

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, June 9, 2017
Jekyll Island Convention Bureau/Jekyll Island, GA**

The 268th meeting of the Board of Governors/Plenary Session of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Patrick T. O'Connor, President, presided.

Special Recognition

President Pat O'Connor recognized the members of the judiciary, the Past Presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance.

Recognition of Retiring Executive Committee and Retiring Board Members

President Pat O'Connor recognized the following retiring Board of Governors Members: Carson Dane Perkins (Alapaha Circuit), Paul T. Carroll, III (Rome Circuit), Thomas Neal Brunt (Cherokee Circuit), John Christopher Clark (Macon Circuit), John Alexander Fitzner, III (Middle Circuit), Laverne Lewis Gaskins (Southern Circuit), Sandra N. Wisenbaker (Coweta Circuit), Jeb Tolliver Branham (Out-of-State), Fred A. Zimmerman (Clayton Circuit), Tommy Duck (Dougherty Circuit), and Aimee Pickett Sanders (Member-At-Large).

President Pat O'Connor recognized the following retiring Executive Committee members: Immediate Past President Bob Kauffman, YLD Immediate Past President Jack Long, and Thomas R. Burnside, III.

Roll Call

Secretary Darrell L. Sutton circulated the roll for signature. The list of those in attendance is attached as Exhibit A.

Future Meetings Schedule

President-elect Buck Rogers reported on the Future Meetings Schedule.

Minutes of the 267th Meeting of the Board of Governors

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held April 1, 2017 at the Ritz-Carlton Reynolds at Lake Oconee in Greensboro, Georgia, were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Awards and Presentations

President Pat O'Connor presented the following State Bar awards and presentations:

Resolution for Senior Judge Clarence Blount

President Pat O'Connor presented a resolution (Exhibit B) to Senior Superior Court Judge Clarence Blount, a Bar member for 67 years.

Resolution for Avarita Hanson

President Pat O'Connor presented a resolution (Exhibit C) to Avarita L. Hanson, the retiring Executive Director of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

Judge Willie Lovett Award for Advancing the Field of Juvenile Law

Nicki Vaughan, Chair of the Child Protection and Advocacy Section, announced the creation of a new award in memory of Juvenile Court Judge William J. Lovett (1973-2017). Ms. Vaughan presented the inaugural award posthumously to Judge Lovett and it was accepted by his wife, Seletha Lovett.

Chief Justice Harris Hines Award for Outstanding Advocacy for Children in Dependency Proceedings

Justice David Nahmias presented the award to attorney Temika Williams-Murry (DeKalb County Child Advocacy Center) and to Joan Chambers (Newton County DFACS case manager).

Georgia Legal Services Program

President Pat O'Connor presented Phyllis Holmen, Executive Director of the Georgia Legal Services Program, a replica check in the amount of \$567,890, which represents contributions from attorneys and law firms received during the 2016 Justice For All Campaign.

Corporate Sponsors

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

Bench and Bar Committee Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award

Judge Recipient: Honorable Alvin T. Wong, Jr.

Lawyer Recipient: Jeffrey O. Bramlett (1953-2016). The award will be presented to the Bramlett family at the 2018 Midyear meeting.

Local and Voluntary Bar Awards

Thomas R. Burnside, Jr. Excellence in Bar Leadership Award: Avarita L. Hanson

Award of Merit: Paulding County Bar Association (under 50 members), Walton County Bar Association (51-100 members), Blue Ridge Bar Association (101-250 members), Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (251-500 members), Atlanta Bar Association (501 or more members)

Law Day Award of Achievement: Glynn County Bar Association (101-250 members), Gwinnett County Bar Association (251-500 members), Cobb County Bar Association (501 or more members)

Best New Entry: Paulding County Bar Association

Best Newsletter: Gate City Bar Association (251-500 members), Georgia Defense Lawyers Association (501 or more members)

Best Website: Troup County Bar Association (under 50 members), Blue Ridge Bar Association (101-250 members), Gwinnett County Bar Association (251-500 members), Savannah Bar Association (501 or more members)

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

Sections

Section of the Year: Labor and Employment Law Section

Awards of Achievement: Military/Veterans Law, Family Law, and Intellectual Property Law Sections

Military Legal Assistance Program Marshall-Tuttle Award

Eric Ballinger presented the award to Missy Robinson.

State of the Supreme Court of Georgia

The Honorable P. Harris Hines, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, delivered the State of the Supreme Court of Georgia address.

State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia

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

State of the Federal Judiciary

The Honorable Lisa Godbey Wood, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, delivered the State of the Federal Judiciary address.

State of the Georgia Law Department

Attorney General Chris Carr delivered the State of the Georgia Law Department address. Thereafter, Attorney General Carr, YLD President Jennifer C. Mock, and President Pat O'Connor presented the following Legal Food Frenzy awards:

Sole Proprietor: Attorney Justin Oliverio, LLC

Small Firm: Durham Law Firm, PC

Medium Firm: Whelchel, Dunlap, Garrard & Walker, LLP
Hull Barrett, PC

Legal Organizations: Georgia Institute of Technology Office of Legal Affairs
Miles Mediation & Arbitration Services

Large Firm: Moore, Ingram, Johnson & Steele, LLP
King & Spalding

Corporate Legal Organization: Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC

Attorney General's Cup - Law School Division: Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law

Bar President's Award: Coleman Talley LLP

Attorney General's Cup: Jenkins & Roberts LLC

State of the Georgia House Judiciary Committee

Representative Wendell Willard, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, reported on the activities of the House Judiciary Committee.

State of the Georgia Senate Judiciary Committee

Senator Jesse Stone, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, reported on the activities of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

State of the Georgia Senate Special Judiciary Committee

Senator Curt Thompson, Chair of the Senate Special Judiciary Committee, reported on the activities of the Senate Special Judiciary Committee.

Memorials

President Pat O'Connor presented the Memorials report.

Young Lawyers Division

YLD President Jennifer Campbell Mock reported about the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. She announced that the annual Signature Fundraiser raised a substantial amount of money, with net proceeds benefitting Georgia CASA. She also reported that a recording-breaking 1.34 million pounds of food was collected during this year's Legal Food Frenzy to benefit Georgia's nine regional food banks. She further reported that she had the opportunity to work with great committee chairs that accomplished much this year. She recognized Morgan Clemons and Baylie Frye for their work last August presenting *Women in the Profession: 100 Years of Georgia Women Lawyers* celebration. She encouraged the Board of Governors members to continue their investment in the YLD and the State's young lawyers in order to develop the Bar's future leaders. Lastly, she thanked everyone for their help and support this Bar year.

Investigative Panel

Sherry Boston reported on the activities of the Investigative Panel and recognized the current and retiring Panel members.

Review Panel

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

Formal Advisory Opinion Board

Jeff Schneider reported on the activities of the Formal Advisory Opinion Board. He recognized John Shiptenko and Betty Derrickson for their staff support to the Board.

Clients' Security Fund

Randy Davis reported on the activities of the Clients' Security Fund. He thanked Betty Derrickson for her staff support, and Bill NeSmith, who provides counsel to the Board.

President's Address

Following an introduction by Immediate Past President Bob Kauffman, President Pat O'Connor delivered the President's Address (Exhibit D).

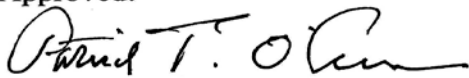
Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Darrell L. Sutton, Secretary

Approved:



Patrick T. O'Connor, President