire*) and Bill Eddy (*Hush...Hush, Sweet Charlotte*) from the *High Conflict Institute* in San Diego provided pointers on handling high conflict cases. The "disso" (dissolution) queen and California powerhouse Laura Wasser (*All that Heaven Allows – Star crossed...it's over easy – Successfully Handling Difficult and Easy Divorces*) rounded out the star-studded *Institute*. The effort was to include and embrace all.

Activities also encouraged comradery and inclusion and included the following:

1) *First Timer's Breakfast* – In 2019, the *YLD Section* supported the First Timer's Breakfast (*Breakfast at Tiffany's*) for the first time. *YLD* shared in the costs of the event, but *YLD* Officer's and Committee members also attended and gave a presentation. The breakfast spearheads the start of the *Institute* and a perfect gathering for attendees as they were personally greeted, introduced to and allowed to interact with judges and members of the Executive Committee and other attendees. Adding the *YLD Section* to the equation ensured that the new members felt embraced by a variety of lawyers at differing stages in their careers;

2) *Opening Night Dinner* - The annual Thursday night dinner has historically been an "invitation only" Speakers' and Judges' Dinner. The dinner is designed to thank the presenters and high-level sponsors for devoting their time, talents and assets to the *Institute*. Again, for the first time, the Thursday dinner was turned into a red-carpet event (*Casablanca*) and all seminar attendees were invited. Graciously, esteemed Judges from the Court of Appeals joined us and delivered their wisdom via *Legal Letters* in Ted Talks format. The Honorable Stephen Goss' presentation remains a very special memory for the attendees. An "after party" followed the red-carpet event with Atlanta breed DJ "KP THE GREAT" spinning on the ones and twos. Relationships with our members, partners and community are important to the Section As a testament to our bridge building efforts, one of our valued long-time sponsors stepped up to sponsor the after party. They will again do so for the upcoming *Institute* and we hope their sponsorship of the opening night event will become a tradition;

3) *Karaoke Night* was another new event which allowed Section members and/or their families to enjoy music and perform with abandon on at the *Friday Night Reception*. As we made new friends (new events), we kept the old. *Specific Deviations*, a band comprised of a Judge and lawyers with a rock sensibility regaled us with their usual standout performance. The flow of

music and performances during the Friday night reception allowed us to bond over a shared love of music and dance and to see each other in different and diffused lighting;

4) The yearly “*Bring Your File*” event hosted by Section members who were also members of the *American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (“AAML”)* provided a platform for attendees to ask questions and receive answers about their domestic case files from very experienced and seasoned AAML domestic attorneys.

5) The *Diversity and Inclusion Committee* hosted the Second Annual luncheon. Our multi-bar and pro bono partners represented their organizations through tables set up around the room to welcome attendees and introduce them to our Committee and the respective partner association. A speaker from the local *American Beach Museum* regaled the audience with stories of the “*The Beach Lady*” and the diverse culture, stories and heritage of the area. Those attending the luncheon enjoyed a low country, Gullah-Geechee themed meal representative of the diverse population in the Amelia Island area.

The Section enjoyed stellar attendance at this *Institute*. In past years, a common refrain from attendees has been that the *Institute* did not include sufficient diversity in topics presented, the ethnic and cultural make-up of the speakers and the locations from where the speakers emanated in Georgia. The sheer number of topics, speakers and sessions afforded each attendee an opportunity to attend a session of interest and to feel included. In addition, breakout sessions provided options which allowed attendees to make course selections. The resounding response to *Lights, Camera, Action!* was that diversity and inclusion were showcased and spotlighted.

In addition, our 2019 fundraising efforts for the Institute reached a new level of success. We received sponsorship funds from *one hundred twenty-three (123)* diverse sponsors, varying from solo practitioners to large corporations, friends - both old and new. Karine Burney

again chaired the well-organized sponsorship initiative. She has successfully chaired the Sponsorship Committee for the past several years. In 2019, we raised more money than ever before, reaching *one hundred fifty-nine thousand four hundred seventy-five dollars (\$159,475.00)* in total contributions, a testament to the welcome garnered by the inclusion efforts. For the first time, the Institute realized a profit. The profit allows the Section to continue to remain fiscally sound as plans are made for the 2020 - 2021 year.

In conclusion, the 2019 *Institute* was a resounding success that allowed lawyers from all walks of life in Georgia to feel seen and heard and a part of the *family*. The seminar benefitted lawyers and judges of all experience levels, promoted congenial relations amongst lawyers who often deal with each other in very contentious and difficult cases, provided tools to handle those difficult cases, placed very different lawyers in very similar shoes and allowed us to walk, learn and live very different lives together.

The much anticipated 2020 *Family Law Institute* was scheduled to be held in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina from May 14 - May 16, 2020. The agenda "*THE MORE YOU KNOW – When Complex Family Law Issues Collide with Other Practice Areas*" compelling and garnered significant interest. Life stepped in, but we expect the Institute planned by Vice Chair Kyla Lines to be phenomenal. The fantastic line up is attached as **Exhibit "B"**. Significant support has continued through sponsorships have been collected by the Sponsorship Committee. We will continue to work with the Institute of Continuing Legal Education to reschedule, if possible.

Nuts & Bolts of Family Law

In 2019, the Family Law Section sponsored the Nuts and Bolts seminars that took place at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah on August 16 and at the State Bar of Georgia in Atlanta on September 19. These annual seminars are designed to provide practitioners with continuing

education concerning the fundamentals of various topics ingrained the practice of family law. Topics are designed to help attendees improve one's practice of family from a pragmatic perspective as well as to provide recent developments in the law and in the practice.

Both seminars organized by Secretary Leigh Cumming were very well-attended with over seventy (70) attendees in Savannah and over two hundred (200) attendees in Atlanta. Attendees consisted not only of members of the Family Law Section, but also by non-members seeking to sharpen their domestic relations practice skills. The speakers at both seminars (21 in Savannah and 23 in Atlanta) were comprised of outstanding family law practitioners, judges and experts from a diverse array of backgrounds, including but not limited to gender, race, religion, culture and orientation. The agenda for the Savannah seminar is attached hereto as Exhibit "C". The agenda for the Atlanta seminar is attached hereto as Exhibit "D".

Over the years, the Nuts and Bolts of Family Law seminars continue to be very highly anticipated events each fall.

Annual Meeting Seminar

The Family Law Section of the State Bar hosted its annual meeting in connection with the State Bar of Georgia's Mid-Year Meeting on January 9, 2020. Following the Executive Committee's monthly meeting, the Family Law Section hosted a one-hour CLE organized by Katie Leonard. The CLE featured "*The New Kids on the Block*," the newest members of the Fulton and DeKalb Superior Courts. The panel of judges included Judge Stacy Hydrick of the Superior Court of DeKalb County, Judge Shondeana Morris of the Superior Court of DeKalb County, Judge Rebecca Rieder of the Superior Court of Fulton County, and Judge Rachelle Carnesale of the Superior Court of Fulton County. The Judges spoke on a variety of topics including procedures for scheduling a temporary or final hearing in their respective courtrooms, preferences on presentation

of argument and evidence. Further, the judges discussed their general attitude towards different custodial and parenting time arrangements, alimony, and attorney's fees. Guests were invited to ask questions of the judge panel on any specific topic that interested them. Keeping with tradition, the CLE was concluded with a brief Section meeting, where the slate of officers selected by the nominating committee was approved by the Section as a whole. For the 2020-2021 year, Kyla Lines will serve as the Chair of the Section, Leigh Cummings will be the Vice-Chair, and Ted Eittreim will be the Secretary.

Following the CLE, the Family Law Section hosted a reception for the judges and guests, which was attended by several distinguished members of the Judiciary including Supreme Court Justices and Judges of the Court of Appeals. The Georgian Terrace was an ideal location to host one of the Family Law Sections most well-attended event.

Finally, for the first time, section members received a “*Report from our Chair...the year of inclusion – the first six months*” outlining the year to date efforts of the Section at the Annual Meeting.

John C. Mayoue Professionalism Seminar

An appreciation of, and commitment to, professionalism has always been one of the prerequisites for the successful practice of family law. Prior to his passing in 2016, John C. Mayoue made speaking about professionalism one of the hallmarks of his distinguished career. For twenty-three consecutive years, Mr. Mayoue presented the Family Law Convocation on Professionalism, and it is in his memory that the Section, after a one-year hiatus, once again presented the John C. Mayoue Seminar on Professionalism on February 13, 2020, now in its twenty-fifth iteration.

In the tradition that Mr. Mayoue established, the Seminar gathered some of the most distinguished practitioners and jurists in a two-panel format to share their thoughts on various professionalism topics in an open discussion with the attendees. Ted Eittreim, Mr. Mayoue's former law partner, member-at-large of the Family Law Section's Executive Committee, and the rising Secretary of the Section, moderated the panels, which included three past Chairpersons of the Section, Gary Graham, Jonathan Tuggle, and Kelly Anne Miles; three judges, The Honorable Kimberly Childs, The Honorable T. David Lyles, and the Honorable Gregory A. Adams; and one panelist, The Honorable Rebecca Crumrine Rieder, who is *both* a past Chairperson of the Section and now sitting judge. As usual, a lively and inclusive discussion ensued between the panelists and the attendees, who shared their thoughts on many different issues, fostering a greater sense of comradery and understanding between the bench and the bar.

The tradition that Mr. Mayoue began nearly three decades ago continues on, and while his presence and wisdom is sorely missed, the ideas that he practiced and preached live on. Through the continuation of the Professionalism Seminar that he established, the Section will continue inspire both new and seasoned family law practitioners alike to a firm commitment to professionalism towards each other and towards our courts.

Family Law Issues for the Modern Family “Seminar

The Family Law Section also helped sponsor the 9th Annual Family Law Issues for the Modern Family. The CLE is focused on LGBTQ family issues was to be held at the State Bar on March 17, 2020. Due to the pandemic, the CLE was cancelled and is rescheduled to occur in September 2020.

Other CLE Courses Co-Sponsored by the Section

Additionally, the Family Law Section co-sponsored the following continuing education courses: “Not Your Everyday Custody Case,” Atlanta, Georgia on January 29, 2020 with the DeKalb Bar Association and the 15th Annual Family Law Seminar, Augusta, Georgia on October 11, 2020 with the Augusta Bar Association.

Seminars Outside the Perimeter

Members of the Executive Committee also worked to organize additional seminars outside the perimeter. Kelley O’Neill Boswell was implemental in initiating plans to host a seminar in Albany with an emphasis on mental health. One of the goals of the seminar was to honor Judge Stephen Goss, who was from the area. In addition, Donna Hix from Columbus endeavored to assist with partnering with a local bar association to organize a luncheon seminar in Columbus. Planning for both events was waylaid by the current national crisis, but we remain committed to expanding our program locations.

FAMILY LAW REVIEW

Three times per year, the Section publishes the *Family Law Review*, a periodical with articles, interviews, information, and communications authored by members and friends of the Section. In addition to allowing the Section’s nearly two thousand members to have a common touchpoint that hopefully helps to strengthen the ties between our members, the *FLR* seeks to educate and inform the Section’s membership as to current events and topics relevant to the practice of family law in Georgia. The *FLR* and the articles contained in each issue are often discussed by the membership at events and continuing legal educational seminars, and the *FLR* provides another method by which the Section can promote not only a greater erudition among

family law practitioners, but also a greater commitment to professionalism among our membership.

The *FLR* actively solicits articles and other contributions from the Section’s members and friends of the Section, and the response to such solicitations is typically strong, allowing Section members to individually contribute to the overall education of and sense of congeniality amongst the Section’s members. In this way, individual members have a greater feeling of “belonging” or “inclusion” in the Section’s activities and direction, strengthening the collective membership.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the *FLR*, like many other aspects of life, was tested by the new reality of lockdowns and “stay-at-home” orders. Faced with the novel problem of the *FLR*’s publisher being shut down indefinitely, the Section nevertheless was able to publish the *FLR* in digital-only format. While delayed slightly from its originally-intended publication date, the *FLR* went out, in part to reassure and stay engaged with the Section’s members. The hope was that the publication of the *FLR* to the membership would provide some sense of normalcy in a world that had become significantly “abnormal” seemingly overnight.

Regardless of the struggles and challenges that lie ahead in the post-COVID-19 “new normal”, the *FLR* will remain an important element of membership in the Family Law Section. Through its continued publication, whether digitally or physically, the *FLR* will continue to be one significant way in which our membership can share a common experience. In that manner, the *FLR* will hopefully promote greater understanding amongst and between practitioners, contributing to a greater commitment to professionalism and congeniality which, while important in every practice area, takes on special significance in the often emotionally-fraught realm of family law practice. The cover page, table of contents, editorial notes and photographs of Committee events from the recently published issue are attached as **Exhibit “E”**.

MONITORING AND DRAFTING LEGISLATION

Because of the COVID 19 pandemic, the 2020 legislative session was interrupted and, as of this writing, suspended until further notice. Throughout the session, the Family Law Section's Legislative Liaison, Hannibal Heredia, and a subcommittee made up of Family Law Section members tracked legislation relevant to our practice, and advised legislators on various bills within the parameters of the of the Bar Rules and the limitations of *Keller v. State Bar of California*, 496 U.S. 1 (1990). The subcommittee tracked ten (10) different bills and members in their individual capacity commented on a couple of the bills that were determined to be more relevant to our section. Some of the bills were proposed for this first time during this session, and some were carried over from the 2019 legislative session.

Of note during the session was the Fiduciary Law Section comprehensive cleanup of many statutes in the Official Code of Georgia. A statute that was relevant to the Family Law Section as it relates to alimony was included (O.C.G.A. § 19-6-7). The two sections worked together to ensure that the revisions did not inadvertently affect family law practitioners.

Additionally, two bills were introduced at the very end of the first half of the session that were noteworthy to the legislative committee. The first would have revised who had standing under the equitable caregiver statute (O.C.G.A. 19-7-3.1). The second was a proposed major overhaul to the custody statute (O.C.G.A. 19-9-3). Section member began to prepare for comment on both bills. However, the bills did not make it out of committee before cross over day and for now are stayed.

After the COVID 19 pandemic sequestered courts and attorneys, our Legislative Liaison worked with the Director of Governmental Affairs at the State Bar of Georgia, to advise the Governor's office on need for inclusion in his office's executive orders for 1) a mandate as to the

continuation of parenting plans during Shelter at Home and 2) an exception for remote notarizations for other legal matters other than real estate transactions. Both matters would subsequently be included in the Governor's executive orders.

Subsequent to the Governor's executive order as to remote notarization, members of the Family Law Section executive committee drafted a best practices for remote notarization that was published to bar members.

The Family Law Section will continue to track legislation as it is proposed, and to keep members of the Section apprised of what is going on under the Gold Dome.

ENCOURAGING PRO BONO

The Family Law Section of the State Bar offers up to five (5) scholarships to Family Law Section members and/or third-year law students who show a commitment to family law and public interest to attend the 2020 Family Law Institute. This year, a new scholarship has been named in memory of the Honorable Stephen Goss and will focus on commitment to mental health issues in family law. A scholarship with a focus on professionalism and public service is named in memory of John Mayoue. Remainder scholarships, including one in memory of Kurt Kegel and one in memory of Jill Radwin, focus on commitment to pro bono and family law work. Each Scholarship will pay \$1,500.00 towards the ICLE registration costs for the seminar and accommodations for three nights at the available room rate.

The goal of offering the scholarships is to provide funds for lawyers from around the state who otherwise could not afford to attend the Institute and to encourage section members to provide pro bono services. The recipients are required to attend the Family Law Institute and accept one Pro Bono domestic violence and/or divorce case referral from the Georgia Legal Services Program

(GLSP) before Dec. 31, 2020. GLSP provides representation to low-income clients in Georgia who cannot afford a lawyer. The scholarships will be awarded based on financial need and commitment to Pro Bono work.

In 2019, thirteen (13) people applied for the five (5) scholarships. Four (4) scholarships were awarded. A scholarship was awarded to a staff attorney from DeKalb Volunteer Lawyers Association in memory of Kurt Kegel. A staff attorney from Georgia Legal Services Program was awarded in memory of Jill Radwin and two additional general scholarships were awarded to solo practitioners with a demonstrated commitment to family law.

The Section is proud to promote pro bono representation and to include individuals devoted to same so that they might attend the Institute when circumstances might otherwise not permit.

Our section also continued our support of our friends leading the pro bono charge with financial contributions from the Section and Executive Committee member attendance at the following:

Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Annual Wine Tasting event (\$1,500.00),

Dekalb Volunteer Lawyers Leading the Charge Awards Luncheon (\$1,000.00);

Emory Public Interest Inspiration Award (proudly honoring past Executive Committee member and Atlanta Legal Aid Managing Attorney Michelle Jordan (\$250.00).

SECTION MEMBERSHIP, FINANCES, AND ORGANIZATION

The Family Law Section membership accords it one of the largest State Bar sections with more than two thousand (2,000) members. We are currently in an extremely positive financial position with an account balance of approximately \$399,588.09 as of April 8, 2020. The Executive Committee is a solid team and committee members remain aligned and abreast of respective committee assignments and obligations necessary to accomplish the goals set for this

year by meeting monthly during the section year. The Executive Committee met nine times between August 2019 and April 2020 for approximately one (1) hour. The next meeting will occur in May 2020.

Officer Meetings

One of the new goals the Executive Committee set this year was to set about a course of establishing “institutional knowledge” of policies and procedures for the Committee. Toward that end, the three (3) officers held “in person” and virtual officer meetings as needed during the year. The Officers also strove to make it a practice to attend State Bar related meetings as a unit.

Team Building

Team effort is the foundation that supports the accomplishments of the Executive Committee. This year, two (2) of the Executive Committee meetings have been dinner meetings designed to encourage comradery. Two (2) meetings have been virtual meetings which accommodated the schedules of members and eliminated the time spent traveling to a meeting site. In addition, each meeting is readily accessible to committee members via conference call line.

On August 9 and 10, 2019, our Chair sponsored an Executive Committee team-building overnight retreat at Solomon’s Temple, a shelter housing women and children without homes. Also taking part in the retreat was Restoration Atlanta (“RATL”), an organization which partners with Solomon’s Temple to provide childcare and other related services for the residents of the shelter and also took part in the retreat. Executive Committee members, Inclusion Committee members and several volunteers joined the families for quality and play time, arts and crafts and cooked dinner that evening and breakfast the next morning. All left the experience transformed. A bond was forged that continues to this day.

In addition, in our continued effort to be inclusive, we held Executive Committee meetings at locations outside of the Atlanta area beginning with our first meeting of the year. In August 2019, we met in Savannah, Georgia, home of our immediate past Chair and current Executive Committee member, Jonathan Dunn. The meeting in Savannah also allowed committee members to support the Nuts and Bolts seminar organized by Secretary Leigh Cummings.

And, we held our annual retreat during the winter for the first time and convened in February 2020 at Barnsley Resort in Adairsville, Georgia. The team building theme was “Together is Better” and allowed the Committee to successfully move forward with plans for the Institute and remainder of the year.

Another goal is to support other sections and bar associations. As such, Chair ivory t. brown was grateful to be invited to attend the State Bar sponsored Section Chair Orientation on July 23, 2019. On behalf of the section, she invited all interested sections to partner with us on future legal education events or social mixers and advised that we would be available to assist the new sections learn the ropes. On August 20, 2019, our Chair attended a Transition into Law Practice Mentoring Program to gain information on how to best support the younger lawyers entering our practice. Each experience was invaluable and provided tools and information shared with the Executive Committee to assist our goal of passing down institutional knowledge amongst our members. This year, we have supported the efforts of sections and other entities including the Pro Bono Section and the Child Support Commission by sending email blasts to our members to participate in surveys and/or volunteer. Many members of our Executive Committee support other State Bar and multi-bar sections by speaking at their continuing legal education seminars including, but not limited to, the Entertainment Law, Fiduciary and Update on Georgia Law Seminars. One of our Executive Committee members had the pleasure of attending the Intellectual

Property Section Annual Gala. During the pandemic, virtual support afforded a view of a live interview of Gwinnett County Judge Tracie Cason organized by the Korean American Bar Association.

We hope to renew our efforts to safely host social mixers with the Fiduciary Law, E-Discovery and Entertainment Law Sections and other interested sections later this year.

Finally, the strength of our team and supportive efforts of the Committee are further evidenced within our team. For example, Jeremy Abernathy, Cobb County practitioner and Executive Committee member, was a presenter at Nuts and Bolts seminars and traveled to Savannah to support the effort and attend the Executive Committee meeting.

INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The Family Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia adopted the American Bar Association's Mission Goal III: Eliminate Bias and Enhance Diversity and established a Diversity Committee to incorporate and facilitate the goals and objectives set forth by the ABA. For the third year, ivory t. brown has chaired the Committee. We continue our work with the Committee to promote inclusion and to eliminate bias in the practice. This year, the Committee has met those goals through education, community service, mentorship, social events, the engagement of multi-bar liaisons and partnering with community associations to ensure inclusion, representation and participation throughout the family law practice. The Committee was renamed *the Inclusion, Anti-Bias and Diversity Committee* ("*Inclusion*" Committee) to reflect the entirety of the committee's goals. In addition, we are proudly working on a Diversity Protocol Handbook that we hope to share with other sections and entities.

Education

The Inclusion Committee continued the Speaker Series begun two (2) years ago to offer diverse topics and speakers to section members. As an example, one of the previous year's seminars related to disabilities and was conducted by visually impaired speakers. This year, ivory t. brown created and organized the *Intersection of Art and Law* series which consisted of "Ted Talks" curated to include *visual art* and *family law* related legal topics.

The *Intersection of Art and Law* Speaker Series began on October 24, 2019 at the Goat Farm with Artist Janine Monroe at JMonroe Gallery. Through the *Hidden In...The Blanket Series*, Janine Monroe addresses the dangerous journey across bodies of water that many people must take in search of peace and safety. Rescuers provide blankets, "literally and metaphorically, to survivors. This act represents the love and hope that is possible for their future". Attendees were also invited to participate in our first Book Club at the meeting. Our club examined Chanel Miller's "Know My Name" and engaged in supportive conversation regarding surviving sexual assault. In keeping with the artist's theme, we also began a blanket drive and attendees donated new or used blankets for delivery to Solomon's Temple and homeless communities. Finally, while the committee historically supports engaging the catering services of diverse, small businesses, we were pleased to have Leslie Parks Bailey, the daughter of renowned photographer Gordon Parks, meld diversity, art and mindfulness by catering the event and leading us in a wellness meditation at the conclusion.

We continued the *Intersection of Art and Law* series on November 20, 2019 with partner Atlanta Legal Aid's *Picturing Justice Exhibit* and Photojournalist and Storyteller Robin Rayne. Rayne's photographs and talk focused on "reshaping societal views on those who are different – including disability and the wide spectrum of gender". We continued our blanket drive and began

a new initiative – a clothing drive for professional clothing donations for Solomon’s Temple residents and other women seeking to enter or re-enter the workplace.

In support of January’s Sex Trafficking Awareness Month, the Inclusion Committee convened at the State Bar of Georgia’s *Museum of Law Exhibit* for the third installment of the *Intersection of Art and Law* series on January 30, 2020. Tapestri, an agency working with foreign born sex trafficking victims, provided Sex Trafficking Awareness Training with *Maja Hasic*. An unexpected and welcome addition to our audience was *Alpa Amin*, Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network’s Director of Legal Services, who was a *2019 Institute* speaker and joined in the discussion. Continuing the inclusion theme, attendees were offered Freedom Fighter libations produced by a local Marietta company with the proceeds benefitting sex trafficking awareness.

On February 27, 2020, we continued the *Intersection of Art and Law* series and our collection of blanket and professional wear and were welcomed at Jackson Fine Art for an art immersion talk by *Anna Walker Skillman*. There we viewed the work of a variety of female artists including those represented in the gallery’s curated show *30 Years of Women* and the work of South African Visual Activist Zanele Muholi, whose work focuses on race, gender and sexuality.

The next planned Inclusion Committee Speaker Series will include *Custody Considerations* seminars focusing on custody considerations including families with LGBTQ children, biracial children, religious consideration (including Moslem, Orthodox Jewish and Jehovah’s Witness faiths), sons and daughters of the African diaspora and parenting time following domestic violence.

Community Service

In June 2019, our Inclusion Committee partnered with Atlanta Legal Aid and Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers and sponsored a community service Pop Up Legal Clinic for survivors of Domestic Violence at the Cherokee Family Violence Center. In keeping with last year's event, volunteer attorneys from throughout the metropolitan Atlanta area were present to provide much needed legal assistance in a confidential setting. The Family Law Section further supported the volunteers by providing breakfast.

The clinic scheduled for *April 25, 2020* at Villages at Carver YMCA was cancelled due to the pandemic and we hope to renew the effort soon.

Continuing its work in the community, the Inclusion Committee also partners with Atlanta Legal Aid to provide ongoing volunteer attorney support to the Family Law Information Clinic in Fulton County.

The Inclusion Committee renewed the effort to collect gently used professional garb and moved beyond collecting donations at Intersection of Art and Law series events and partnered with a branch of the Jack and Jill of America organization on December 8, 2019 for an additional clothing drive push.

Finally, several committee members allowed their hearts to dance and were kept on their toes as they organized a chaperone caravan to introduce a host of Solomon Temple male and female resident teens to the ballet via the Urban Nutcracker on December 14, 2019.

Mentor/Mentee

The Committee continued the Mentor/Mentee Program which connects seasoned attorneys with those less experienced in order to facilitate assistance, advice and support regarding the practice of family law. While not intended as a substitute for other formal programs offered by

the State Bar of Georgia, this informal program very successfully connects newer family law attorneys with more experienced family law attorneys who can be available to answer questions and provide general information about family law practice. Members are invited to enroll via a section wide email blast and signup sheets were made available at the Section’s annual meeting and each Inclusion Committee event.

Social

On October 22, 2019, our Inclusion Committee was offered the opportunity to invite section members to the premiere of Ta-Nehisi Coates’ – *Between the World and Me*. This began an important conversation about social, cultural and legal issues between our members which will continue during our *Custody Considerations Seminar*.

National organization, the AAFCA (“African American Film Critics Association”), also offered the Committee tickets to Advance Screenings of four (4) movies: WAVES, QUEEN & SLIM, JUMANJI – The Next Level and The Banker. The Committee was pleased to invite all Family Law Section members to the screenings held in November, December 2019 and March 2020 and had a full house at each screening.

We continued art immersion on a social level on February 29 and viewed the works of Virgil Abloh and Paa Joe at the High Museum of Art during Black History Month.

The Committee will host its third annual luncheon at the 2020 Family Law Institute in Hilton Head Island, Florida. The Committee will offer a “meet and greet” luncheon with a menu crafted from diverse local area fare while introducing attendees to the Committee and showcasing displays of the speaker series, community service, multi-bar participation, social mixers and other programs. A local area speaker will also educate us on the diverse and rich history of the area.

Multi-bar liaisons

In an effort to increase exposure and participation, the Diversity Committee has designated liaisons from various bar associations including, but not limited to, the following: GABWA, Gate City Bar Association, Stonewall Bar Association, Hispanic Bar Association, South Asian Bar Association, DeKalb Lawyers Association, Atlanta Bar Association, Cobb County Bar Association and the Young Lawyers Division.

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION - FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE

The *Young Lawyers Division (YLD)* Family Law Committee continued its mission to increase the involvement in our section of younger and/or newly barred attorneys practicing in the area of family law. Membership in the *Young Lawyers Division* is automatic through the State Bar of Georgia for attorneys who are under the age of 36 or who have been admitted to their first bar less than five years. Last May, the YLD Family Law Committee sponsored the First Timer's Breakfast at the 34th Annual Family Law Institute in Amelia Island, Florida. The sponsorship was a great way to welcome new family law attorneys into our section and to give them access to our YLD arm at the section's largest statewide event.

While programming for the current bar year has been postponed due to COVID-19, the YLD Family Law Committee is excited to host additional CLEs, mixers, and fundraising events in the next few months which will continue to connect and unite our newest family law members with the enormous talent and experience of which our section is comprised.

Our younger lawyers are valuable to our profession. They bring an excitement and technological savvy that is desirable in today's practice. In keeping with same, our *YLD* representative *Donna- Marie Hayle* has been an invaluable addition to the Executive Committee.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Family Law Section is committed to keeping its members, colleagues, and the public at large apprised of programs and best practices. To that end, the section website hosts an updated roster of the Executive Committee and upcoming offerings. The section is planning webinars including statewide Judges and has also received several positive inquiries about informative webinars and efforts to provide this service are underway. The webinars are to be accessed through the Section's website. Jonathan Dunn spearheads this outreach from Savannah. Currently, the section continues to provide email blast updates to the section and will expand its outreach through the use of social media. The Family Law Section looks forward to continuing to serve the lawyers, judges, and citizens of Georgia through all available platforms.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Children and families are the lifeblood of our work. We serve our clients from our desks and inside courtroom's. This year, our work with *Solomon's Temple* and *RATL* allowed us to impact many lives outside of those customary avenues. *Solomon's Temple* provides temporary housing. In is an invaluable service. There are many things that each of us might take for granted. Perhaps one of the things taken for granted is having a home. More poignantly, some of us may take having a home absent violence for granted. Many of the families at *Solomon's Temple* could not. They did not have that luxury and, as a result, found temporary refuge in a dormitory room in a building that formerly housed orphans. During the interactions with the residents, the stories we heard were of fear and despair and desperation. Our financial contributions, along with our physical presence, helped provide peace filled rooms. Even a simple dormitory room became a home. In some instances, parents noted our presence and thanked us. That dormitory room

provided through financial support was enough. In most cases, it was not enough. The children had a greater need. A smile, an open ear or outstretched arms were the things that mattered and that you could see and feel – made a difference. Those priceless things allowed a blossoming. We are committed to continuing to fertilize the growth of the hearts and hands that reside at Solomon’s Temple with our time and efforts.

In addition to the *Solomon’s Temple* overnight retreat in *August*, our Committee and section members were diligent with our support via devotions of time, along with blanket and clothing donations. In addition, in October, the Executive Committee contributed *one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00)* to benefit the families served by *Solomon’s Temple*. Committee members attended the *2019 Solomon’s Temple Transforming Lives GALA* celebration. Later in the month, we participated in the joy filled *Solomon’s Temple Halloween Trunk and Treat* event, where participants decorated cars and children’s faces and passed out treats. In November, the Committee contributed *one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)* and attended *RATL’s Make it RATL* fund raising dinner. *December* danced with the aforementioned ballet excursion in advance of the holidays. And, Kyla Lines is bringing the Golf Tournament back to the Family Law Institute. The charity tournament will honor Andrew R. Pachman with proceeds to benefit *Solomon’s Temple*.

We are proud of our community service work. In addition to our efforts to benefit the families at *Solomon’s Temple*, the work was continued alongside other children in the community. ivory t. brown has lived in the North Hills Community for many years and often passed a small cemetery hidden from view. The cemetery sits on a slight hill alongside Frankie Allen Park on Pharr Road in the heart of Buckhead. She uncovered that the cemetery is one of the last remnants of a Buckhead community made up of former slaves. Queries led to the Buckhead Heritage Society and an invite to the Executive Committee to work alongside Atlanta International School students

on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to restore the gravesites. It was a day spent on a hill alongside hands with differing hues stained with the same Georgia clay. The day resonated with and was worthy of the dream. More work is anticipated to maintain the cemetery and appropriately honor those laid the rest at Mt. Olive.

We remain committed to the campaign begun several years ago to provide children's books and sporting equipment to the Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA, the Joseph B. Whitehead Boys & Girls Club, and the M. Agnes Jones Elementary Boys & Girls Club. These facilities remain in great need of books and sporting equipment to provide life-changing opportunities to the children they serve. We hope to resume our efforts when safety concerns permit reopening of the facilities.

A few photographs of various Committee events are attached as **Exhibit "F"**. Additional photographs are appended to the *Family Law Review* - **Exhibit "E"**.

CONCLUSION

The Family Law Section is honored to have the opportunity and ability to support so many families, attorneys and communities through the outlined activities and accomplishments. We are grateful for your consideration and respectfully request that the State Bar of Georgia recognize the Family Law Section as "Section of the Year".

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FRANCHISING AND DISTRIBUTION LAW SECTION

State Bar of Georgia

April 15, 2020

OVERVIEW

The Franchise and Distribution Law Section was formed to promote the education and best practices of franchise and distribution law among Section members. The primary work of the Section is to hold Continuing Legal Education seminars through a variety of formats, including lunch and learn programs, evening cocktail programs and an annual half-day, multiple-session CLE program. During these events, there is time allotted for networking in an effort to foster relationships between the members and the ability to learn from outside counsel for franchisors, outside counsel for franchisees, and in-house counsel.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE

At the time of this report, the Section has grown to 156 members. Additionally, at the time of this report, the Section has a balance of \$9,787.21 and is in a sound financial position to fund our programming for the next fiscal year.

SECTION OFFICERS

Chair	–	Kristin Goran
Vice Chair	–	Jared Miller
Secretary	–	Annie Caiola
Member at Large	–	Meredith Barnes
Immediate Past Chair	–	Michael Tyler

SECTION EVENTS

Annual Meeting / CLE

On June 26, 2019 we hosted our Annual Meeting and a CLE program and cocktail reception at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. The CLE program featured a panel discussion about the impact of increased legalization of cannabis and CBD on franchise and distribution law. The panelists were Pamela S. Krop, Sr. Vice President and General Counsel at Green Roads, Matthew W. Clarke of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP and Marc Lieberstein of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP.

Lunch and Learn

We hosted a Lunch and Learn entitled “Website/Mobile App Accessibility Claims and Their Impact on Franchise Businesses” on October 3, 2019 at Seyfarth Shaw LLP. The CLE program covered the current landscape for website/mobile app accessibility claims and what it means for businesses, including franchisors and franchisees. The presenter for this CLE program was Kevin Young of Seyfarth Shaw LLP.

Holiday Reception / CLE

On December 4, 2019, we hosted an early evening holiday reception/CLE at the Georgian Club. This event was co-hosted by the Law Office of Shannan S. Collier, P.C. The CLE program was entitled "Food Service Delivery Issues," and addressed the legal and business considerations for food service franchise systems implementing delivery. The program presenters were Lindsay Morgan of Greenburg Traurig, LLP and Tad Low of Focus Brands Inc.

Annual Half-Day CLE Program

We were scheduled to host our annual half-day CLE program entitled "Advanced Topics in Franchising and Distribution" on March 13, 2020. However, this event had to be canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We intend to reschedule the event or use the three panel presentations that were prepared for this program as part of our events over the coming year.

CONCLUSION

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Franchise and Distribution Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia. The Section serves as a valuable forum for practitioners in this particular field of law. The level of engagement and participation by Section members remains strong as we move forward into the next Section year.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Goran
Chair
Franchise & Distribution Law Section
State Bar of Georgia

THE GENERAL PRACTICE AND TRIAL SECTION
OF THE
STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
ANNUAL REPORT AS OF MAY 01, 2020

The General Practice and Trial Section is pleased to submit this report to the Board of Governors to introduce new projects the Section has undertaken as well as projects this Section has supported for many years. The Section continues to draw members from all over the State who are networking their ideas, concerns, referrals and expertise to make this truly “Georgia’s Largest Law Firm”

The current membership is 1969 active members. The Section continues to have programs and send mail-outs to potential members. We try to cover every aspect of interest to the General Practitioner in our seminar programs and magazine as well as our broadcast e-mails to the membership. We have a membership table at many ICLE seminars held in the metro area and as a result have signed up many new members with our handouts at these programs.

Calendar Call, the Section’s full-sized magazine offers “how to” instruction, up to date articles, getting to know judges through Q & A interviews, legislative updates and how they affect the General Practitioners. The magazine is published 2-3 times a year and sent out to members as well as Judges. We also have each magazine published on our website.

Audio and Videotape Library containing a variety of audio and videotapes on virtually all aspects of trial practice and support training. These tapes are available to all members of the Bar for a minimal fee with a half price discount for members. It continues to be popular and generate revenues for the Section. It is especially popular now that CLE and TRIAL credit hours are available for home study.

ICLE SEMNARS sponsored by the Section have played to sell-out crowds. Jury Trials is always a great success. It was held January 16, 2020 at the State Bar and simulcast in Albany, Athens, Columbus, Gainesville, Griffin,

Macon, Savannah and Tifton. We held our Annual General Practice and Trial Institute at the Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort, March 12-14, 2020 was chaired by past chair Rob Register. The seminar was well attended and proved to be very popular. Rob put together a stellar line up of speakers and subject matter valuable to all general practice lawyers both new and seasoned alike. There was something for everyone in every stage of practice. We were able to get exhibitors and sponsors to help defray the costs.

Tradition of Excellence Award are given each year by the Section to three outstanding lawyers and one judge who have shown a lifetime of achievement in the law and service to the public and Bar. The tradition of the award has influenced many lawyers' lives and inspired the Bar. As you know, the awards are usually presented at the Section breakfast and later celebrated at a reception held in honor of the recipients at the State Bar Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In an abundance of caution for the health and safety of our members, we will individually present each recipient their award in a way that respects the current guidance from federal, state and local authorities. We will arrange a reception honoring these outstanding lawyers later in the year when it is safe to gather and social distancing recommendations have been eased. This year the recipients are: Michael D. St. Amand, Atlanta, (defense), Hon. Thomas E. Cauthorn, Marietta, (general practice) Judge Kathy S. Palmer, Swainsboro, (judicial) and Virgil L. Adams, Macon, (plaintiff)

Bar Liaisons: We are keeping up with the American Bar Association, other Sections of the State Bar of Georgia and the Metro Area Bar Council to keep members informed of programs of interest. Many of our Officers are highly involved in the ABA and keep us abreast of the latest happenings

Community Service: The Section each year participates together with the Georgia Legal Service in a Pro Bono event. We have been encouraging and will be continue encourage the membership to devote extra time when they can to help low income families over the phone in rural Georgia who do not have access to legal services.

LEGISLATIVE: Our legislative committee reviews any legislative proposals that affect the General Practitioner and submits recommendations to the Advisory Committee on Legislation.

The General Practice and Trial Section has always aspired to help the State Bar and other organizations when needed. Our first concern is to inform, help and guide our membership any way we can through our magazine, seminars and broadcast emails to keep them advised and informed about issues that are of interest to General Practitioners. The section is in good shape to grow and continue for many years to come

**Annual Report of the Intellectual Property Section
State Bar of Georgia
2019-2020**

Overview

The goal of the IP Section of the State Bar is to serve its members, the state bar and the community at large.

For our members, we provide seminars and programs to keep them apprised of legal developments. We also provide social events to facilitate networking, for seasoned attorneys as well as young lawyers, and law students. These programs, along with numerous other CLE events, are described below in more detail.

Our Goals for the 2019-2020 bar year included:

- 1) Increasing diversity in the representation on our CLE panels and in the IP Section leadership;
- 2) Providing interesting and informative IP-related CLEs to our members;
- 3) Outreach to Registered Patent Agents;
- 4) Outreach to law students and law schools to encourage law student involvement in the IP Section;
- 5) Facilitating and highlighting pro bono opportunities for IP Section members; and
- 6) Outreach to other local IP organizations to facilitate communication and coordinate programs.

As you can see from the report below, we pursued each of these goals. For example, throughout the year, we reached out to law students and patent agents. We also added presentations by pro bono organizations to each of our CLE programs. During our IP Gala, we highlighted the contributions of three pro bono organizations to the community and invited our members to participate through pro bono service.

We are proud of our commitment to public service. We give money and, more significantly, we give our time. The section has established podcasts and a series of seminars on IP topics to educate the public on intellectual property. We formed an alliance with the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta to facilitate participation in pro bono by our members. The YLD IP Committee volunteered with Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta. Our Copyright Committee provided Pro Bono Clinics to facilitate an understanding of copyright law. The Patent Committee conducted free clinics for inventors to foster knowledge of the patent system and provide free patent advice to inventors who otherwise would not have access to such advice in partnership with Georgia PATENTS.

We continue to explore other ways to contribute to the bar and the community.

Leadership Team

Executive Committee meetings were held monthly, alternating in-person or teleconference. Section Chairs and Vice-Chairs participated in monthly planning alongside the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team was comprised of a diverse group of volunteer leaders with expertise in a variety of IP-related fields. This year, the members of the Executive Team were:

Section Chair - Rivka Monheit;
Section Chair-Elect - Richard Miller;
Section Vice-Chair - Chris Curfman;
Section Secretary - Clark Wilson;
Section Treasurer - Chris Lightner;
Section Liaison - Lane Sosebee; and
Section Past Chair - Virginia Carron

Section Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs were self-nominated during a membership-wide call for volunteer leadership and represent diversity across several law firms and in-house practitioners. Our two-tiered committee governance structure not only creates transparency and encourages involvement in leadership, but also ensures a smooth transition and continuity for next years' Executive Team.

We pay attention to the needs of our Section's in-house members. We have an In-House Committee tasked with encouraging the involvement of in-house counsel in all our programming by targeting at least one in-house counsel panel participant for each of our Section-wide CLE events.

More than fifty Section members stepped forward to serve under the focused leadership of our dedicated volunteer Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs:

Chair, *Communications* Chittam Thakore
Vice Chair, *Communications* Kaitlyn Haase
Chair, *Community Outreach* Matthew Goings
Vice Chair, *Community Outreach* Matthew Warezak
Chair, *Copyright* Katie Bates
Vice Chair, *Copyright* Pete Duitsman
Chair, *In-House* Alison Danaceau
Vice Chair, *In-House* Joe Staley
Chair, *Patent* Andrew Strickland
Vice Chair, *Patent* Josh Curry
Chair, *Trademark* Auma Reggy
Vice Chair, *Trademark* Jason Rosenberg
Chair, *Trade Secrets* David Pardue
Vice Chair, *Trade Secrets* Michael Cicero
Chair, *YLD IP Committee* Jason Cooper

Service To Our Members

Our Section is in outstanding shape. Our membership remains strong, growing again this year to 1,241 members. The Section remains fiscally sound with a financial balance of approximately \$186,848.59, the result of accumulated member dues, fiscal responsibility, and \$72,000 in sponsorship fundraising this past year.

Seventeen organizations contributed as 2020 IP Section Sponsors. Our Sponsors include law firms as well as IP vendors. The IP Section appreciates their help in making this year a success!

We began the bar year with a “Kickoff” celebration for all of our members at the new City Tap House in Midtown. We offered food and libations, and used the event to recruit new members (particularly, new lawyers) to our substantive committees.

Our 25th Annual IP Institute was scheduled to be held at the Ritz at Amelia Island on September 5-7, 2019. However, we had to cancel this program due to Hurricane Dorian, which resulted in the closure of Amelia Island and the Ritz Carlton during the week of the IP Institute.

However, we were able to transition many of the planned programs to occur as individual CLE programs throughout the bar year. For example, the mock Federal Circuit argument was moved to February and occurred prior to the IP Gala at the Georgia Aquarium.

The 25th IP Institute is planned to return to the Ritz on September 10-13, 2020, if the public health concerns relating to COVID-19 do not prohibit such a gathering.

The Section has over the past year placed a renewed focus upon emphasizing and showcasing intellectual property-related pro bono programs and initiatives for its membership. We have included representatives of pro bono organizations such as Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta, Georgia PATENTS, and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF) in committee meetings and at committee planned events. Collaborative efforts have also resulted in separate artist and inventor clinics staffed by our membership, along with recurring Saturday clinics in partnership with AVLF. The Section hopes to expand this focus on pro bono for its membership in the coming year, as larger section-wide programs—like the IP Institute—return to the calendar.

The IP Section continues to support pro bono IP organizations both financially through donations to the organizations and by organizing and hosting legal clinics throughout the year. This bar year, the IP Section organized Saturday Lawyers clinics at AVLF, and legal clinics with GLA and Georgia PATENTS.

This year, the IP Section increased its efforts to include law students in our programs. By

reaching out to key professors and department heads at each of Georgia's law schools, we have been able to generate a pool of law students interested in participating in CLE programs and social events. Such participation has included assisting panels with preparation of written materials, attending and summarizing CLE programs for our section newsletter, and taking photographs at our events. For example, law student volunteers assisted Bar staff with registration at our annual IP Gala event. As we move forward with preparation of coming events, these law students will play an integral role in their success, while providing them with networking opportunities and exposing them to a variety of IP-related CLEs.

On December 5, 2019, we hosted the IP Holiday party at the Four Seasons at no cost to members. At the celebration, we raised funds for the Atlanta Community Food Bank, as we have done in past years, and included a presentation by a member of the ACBF thanking us for our continued support.

On Thursday, February 6, 2020, the IP Section held the 8th Annual IP Spring Gala at the Georgia Aquarium. There were approximately 225 attendees, which makes this one of the highest attended IP Section events.

The event began with a CLE based on a 2018-2019 Giles S. Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition Problem, *Ballistic Holdings, Inc. & Ballistic Memory, Inc. v. ConsumerCam, LLC*, 19-GSR-4287, used with permission from AIPLA. Retired judges William Duffey, Jr., and Stanley Birch officiated the mock argument and provided insightful and colorful commentary. Arguments were presented by Lida Ramsey, King & Spalding LLP, New York and Kara A. Specht, Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner LLP, Atlanta and the program was moderated by Chad Pannell, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. Approximately 80 attendees were present at this mock argument.

Following the CLE was a lively reception and delicious dinner. The dinner program involved presentations from notable pro bono organizations including Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, Pro Bono Partnership, and Atlanta Legal Aid Society. AVLf was represented by Erica Taylor (Staff Attorney); Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta was represented by Rachel Spears (Executive Director); and Georgia Lawyers for the Arts and Georgia PATENTS was represented by Kelly Bray (Director Legal Services). During their presentations, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Pears, and Ms. Bray highlighted the impressive pro bono services provided by their organizations, while thanking and encouraging IP Section members to continue to support these organizations through their pro bono work.

For the last five years, the IP Section has sponsored a \$5,000 IP Law Scholarship for a student attending an accredited law school located in the state of Georgia, which was also awarded at the Gala. Students self-nominate themselves for the award and include a 500-word personal statement, which includes an expression of their interest in intellectual property. The considerations for the award include, GPA, overall and in core IP courses, involvement in IP organizations, both within one's law school and within one's community, involvement in IP scholastic initiatives, and prior IP experience. In addition, students provide references who were interviewed regarding the candidates' qualifications. This year's award went Anthony Prosser,

PhD, a 3L who attends Georgia State University Law School and works as a patent agent at Knowles Intellectual Property Strategies.

The IP Section also organized a CLE for the Georgia Mid-Year meeting, IP 101: Intellectual Property Basics and Issue Spotting for non-IP Lawyers.

Each of our committees remains very active, providing at least two CLE programs a year for our members on topics related to the committees' specific focus.

Community Outreach Committee

The **Community Outreach Committee** continued to explore new opportunities to educate the Georgia legal and business communities on intellectual properties. Building on the efforts of the last two years focus on developing and disseminating educational IP podcasts to various groups in Georgia, as well as continuing efforts to establish and strengthen ties with local pro bono and volunteer organizations, the Committee has explored other opportunities to broaden its reach, including adding new members and developing a relationship with the Georgia Intellectual Property Alliance.

The committee continued to partner with AVLF, hosting Saturday clinics. AVLF was pleased with the Section's participation, and we have agreed to host another Saturday clinic in November. The section has also sought assistance from its members for IP-related cases through AVLF. The section has also staffed (and is scheduled to staff more) clinics for Georgia Lawyers for the Arts and the GA PATENTS programs. Participation is always high.

Copyright Committee

This year, the **Copyright Committee** continued to help the IP Section to increase its engagement in the community through volunteer efforts, hosting two Pro Bono Clinics at Georgia Lawyers for the Arts (August 2019 and April 2020), with a third planned for August 12, 2020. In the first two Pro Bono Clinics, over 19 intellectual property attorneys provided free legal services supporting 15 different clients with intellectual property related matters. The April 15 Pro Bono Clinic was the Section's first ever virtual clinic, allowing attorneys to participate and provide pro bono services to clients in need of legal support in a safe, virtual environment despite the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **Copyright Committee** also collaborated with other members of the IP Section for the State Bar of Georgia's Mid-year Meeting, with Copyright Committee member Lee Morin helping lead a discussion on Copyright law. In addition, the Copyright Committee coordinated a number of great CLE panels, including a panel on *Bitcoin, Blockchain and Digital Assets*, that was to feature Kevin Glidewell, Assistant General Counsel, WarnerMedia Sports & News, and Nicole Morris, Director, TI:GER program, Emory University School of Law, and to be moderated by Matthew Littlefield from Ballard Spahr, discussing how blockchain technology may enable new types of digital assets and intellectual property transactions. In addition, the Copyright Committee coordinated a panel on *Issues in Entertainment Law*, featuring Peter Morris, CEO

Podcast One; Brannon Anthony, General Counsel, Tyler Perry Studios; and Pete Duitsman, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, WarnerMedia Entertainment, who planned to discuss the challenges of supporting creative clients producing unique content in an evolving media landscape.

These panels were initially scheduled for the IP Institute in Amelia Island. After the IP Institute was cancelled, these panels were rescheduled as part of the Entertainment Law Institute, which the Copyright Committee co-sponsored for the second year in a row with the Entertainment and Sports Law Section.

In connection with the Entertainment Law Institute, the Copyright Committee continued to build the Bar's relationship with the U.S. Copyright Office, facilitating the participation of Kimberley Isbell, Deputy Director, Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office, as a speaker. Ms. Isbell planned to discuss the intersection of Copyright and the Right of Publicity at the Entertainment Law Institute. However, unfortunately, the Institute was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the Copyright Committee and the Entertainment and Sports Law Section are planning to reschedule the event.

In-House Committee

This year, the **In-house Committee** provided corporate, government, and academic (non-firm) attorneys support with various IP opportunities, CLEs, speaking engagements, and other GA IP section networking events.

YLD IP Committee

The **YLD IP Committee** this year held three successful events. The first was a networking social where members met and mingled. Subsequently **YLD IP Committee** co-sponsored two pro bono Saturday Lawyer clinics for the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation. The most recent was April 18 and conducted via Zoom.

YLD IP Committee had planned to conduct a substantive program with the Healthcare Law committee on IP issues in the healthcare industry. However, this program did not occur in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Patent Committee

This year, the **Patent Committee** continued to provide CLEs and networking opportunities for members of the Bar interested in patent law issues.

The **Patent Committee** kicked off the 2019-2020 year with a June 27, 2019 CLE entitled "*Alice/ Section 101 Developments 5-Years Later*." Speakers included: Margo A. Bagley (Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law), Scott Boone (Professor of Law, John Marshall Law School) and Andrew Strickland (Partner, Lee & Hayes P.C.). Alston & Bird

hosted the event. Joshua D. Curry (Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP) moderated the discussion. The panelists discussed the evolution of subject matter eligibility jurisprudence since the Supreme Court's *Alice Corp. v. CLS Bank* decision, revised USPTO Guidelines for examiners, and proposed changes to the statutes related to subject-matter eligibility.

Josh Curry and Andrew Strickland also served as **Patent Committee** representatives at the State Bar of Georgia Midyear Meeting where the IP Section presented "*Intellectual Property 101: Intellectual Property Basics and Issue Spotting for Non-IP lawyers*" on January 9, 2020. The patent-related discussion focused on the basic underpinnings of patent rights and protections, including obtaining patent rights and enforcing/defending them.

The **Patent Committee** held its next event on January 16, 2020—a CLE entitled "*Recent Developments in PTAB Practice and Their Impact for Petitioners and Patent Owners*" hosted by Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP. Speakers included: Hon. William Fink (Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, US Patent and Trademark Office), Jessica Marks (Senior Patent Counsel, Unified Patents, Inc.), and James Stein (Partner at Lee & Hayes P.C.). Karen Carrol (Partner, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP) moderated the discussion. The panelists discussed best PTAB practices, recent Federal Circuit and Supreme Court case law relevant to PTAB practice, and recent trends at the PTAB related to *Inter Partes* Review practice.

On February 4, 2020, the **Patent Committee** partnered with Georgia PATENTS to host an inventor intake clinic hosted by Alston & Bird. In its third year, the partnership has been a rewarding experience for Patent Committee members, and we intend to continue the tradition in years to come.

The **Patent Committee** held its final CLE event of the year on March 6, 2020, entitled "*Practical Tips for Patenting Computer-Implemented Inventions with the EPO*" at Baker Hosteler. The Patent Committee welcomed three attorneys from the law firm of Berggren Ltd.—Robert Alderson, Sakari Värilä, and Mariella Massaro—to speak on issues related to practice before the European Patent Office. The speakers offered guidance on subject matter eligibility issues before the EPO, issues concerning artificial intelligence inventorship and other critical issues U.S. practitioners should consider when drafting patent applications that might have European counterparts.

For the 2020-2021 year, the **Patent Committee** plans to continue its strong tradition of presenting several CLEs throughout the year, and expand networking opportunities to other committees and sections.

Trademark Committee

On October 24, 2019, the **Trademark Committee**, presented a CLE luncheon at Alston & Bird titled Top Ten Trademark Events of 2019 which explored the most important trademark events of 2019, including (1) the holding of *Iancu v. Brunetti* in which the court found the "scandalous and immoral restriction of trademarks in violation of the First Amendment, (2) the *Girl Scouts of the*

United States of America v. Boy Scouts of America case with respect to the question of whether the Boy Scout's use of the term "Scouts" diminishes the Girl Scout's trademark value, and (3) the 2019 amendments to China's trademark laws, to name just a few. The discussion was moderated by Jim Johnson, Counsel, *Eversheds Sutherland*, with panelists Mary Grace Gallagher, Associate, *Alston & Bird*, Clark Wilson, Director of Legal Affairs, *NeoMed*, and Robert Lee, Partner, *Alston & Bird*. The event was attended by 58 attendees. We were also honored to have a representative attend from AVLF who discussed opportunities available within its Saturday Lawyer and other programs.

The **Trademark Committee** also hosted a CLE program on March 10, 2020 entitled, "Everything You Always Wanted to Learn From In-House Trademark Counsel* (*But were afraid to ask.) at the offices of Alston & Bird, with over 60 in attendance. A spirited discussion was moderated by Jason Rosenberg, Partner, *Alston & Bird* and Vice Chair of the Trademark Committee, with featured speakers, Christine Cason, Associate General Counsel – Trademark & Copyright, *Koch Companies Public Sector*, Sheila Garber, Vice President, Managing Attorney-Intellectual Property & Business Legal, *Assurant*, Jim Aronowitz, Vice President-Legal Affairs & Brand Protection, *Fanatics, Inc.*, and Hali Hill, Counsel, Marketing & Digital, *Inspire Brands*. Questions from the moderator and audience members led to a very interesting dialogue among the panelists covering a variety of topics. Attendees walked away with a much better appreciation for the role, responsibilities, and workloads of in-house trademark counsel, an understanding of the importance of providing clear and concise results-oriented advice, and a grasp of the significant value in-house counsel place on both delivery of great results and fostering strong relationships.

The Chair of the Trademark Committee, Auma Reggy, is helping to plan and facilitate the IP Section's first Virtual Happy Hour ("An Interactive Discussion about COVID and IP Practice Impacts") to be held on May 6, 2020.

Trade Secrets Committee

In its third year, the **Trade Secrets Committee** conducted the following activities:

The **Trade Secrets Committee** organized a lunchtime CLE held at the Georgia Bar Building on February 24, 2020, entitled "*Trade Secret Audits and Asset Management*." Almost 30 attendees heard this presentation delivered by: (1) Benjamin I. Fink, Shareholder, Berman Fink Van Horn P.C.; (2) Neal F. Weinrich, Shareholder, Berman Fink Van Horn P.C., and (3) Cheryl J. Tubach, Chief Intellectual Property Counsel, J.M. Huber Corporation. Mr. Weinrich discussed trade secret law fundamentals and mentioned that 85% of all trade secrets cases involve company insiders. Mr. Fink discussed keys to an effective trade secret protection strategy, as well as the importance of trade secret protection plans. Ms. Tubach discussed her experience with implementing a trade secret protection plan at J.M. Huber, as well as challenges faced by companies in current times when trying to implement such plans. Judging from a lively question-and-answer session, the attendees certainly appeared learn from and to enjoy the program. Prior to the presentation, representatives Matilde Davis and Erica Taylor from the **Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation ("AVLF")** addressed the audience to raise awareness of the AVLF's

mission and services.

In the wake of this CLE, the Committee added 3 new members to its roster, including Mr. Fink, himself.

A committee-wide communication was sent on March 11, 2020 to organize an in-person Committee-wide gathering at Punch Bowl Social at The Battery for April 23, for the purpose of brainstorming on topics for a next CLE session as well as for fellowship purposes. Shortly thereafter, however, shut-downs due to COVID-19 began.

Committee leaders are exploring alternative options for virtual meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic and need for increased social distancing.

Communications Committee

The **Communications Committee** maintains an up-to-date website that provides a calendar of IP Section activities and other items of interest to IP Section members, images from past IP Section events, and links to archived newsletters and other IP Section materials (available at <http://georgiaip.org/>). The committee also prepares and publishes periodic (at least two per year) Section newsletters updating Section members on past and upcoming events.

Conclusion

Plans for the IP Section during the 2020-2021 bar year are underway and include:

- hosting the 25th Annual IP Institute at the Ritz Carlton on Amelia Island (September 10-13, 2020)
- hosting the 9th Annual IP Gala at the Georgia Aquarium on February 25, 2021
- hosting 2 free IP Section Socials: End-of-Summer Social (Sept. 2020) and Holiday Party (Four Seasons, Dec. 10, 2020).

Additionally, we plan to continue providing opportunities for IP Section members to provide IP-related pro bono services via pro bono clinics with the Georgia Lawyers for the Arts and Georgia PATENTS.

In addition to pro bono service, the IP Section plans to continue its tradition of encouraging donations to the Atlanta Community Food Bank at the Holiday Party, and support local IP needs in the community, as they arise.

Further, we will encourage law student involvement in section programs, including the IP Institute.

Finally, throughout the 2020-2021 bar year, our committees plan to coordinate a variety of IP-related CLE courses. We will continue to work with other sections to host CLE courses as well.

The IP Section continues to promote the highest standards of excellence in the practice of Intellectual Property. In service to others, we strive to provide excellent programming for our members, and remain a resource for the legal community and the public at large. We look forward to another interesting, informative, and supportive bar year for the IP Section.

Of course, all of our plans for the next year are being continually evaluated in view of the changing environment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, it is our firm commitment to provide opportunities for our members to both stay on top of the latest trends in intellectual property law through our CLE programming, and to come together for the networking and collegiality that our members have come to expect.

Sincerely,

Rivka Monheit
IP Section Chair

Military/Veterans Law Section

The Military/Veterans Law Section had a successful year, although one truncated by the challenges of COVID-19. In October 2019, the Section hosted its annual all-day VA Accreditation CLE, attended by around 100 people. The Section also hosted a happy hour and social after the CLE. The section had planned additional such events during the year, but COVID has delayed those plans. Similarly, a military justice CLE that was in the works was delayed on account of COVID. Nevertheless the Section continued to meet and support the Military Legal Assistance Project (including with its transition to Georgia Legal Services). The account data provided by the State Bar of Georgia reflects that as of April 24, 2020, the Section has \$11,288.52 on hand.

ANNUAL REPORT

April 30, 2020

Membership

The Nonprofit Law Section currently has approximately 260 members.

Account Balance

The current balance of our operating account is approximately \$25,027.

2019-2020 Officers and Executive Committee Members

Officers

Chair – Robyn Miller, Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta
Vice Chair – Sabrina Fitze, Habitat for Humanity International
Secretary/Treasurer – Jacob Kaplan, Alston & Bird

Additional Executive Committee Members:

Cass Brewer, Georgia State University
Kathryn Hecker, Arnall Golden Gregory
Aisha Oliver-Staley, Georgia Tech
Ballard Yelton, Troutman Sanders

Section Activities

Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”)

This fiscal year, the Section added two additional CLE activities a breakfast and an afternoon CLE. In addition, the Section hosted its annual, full day Nonprofit Law Seminar.

- September, 2019 - A breakfast one-hour CLE
Topic: Legal, Tax, and Other Issues Concerning Private Foundation Grants to and Investments In Non-Charitable Organizations
- January, 2020 – An afternoon two-hour CLE with reception
Topic: Revenue generating activities and UBIT
- March, 2020 - ICLE Nonprofit Law Seminar six-hour CLE including professionalism

Newsletters

This year the Section began to send out newsletters to its members to keep the membership up to date on the Section’s activities. We sent one newsletter in December, 2019 and another in February, 2020. We plan to issue our final newsletter of the year in May, 2020.

Legislative Committee

The Section has created a new Legislative Committee to revise the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The Committee is Co-Chaired by Robyn Miller and Tom Richey. The Reporter is Cass Brewer. The Committee has thirteen members. The committee began meeting monthly, but due to Covid-19, has postponed meeting again until Fall 2020. The goal is to have the revisions ready to present to the State Bar by October 2021.

Bylaw Revisions

The Executive Committee updated the bylaws to include the following substantive changes: (1) clarifying length of officer terms to match the Bar fiscal year; and (2) addressing how to fill officer and executive committee vacancies. The bylaws were approved at the annual membership meeting of the Section on March 4, 2020.

Officers Elected at Annual Meeting for 2020-2021 Fiscal Year

- Chair – Sabrina Fitze, Habitat for Humanity International
- Vice Chair – Jacob Kaplan, Alston & Bird
- Secretary/Treasurer – Kathryn Hecker, Arnall Golden Gregory

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Miller
Chair – Nonprofit Law Section, State Bar of Georgia

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA INVESTIGATIONS REGARDING
THE UNLICENSED PRACTICE OF LAW

Reporting period May 1, 2019, through April 30, 2020

Informal Investigations Initiated in 2019 (CY)	151
Informal Investigations Pending (as of April 30, 2020)	40

Statistics

Formal Investigations Initiated	30
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Nature of Formal Investigation:

Regular UPL	20
Paralegal/Document Preparation Service	6
Attorney Referred to OCG	2
Disbarred/Suspended/Inactive Lawyer	1
Out of State Lawyer	1

Source of Formal Investigation:

State Bar of Georgia	13
Lawyer	6
Judge	5
Public (Individual)	4
Public (Corporation)	1
State Agency	1

Judicial Districts:

District 1	0
District 2	0
District 3	1

District 4	2
District 5	14
District 6	2
District 7	1
District 8	0
District 9	7
District 10	3
Formal Investigations Pending	110
Formal Investigations Closed	56
Disposition:	
Subject agreed to comply	43
Subject warned of investigation	5
Further Action Unnecessary	4
Subject referred to prosecutor	2
Entity out of Business	2



CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

The Honorable Harold D. Melton (Chair)
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

Professor Nathan S. Chapman
University of Georgia School of Law
Athens, Georgia

Professor Clark D. Cunningham
Georgia State University College of Law
Atlanta, Georgia

William T. Davis
Naggiar & Sarif LLC
Atlanta, GA

Gerald M. Edensfield
Edensfield, Cox, Bruce & Classens, PC
Statesboro, Georgia

The Honorable Susan E. Edlein
Fulton County State Court
Atlanta, Georgia

Elizabeth L. Fite
Rogers & Fite, LLC
Atlanta, Georgia

Rebecca Holmes Liles Grist
Bibb County Solicitor General's Office
Macon, Georgia

Associate Dean Sheryl Harrison-Mercer
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School
Atlanta, Georgia

The Honorable Meng H. Lim
Tallapoosa Circuit Superior Court
Tallapoosa, Georgia

Professor Patrick E. Longan
Mercer University School of Law
Macon, Georgia

Maria F. Mackay
Watkinsville, Georgia

The Honorable Clyde L. Reese III
Court of Appeals of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

The Honorable William M. Ray, II
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

Claudia S. Saari
DeKalb County Public Defender's Office
Decatur, Georgia

Adwaa Ghartey-Tague Seymour
Cox Enterprises, Inc.
Atlanta, Georgia

Assistant Dean Rita A. Sheffield
Emory University School of Law
Atlanta, Georgia

Darrell Lee Sutton
Sutton Law Group LLC
Marietta, GA

Nicki Noel Vaughan
Gainesville, Georgia

R. Kyle Williams
Williams Teusink, LLC
Decatur, Georgia

Dr. Monica Willis-Parker
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia

Supreme Court Advisor

The Honorable Sarah Hawkins Warren
Supreme Court of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

Staff

Karlise Y. Grier
Executive Director

TO: Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia
FROM: Karlise Y. Grier
Executive Director, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism
DATE: June 12, 2020
RE: Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (Commission), the first body of its kind in the nation, was created in 1989 by the Supreme Court of Georgia with the primary charge to enhance professionalism among Georgia's judges and lawyers. Chief Justice Harold D. Melton serves as the current Chair of the Commission. A brief update regarding the Commission follows.

PROFESSIONALISM SURCHARGE VOTE – THANK YOU

The Commission thanks the Board of Governors for its 94% majority vote approving the professionalism surcharge of \$11 being placed on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 annual dues statements of active Bar members under 70 years of age. The professionalism surcharge had been set at an amount of \$15 since 1999, and the Commission was pleased to reduce the professionalism surcharge by 26.67% to \$11 per year per active Bar member under 70 years of age. The reduced amount is effective July 1, 2020.

MOVING FORWARD WITH PROFESSIONALISM IN THE MIDST OF A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

In lieu of an originally-scheduled Suicide Awareness Program, the planning team for that program, held a different online CLE on April 28, 2020, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, entitled *Moving Forward with Professionalism In the Midst Of A Public Health Emergency*. The Commission reported CLE credit for **1,778 Georgia attorneys** who attended the online CLE, which was held via the Zoom.us platform. **Chief Justice Harold D. Melton** served as the Keynote Speaker for the event. The planning team for the revised April 28th program was **Judge Clyde L. Reese III**, Court of Appeals of Georgia (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair); **Judge Render Heard**, Tift County Juvenile Court (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair); and **Judge Shondeana Crews Morris**, Superior Court of DeKalb County (State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee Chair). The Commission's ED, along with staff from the co-sponsors, provided administrative support for the program. The written materials contained resources to assist lawyers and their clients and remain available at: <http://cjcpga.org/moving-forward/>. A flyer with additional details about the program is attached as "Exhibit A."

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PROFESSIONALISM, AND CORONAVIRUS

The Commission scheduled an online webinar entitled *Criminal Justice, Professionalism, and Coronavirus* to be held on June 11, 2020, from Noon – 1 pm, via the Zoom.us platform. Ms. Rebecca Holmes Liles Grist, Solicitor-General, State Court of Bibb County and Ms. Claudia S. Saari, Public Defender, DeKalb County Public Defender’s Office served as Program Co-Chairs. Chief Justice Harold D. Melton agreed to give brief Welcome Remarks. The Honorable Leisa Johnson, Judge Probate Court of Dougherty County agreed to serve as moderator of a panel discussion. The confirmed panelists were Mr. Stephen A. Bradley, District Attorney, Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit; Ms. Jennifer Leigh Lewis, Circuit Public Defender, Flint Judicial Circuit Office of the Public Defender; Ms. Omeeka P. Loggins, Solicitor General, State Court of Richmond County; and Mr. Lawrence Zimmerman, President, Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Mr. Todd Hayes, Solicitor General, Cherokee County Solicitor-General’s Office, and Attorney Trish McCann Bertram, Professional Development Director, Georgia Public Defender Council agreed to write the hypothetical problems used for the CLE.

SECOND PROFESSIONALISM POP-UP: GETTING THE DEAL DONE WITH PROFESSIONALISM DURING A TIME OF PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The Commission held its second online “Professionalism Pop-Up” CLE entitled *Getting the Deal Done With Professionalism During A Time of Physical Distancing* on April 16, 2020, via the Zoom.us webinar platform. The Commission reported attendance for **760 Georgia attorneys** to the State Bar of Georgia’s Commission on Continuing Legal Education Department. The Commission is grateful to the moderator, presenters, and Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) staff (Cynthia Clanton, Michelle Barclay, and John Ramspott) for their assistance with the program. A flyer with additional details about the program is attached as “Exhibit B.”

FIRST PROFESSIONALISM POP-UP: PROFESSIONALISM DURING A TIME OF PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The Commission held its first online “Professionalism Pop-Up” CLE entitled *Professionalism During A Time of Physical Distancing* on April 6, 2020, via the Zoom.us webinar platform. The Commission reported attendance for **801 Georgia attorneys** to the State Bar of Georgia’s Commission on Continuing Legal Education Department. The Commission is grateful to the moderator, presenters, and AOC staff (Cynthia Clanton, Michelle Barclay, and John Ramspott) for their assistance with the program. A flyer with additional details about the program is attached as “Exhibit C.”

LAW SCHOOL ORIENTATIONS ON PROFESSIONALISM

The Commission staffs the State Bar of Georgia Committee on Professionalism (Committee), and in that role provides administrative support and funding for the Committee’s work on the Law School Orientations on Professionalism. The orientations are designed to provide incoming 1Ls with their first introduction to professionalism. Georgia judges and lawyers are invited to serve as “Group Leaders” during the orientations to help students learn the meaning of professionalism and why it is important for them as law students. The sub-committee that is planning the 2020 law school orientation programs is chaired by Mr. Michael Herskowitz, U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Georgia.

Two law students, Kacey F. Baines from the Georgia State University College of Law and Yvette Hill from Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, have assisted in revising one of the hypothetical problems that will be used in 2020. Assuming that the law schools are able to hold in-person orientations this year, the TENTATIVE dates – which are subject to change due to the coronavirus outbreak – for the professionalism orientation sessions are as follows.

- Friday, August 7, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm – Mercer University School of Law
- Saturday, August 8, morning – Atlanta's John Marshall Law School
- Sometime during the week of Aug. 10 – Aug. 14 – Georgia State University School of Law
- Thursday, August 13, early afternoon – Emory University School of Law
- Friday, August 14, early afternoon – University of Georgia School of Law

The Commission, the law school orientation sub-committee and the law schools will begin formulating plans for holding the orientations either in-person on the schools' campuses or online based on the status of the coronavirus outbreak. The Commission will provide Group Leader registration information and other updates about the law school orientations on its website, www.cjcpga.org, on its social media platforms and in the State Bar of Georgia's E-News as it becomes available.

RETIRING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Finally, as the Commission concludes its 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Commission acknowledges the Commission members whose service concludes on June 30, 2020. They are as follows:

- Darrell Lee Sutton
- Sheryl Harrison-Mercer
- William T. Davis
- Claudia S. Saari
- R. Kyle Williams

Commission Website and Social Media

The Commission continues to enhance the Commission website, www.cjcpga.org. In addition, the Commission is now developing its social media content internally with the assistance of an intern, Ms. Jordyn Irons, who is an undergraduate senior at Georgia State University. The Commission enjoys communicating with judges and lawyers on its social media platforms. Connect with us!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CJCPGA>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CJCPGA>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cjcpga/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cjcpga/videos>



EXHIBIT A

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

MOVING FORWARD WITH PROFESSIONALISM IN THE MIDST OF A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

TUESDAY, APRIL 28 | 2 - 4 P.M. | BROADCAST VIA ZOOM.US | REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE



*Chief Justice
Harold Melton*
**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**

PRESIDING:

Hon. Shondeana Crews Morris, *Judge, DeKalb County Superior Court*

WELCOME:

Justice Sarah Hawkins Warren, *Supreme Court of Georgia*

PANEL MODERATOR:

Hon. Clyde L. Reese III, *Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia*

PANELISTS:

Dr. Alex Crosby, MD, MPH, *Chief Medical Officer, Division of Injury Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

Ms. Lynn Garson, Esq., *Chair, State Bar of Georgia Lawyer Assistance Program*

Hon. Render Heard, *Judge, Juvenile Courts of Tifton Judicial Circuit*

Ms. Monica Johnson, MA, LPC, *DBHDD Director of the Division of Behavioral Health*

Ms. Dawn Jones, Esq., *Former ICU Registered Nurse and Current Solo Practitioner*

2 CLE HOURS INCLUDING 1 PROFESSIONALISM HOUR*

REGISTER AT <https://moving-forward-town-hall-on-04-28-20.eventbrite.com>



REMINDER TO ALL BAR MEMBERS

You are entitled to six prepaid clinical personal counseling sessions per calendar year through the Lawyer Assistance Program of the State Bar of Georgia. #UseYour6

FOR HELP:

Bar members may contact the Bar's Lawyer Assistance Program confidential hotline at **800-327-9631** or call the Georgia Crisis Access Line at **1-800-715-4225**.

CO-SPONSORED BY:

Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts | State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee

State Bar of Georgia Wellness Committee | Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Learn more by contacting CJCP at kygrier@cjcpga.org.

*CLE Credit is pending.



State Bar
of Georgia

EXHIBIT B

Professionalism PopUp CLE


April 16, 2020, Noon to 1:30PM via Zoom.us

FREE, but you must Pre-register at <https://professionalismpopup041620.eventbrite.com>



Patrise Perkins-Hooker,
County Attorney
Office of the
Fulton County Attorney
Moderator



	<p>Michael Holiman Executive Director Council of Superior Court Clerks</p>		<p>T. Matthew Mashburn, Partner Commercial Finance Aldridge Pite, LLP</p>
	<p>Angela Hsu Counsel Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP</p>		<p>Karlise Y. Grier, Esq. Executive Director Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism</p>
	<p>Shiriki C. Jones, Commercial Transactions Attorney Coyote, A UPS Company</p>		

Connect with @CJCPGA



#PopUpProfessionalism

EXHIBIT C



Professionalism PopUp CLE

April 6, 2020, Noon to 1 PM via Zoom

FREE, but you must Pre-register at <https://cjcpgepop040620.eventbrite.com>



Honorable Clyde L. Reese III
Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia
Moderator



	<p>Hon. Shondeana Crews Morris Judge, Superior Court of DeKalb County</p>		<p>Ms. Dawn M. Jones, Esq. Former ICU Registered Nurse and Current Solo Practitioner</p>
	<p>Hon. Susan E. Edlein Judge, State Court of Fulton County</p>		<p>Ms. Natalie Kelly, Esq. Law Practice Management Director State Bar of Georgia</p>
	<p>Hon. Michael H. Barker Judge, Magistrate Court of Chatham County</p>		<p>Mr. Michael L. Monahan, Esq. Pro Bono Director State Bar of Georgia</p>
	<p>Hon. Render Heard Judge, Juvenile Court of Tift County</p>		<p>Ms. Karlise Y. Grier, Esq. Executive Director Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism</p>

Connect with @CJCPGA



#PopUpProfessionalism

GLSP services during the COVID-19 Pandemic

May 2020

Georgia Legal Services Program provides free legal services to persons with moderate to low incomes in civil cases in 154 counties outside of metro Atlanta. We closed our physical offices to the public, but we are working remotely to serve our clients during the current global pandemic.

To respond to COVID-19 housing issues, we are providing legal advice on residential rental housing issues to financially eligible Georgians in GLSP's 154 counties. Due to COVID-19 related job losses, many Georgians are facing possible eviction. There is a federal moratorium on most evictions of tenants from public and federally subsidized housing through July 25, 2020. There is no statewide moratorium on evictions from private residential housing. Some landlords are telling tenants that they must immediately leave their homes. When landlords want to evict a tenant, landlords must give proper notice and use the court system to evict residential tenants and cannot use self-help measures such as changing locks to remove tenants.

One in ten Georgians have applied for unemployment benefits in the past month. We are representing Georgians who have been denied regular state unemployment benefits or new Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) funded by the federal CARES Act and administered by the Georgia Department of Labor. Under the new PUA, almost all Georgians who have lost hours or their jobs through furlough or termination should be eligible for PUA. This includes self-employed persons, gig or app workers, independent contractors, and those who worked for religious or non-profit organizations. Persons eligible for either type of unemployment benefits should be eligible for an additional \$600 per week in unemployment assistance through July 31, 2020.

GLSP continues to represent Georgians with legal issues relating to obtaining and retaining public benefits including Medicaid, Food Stamps (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). We also represent parents and children in special education and school discipline cases. GLSP represents survivors of domestic violence on a variety of issues including public benefits, housing, education, health, and orders of protection. Victims of domestic violence

who need immediate help can call the 24 hour DV Hotline at 1-800-334-2836 or 911.

GLSP has four programs with specific focuses. Through our Elderly Legal Assistance Program, we represent Georgians 60 and older in public benefits cases, advance directives for health care, powers of attorney, nursing home discharges, consumer, and other issues.

Three programs also have direct phone numbers for assistance. GLSP's Kinship Care program attorneys may be able to help caregivers who need legal assistance. GLSP lawyers can assist grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, other relatives, or even fictive kin who are caring for children. GLSP can assist with applying for healthcare benefits including Medicaid, Peachcare, Food Stamps (SNAP), TANF, or Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. We may also assist with child guardianships, visitation, adoptions, or custody. Kinship caregivers can call 1-855-357-6566.

GLSP's Farmworker Rights Division represents migrant and seasonal farmworkers throughout Georgia regarding their employment, housing and related health issues. Workers should call 1-404-463-1633 or 1-800-537-7496.

The GLSP Benefits Hotline provides assistance with core benefits for seniors or disabled Georgians who receive Medicare. Call the GLSP Benefits Hotline at 1-888-632-6332 to get help applying for, renewing, or retaining Medicaid, Food Stamps (SNAP), Medicare Savings Programs (MSP), or prescription drug benefits. GLSP has helped Georgians save hundreds of dollars per month by applying for the MSP program that pays Medicare premiums, deductible, and co-payments for eligible Georgians with moderate and low incomes.

See updates on our website at www.glsp.org and the legal information site we co-sponsor www.GeorgiaLegalAid.org.

Applicants for legal services should call our new main intake line at 1-833-GLSPLAW (1-833-457-7529) Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. other than holidays. GLSP provides free interpretation. Applicants can use our online intake anytime at www.glsp.org.