

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, June 7, 2019/9:00 a.m.  
Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes/Orlando, FL**

The 278<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Ken Hodges, President, presided.

Special Recognition

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

Recognition of Retiring Executive Committee Members and Retiring Board Members

President Ken Hodges recognized the following retiring Executive Committee and Board of Governors members: Immediate Past President Buck Rogers; YLD Immediate Past President Nicole Leet; Diane E. Bessen-Atlanta Circuit, Post 1; Kathleen M. Womack-Atlanta Circuit, Post 3; Phyllis J. Holmen-Atlanta Circuit, Post 25; Samuel M. Matchett-Atlanta Circuit, Post 37; William C. Rumer-Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 2; H. Emily George-Clayton Circuit, Post 1; Roy B. Huff Jr.-Griffin Circuit, Post 2; Robert V. Rodatus-Gwinnett Circuit, Post 3; Gregory W. Edwards-Member At Large, Post 1; Shondeana Genean Morris-Member At Large, Post 2; Wilson B. Mitcham Jr.-Ocmulgee Circuit, Post 2; Stephanie Kirijan Cooper-Out of State, Post 1; Joshua Clark Bell-South Georgia Circuit, Post 2.

Roll Call

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

Minutes of the 277<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors

President Ken Hodges presented the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held March 30, 2019, at the Ritz-Carlton Reynolds at Lake Oconee, in Greensboro, GA. By unanimous voice vote, the Board of Governors approved the minutes.

Future Meetings Schedule

President-elect Darrell Sutton reported that he would review the Future Meetings Schedule at tomorrow's Board of Governors meeting.

Awards and Presentations

The following State Bar awards and presentations were made:

Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP)

MLAP Chair Jay Elmore presented the Marshall-Tuttle Award to Norman Zoller.

Transition into Law Practice Program (TILPP)

TILPP Director Michelle West presented the John T. Marshall Mentor Award to Cara R. Mitchell.

Juvenile Law and Child Advocacy Awards

Nicki Vaughan presented the Judge Willie Lovett Award for Advancing the Field of Juvenile Law to the Honorable Bradley J. Boyd and Attorney Nathan A. Hayes.

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

Supreme Court Justice David Nahmias presented the award to Attorney Anissa Patton, Fulton County Office of the Child Attorney and Jasmine Spratling, Forsyth County DFCS case manager.

Check Presentation to Georgia Legal Services (GLSP)

President Ken Hodges presented a \$563,438 check to Ira Foster, GLSP General Counsel, which represents contributions made by Bar members this Bar year for the GLSP Justice for All Campaign.

Recognition of Corporate Sponsor

President Ken Hodges recognized the Bar's Five-Gavel Corporate Sponsor, Member Benefits, Inc.

President Ken Hodges presented the following awards:

Local and Voluntary Bar Awards

Thomas R. Burnside, Jr. Excellence in Bar Leadership Award: Jacqueline F. Bunn

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

Law Day Award of Achievement: Blue Ridge Bar Association (101-250 members), Cobb County Bar Association (501 or more members)

Best Newsletter: Gwinnett County Bar Association (101-250 members), Georgia Defense Lawyers Association (501 or more members)

Best Website: Walton County Bar Association (under 50 members), Gwinnett County Bar Association (101-250 members), Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (251-500 members), Cobb County Bar Association (501 or more members)

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

Sections

Section of the Year: Family Law Section

Section Awards of Achievement: Animal Law and Intellectual Property

State of the Supreme Court of Georgia

The Honorable Harold Melton, 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 Stephen Dillard, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Georgia, delivered the State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia address.

State of the Office of Governor

Executive Counsel David Dove delivered the State of the Office of Governor on behalf of Governor Brian Kemp.

State of the Georgia House Judiciary Committee

Representative Barry Fleming, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, reported on the activities of the House Judiciary Committee.

State of the Georgia Senate Special Judiciary Committee

President Ken Hodges announced that Senator Jen Jordan, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, will present her report at tomorrow's Board of Governors meeting.

Memorials

President Ken Hodges presented the Memorials report.

Young Lawyers Division

YLD President Rizza O'Connor reported on the activities of the YLD this past year. She stated it was a busy and productive year with the YLD holding 133 events, much of those held outside of the Atlanta metropolitan area, and devoting hundreds of hours in community service projects. The YLD cosponsored the Georgia Legal Food Frenzy that raised 1.7 million pounds of food this year. The annual Signature Fundraiser held on April 13 raised \$47,000 for its beneficiary, Lawyers for Equal Justice. Championship teams from across the United States competed in the National High School Mock Trial Championship in Athens on May 17-18. The YLD Spring Meeting was held in Washington, DC, on April 26-29 where a group of young lawyers were sworn in to the Supreme Court of the United States, and the YLD received personal visits from Justices Clarence Thomas, Brent Kavanaugh, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Rizza thanked the Board of Governors members for their support and stated it has been an honor to serve as the YLD President. Lastly, Rizza reported that she is excited and encouraged for YLD President-elect Will Davis' upcoming leadership.

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

State Disciplinary Board

Chair Melody Glouton reported on the activities of the State Disciplinary Board and recognized the current Board members.

State Disciplinary Review Board

Chair Tony Askew reported on the activities of the State Disciplinary Review Board and recognized the current Board members.

Formal Advisory Opinion Board

Chair Jeff Schneider reported on the activities of the Formal Advisory Opinion Board.


President's Address

Following an introduction by Immediate Past President Buck Rogers, President Ken Hodges delivered the President's Address (Exhibit B).

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

  
Elizabeth D. Fite, Secretary

Approved;  
  
Kenneth B. Hodges, III, President