



State Bar
of Georgia

BOG BOARD BOOK

**2020 Spring Meeting
Braselton, Ga.**

This book serves as the agenda and materials for the State Bar of Georgia's 2020 Spring Board of Governors Meeting.



State Bar of Georgia

282nd BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Saturday, March 28, 2020

9:00AM – 12:00PM

Château Élan Winery & Resort

Braselton, Georgia

Dress: Business

AGENDA

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
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1) ADMINISTRATION

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------|
| a) Welcome and Call to Order | Darrell Sutton, President..... | 1-4 |
| b) Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance | | |
| c) Recognition of Past Presidents, Judges
and Special Guests..... | Darrell Sutton | |
| d) Roll Call (by signature)..... | Sally Akins, Secretary | 5-11 |
| e) Future Meetings Schedule..... | Darrell Sutton..... | 12-13 |

2) PRESIDENT’S REPORT Darrell Sutton

3) ACTION

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| a) Minutes of the 281 st Meeting | Sally Akins | 14-21
of the Board of Governors on January 11, 2020 |
| b) Summary of Proposed Rules/Policy Changes | Darrell Sutton/ | 22-61
Bill NeSmith |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Rule 1-202. Classes of Members (2) Rule 4-202. Receipt of Grievances:
Initial Review by Bar Counsel | | |

Topics

Presenter

Page No.

- (3) Rule 4-204. Investigation and Disposition
by State Disciplinary Board-Generally
 - (4) Rule 4-221.1. Confidentiality of Investigations
and Proceedings
 - (5) Rule 4-222. Limitation
 - (6) Rule 4-228. Receiverships
 - (7) Rule 1.2. Scope of Representation and
Allocation of Authority Between Client and Lawyer
 - (8) Standing Executive Committee Policy 1000 (Informational)
 - (9) Proposed Standing Board Policy Regarding Nominations (Informational)
- c) Summary of Proposed Section Bylaws Changes ... Darrell Sutton/ 62-66
Bill NeSmith
- (1) Child Protection and Advocacy Section
- d) Treasurer’s Report..... Elizabeth Fite, Treasurer67-79
- e) Dues 2020-2021 Darrell Sutton/ 80-85
Dawn Jones, President-Elect
- (1) Finance Committee Minutes
 - (2) Recommendation
 - a) Recommendations of the Finance, Programs and Personnel Committees
 - b) Recommendations of the Executive Committee
 - **Active Dues \$266**
 - **Inactive Dues \$133**
 - (3) Approval of Other Bar Dues Statement Items
 - a) Section Dues (\$10 to \$40 opt-in)
 - b) Assessments Required by Bar Rules or Supreme Court Mandated
 - Clients’ Security Fund
(\$100 @ \$25/year for new members per Bar Rule 1-506)
(\$15 special assessment for all other dues paying members per Bar Rule 10-103)
 - Professionalism Fee (\$11/year)
 - c) Other Contributions
 - Legislative and Public Education Fund Contribution
(\$100 optional Contribution)
 - Georgia Legal Services Program
(\$350 suggested individual contribution/\$100 suggested contribution for YLD)

4) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

- a) Georgia Statewide Business Court..... Honorable Walter Davis

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
b) Professional Liability Insurance Committee.....	Chris Twyman	
c) Attorney-Client Solicitation Committee	Michael Geoffroy	
d) Young Lawyers Division	Will Davis, YLD President	86-90

5) LEGISLATION

a) 2020 Legislative Update	Christine Butcher Hayes	
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6) WRITTEN REPORTS

a) Executive Committee Minutes	91-99
(1) November 21, 2019	
(2) January 31, 2020	
b) Media Report.....	100-102
c) Law Practice Management	103-109
d) Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism	110-114
e) Military Legal Assistance Program	115-117

7) CLOSING

a) Old Business	Darrell Sutton
b) New Business	Darrell Sutton
c) Questions/Answers; Comments/Suggestions.....	Board of Governors Officers Executive Committee Executive Director General Counsel
d) Adjournment	Darrell Sutton



2020
**SPRING
MEETING**

Board of Governors.

CHÂTEAU ÉLAN WINERY & RESORT
BRASELTON, GEORGIA | MARCH 27-29
Hotel Cut-off: Friday, Feb. 28 | Registration Cut-off: Friday, March 20

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.	State Disciplinary Board Meeting
10 – 11 a.m.	Senior Lawyers Committee Meeting
12 – 3 p.m.	ICJE Quarterly Board Meeting
2 – 3 p.m.	Disciplinary Rules & Procedures Committee Meeting
2 – 3 p.m.	Law Practice Management Advisory Committee Meeting
3 – 4 p.m.	Personal Injury Case Runners Town Hall Meeting
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Member Benefits Committee Meeting
3:30 – 5 p.m.	Professional Liability Insurance Committee Meeting
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Board of Governors Dinner <i>Please join us for this Board dinner, where you can network with your fellow Board members.</i>

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

8 – 8:55 a.m.	SOLACE Committee Meeting
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Board of Governors Meeting

ATTIRE

Attire for all events is business casual.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the following corporate sponsors for their support of the State Bar of Georgia.

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MB | MemberBenefits

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PERSONAL INJURY CASE RUNNERS TOWN HALL MEETING

Friday, March 27 | 3 – 4 p.m.

The Attorney-Client Solicitation Committee is hosting a town hall meeting in conjunction with the Bar's Spring Meeting. Co-chairs Judge Dax Lopez and Michael Geoffroy along with members of the Attorney-Client Solicitation Committee will be present to hear your experiences regarding the use of personal injury "case runners" and other unlicensed practice of law instances. This committee was organized in order to raise awareness about the issue and educate the Bar and the public. If you cannot attend the town hall, you may also email your comments to president@gabar.org.

PLI QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK

Professional Liability Insurance Committee

Friday, March 27 | 3:30 – 5 p.m.

The Professional Liability Insurance Committee will not hold a town hall at this meeting. Instead, the committee has set aside 30 minutes at the end of their meeting agenda to hear from any Bar member who would like to ask questions or provide feedback about the four options currently under consideration. The meeting is from 3:30-4:30, and the committee will open the floor for comments from 4:30-5. The committee is also accepting written comments at president@gabar.org. You can find the four options currently under consideration at the committee's listing on the Bar's website, <https://www.gabar.org/committeesprogramssections/committees>.

Hotel Accommodations



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHÂTEAU ÉLAN WINERY & RESORT

Château Élan Winery & Resort

100 Rue Charlemagne
Braselton, GA 30517
678-425-0900

Cut-off date is Friday, Feb. 28.

A block of hotel rooms at Château Élan Winery & Resort has been reserved for meeting attendees at a rate of \$239 for a single/double, plus applicable taxes and fees. To make reservations and receive our special rate, please call 678-425-0900 and reference the State Bar of Georgia Spring Board of Governors Meeting, or you may register online at <https://booking.chateauelan.com/default.aspx?p=&GROUP=64b427&ratecode=20zsb&bookingstep=1>.

Reservations must be made by Friday, Feb. 28, as rooms will be on a space and rate availability basis after this date.

Check-in is 3 p.m.

Check-out is 12 p.m.

Experience Château Élan

The South's Premier Golf Experience

Few golf resorts possess the beauty and variety offered by Château Élan's 45 holes of championship golf. From the rolling Georgia hills of the Woodlands, to the serene valley lakes on the Château, each course is unique in character and design. Combined with unparalleled customer service, the environment at Château Élan will lend for a truly memorable golf experience. Please call the resort at 678-425-6050 to set-up your tee times.

The Spa at Château Élan

Enter the peaceful oasis that is the Spa at Château Élan. Offering a serene sanctuary for both overnight and day guests, the expansive Spa Mansion overlooks a sparkling lake and is surrounded by lush green lawns and flowering shrubs. Whether you are seeking a quiet day of luxurious pampering, a romantic getaway or an afternoon with friends, our world-class Spa is a tranquil escape you won't soon forget. Please call the hotel and ask for the spa at 678-425-0900 to schedule your appointment. State Bar of Georgia meeting attendees will receive a 10 percent discount off the full-priced spa menu (not available with any other discounts or spa packages) during their stay.

The Château Tour & Wine Tasting

Tour the iconic Winery chateau that has defined Château Élan for decades. Our educated staff will guide you through a behind-the-scenes look at the Winery Vat and Production Rooms while explaining the entire wine-making process from grape to glass. After your tour concludes, enjoy a guided tasting of five winemaker-selected wines in our Winery Cask Room surrounded by barrels of aging wine. No seating provided.

Tour and Tasting Times:

Tuesday - Thursday: 2:30 p.m.

Friday - Sunday: 12 p.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.

Winery tours are always complimentary for overnight guests. Please pick up your Winery tour voucher at the Inn front desk. Additionally, a tour-only option is offered daily at 5 p.m.

For more information about Château Élan Winery & Resort, please visit www.chateauelan.com.



Registration Form

Please use this form to register by checking all events you plan to attend. Registration is required for all events, including no charge functions. You may also register online at www.gabar.org. Final registration deadline is Friday, March 20.

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Bar Number _____

Name _____

Nickname _____

Spouse/Guest Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Special Needs/Dietary Restrictions _____

ADA

If you qualify for assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call 404-526-8627.

REFUND/CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation of registration must be received in writing no later than Friday, March 20. Cancellations will receive a full refund, less a \$25 administrative charge. Absolutely no refunds will be made after Friday, March 20. Requests should be mailed to the State Bar of Georgia, Attn: Michelle Garner, 104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303; faxed to 404-527-8747 or emailed to michelleg@gabar.org.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registrations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis and will not be processed without payment. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted. Please make checks payable to State Bar of Georgia and mail to Michelle Garner, Director of Meetings, Spring Board of Governors Meeting, State Bar of Georgia, 104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303. No charge and credit card orders may be faxed to 404-527-8747. Verbal registrations will not be accepted.

EVENTS

Board Functions

- | | <i>Quantity</i> |
|---|-----------------|
| <input type="radio"/> BOG Dinner (Friday night) | \$75 _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> BOG Meeting | N/C _____ |

Committee Meetings

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Law Practice Management Advisory | N/C _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Personal Injury Case Runners Town Hall | N/C _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Member Benefits | N/C _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Professional Liability Insurance | N/C _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Senior Lawyers | N/C _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> SOLACE | N/C _____ |

Related Organizations

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="radio"/> ICJE Quarterly Board Meeting | N/C _____ |
|--|-----------|

Total Fees Enclosed: \$ _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Please bill my: Visa MasterCard AMEX

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

Name as it appears on card (please print)

Signature



State Bar
of Georgia

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	1-18	3-18	6-18	6-18	6-18	11-18	1-19	3-19	6-19	6-19	6-19	10-19	1-20
	ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Amelia	Sat.	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Fri.	Sat.	Savannah	ATL
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	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	e
JaDawnya Cintelle Baker	e	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	u
Nina M. Baker	n/a	n/a	n/a	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 Brodie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	e	•
Thomas R. Burnside	•	•	u	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	•	u	u	•	•	u
Carl S. Cansino	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Chris M. Carr	•	•	•	u	u	u	•	•	u	u	u	u	•
Shiriki L. Cavitt Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carol V. Clark	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•
Edward R. Collier	•	e	u	u	u	•	•	•	u	u	u	e	•
Christopher S. Connelly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Sally B. Akins (sakins@EPRA-Law.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

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

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

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	ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Sat.	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Sat.	Savannah	ATL
Lester B. Johnson, III	•	•	u	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•
Dawn M. Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Michael R. Jones, Sr.	u	•	u	u	•	u	•	u	u	e	u
Jennifer A. Jordan	•	e	•	•	e	•	e	u	u	•	•
Zahra S. Karinshak	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	e	e	•	e	e	e	•
John F. Kennedy	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	•
William J. Keogh, III	u	u	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	u	•
Barry E. King	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•
Judy C. King	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Seth Kirschenbaum	•	e	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•
Catherine Koura	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Edward B. Krugman	•	•	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	e
Jeffrey R. Kuester	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Allegra Lawrence-Hardy	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•
Nicole C. Leet	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•
Katie K. Leonard	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Ryan R. Leonard	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	u	e
Dawn Renee Levine	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•
Joyce Gist Lewis	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lisa Katsuko Liang	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	u
David S. Lipscomb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
John R. B. Long	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dax Eric Lopez	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Ronald A. Lowry	e	•	e	e	•	e	•	u	u	u	•

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John Bell Manly	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Ana Maria Martinez	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Letitia A. McDonald	•	e	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	e	•
Brad J. McFall	•	•	u	u	u	e	•	e	u	u	e	•
Michael D. McRae	u	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	•
Terry L. Miller	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William J. Monahan	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
John T. Mroczko	•	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u
Laura J. Murphree	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Sam G. Nicholson	u	•	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	u	•	•
Amanda Rourk Clark Palmer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	u	u	•
Kathy Stephens Palmer	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jonathan B. Pannell	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joy Renea Parks	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•
Tabitha Edwina Payne	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	e	•	•
Brandon Lee Peak	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	e	•	e
Thomas A. Peterson, IV	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	u	u	u	•
Will H. Pickett, Jr.	u	u	u	u	u	u	•	u	u	u	e	u
Robert Allen Plumb Jr.	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jill Pryor	•	•	e	e	e	e	•	e	e	e	•	e
Kathryn Lauranne Powers	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•
William M. Ragland	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•

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	1-18	3-18	6-18	6-18	11-18	1-19	3-19	6-19	6-19	10-19	1-20
	ATL	Greensboro	Fri.	Sat.	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Sat.	Savannah	
James L. Roberts, IV	n/a	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	u	e	•
Tina S. Roddenbery	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joseph Roseborough	•	u	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	u
Wesley Charles Ross	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Claudia S. Saari	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Dennis C. Sanders	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
H. Burke Sherwood	u	u	•	•	e	•	•	u	•	•	•
Robert H. Smalley, III	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	u	•
Philip C. Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
R. Rucker Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Daniel B. Snipes	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	u	•
R. Gary Spencer	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•
H. Craig Stafford	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	u	u	•	•
Lawton E. Stephens	e	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	e	u
Donna Coleman Stribling	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
C. Deen Strickland	u	•	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	u
Frank B. Strickland	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Joseph C. Sumner, Jr.	•	•	•	•	u	u	•	•	•	•	•
Darrell L. Sutton	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jason W. Swindle	u	•	•	•	u	•	•	u	u	•	•
Michael B. Terry	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anita W. Thomas	•	e	u	•	e	•	e	u	•	u	•
Edward D. Tolley	u	•	•	u	u	•	•	u	u	e	•
Clayton Tomlinson	u	•	u	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	u

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Sally B. Akins (sakins@EPRA-Law.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	1-18	3-18	6-18	6-18	11-18	1-19	3-19	6-19	6-19	10-19	1-20
	ATL	Greensboro	Fri. Amelia	Sat. Amelia	Pine Mtn	ATL	Greensboro	Orlando	Sat. Orlando	Savannah	ATL
Chris P. Twyman	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William Underwood III	•	u	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	•	•
Martin E. Valbuena	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carl R. Varnedoe	u	•	•	•	•	u	•	•	•	u	•
Nicki N. Vaughan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Carl A. Veline, Jr.	•	•	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	•	u	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Christopher F. West	•	u	•	•	u	•	u	•	•	u	•
Nancy J. Whaley	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Paige Reese Whitaker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Martha Wilson Williams	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•
Douglas Woodruff	u	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	e	e	•
• - attended meeting											
			u - unexcused absence								

Future Meetings Schedule 3/3/2020



Executive Committee

May 7, 2020 12 p.m.		Nathan Deal Judicial Center Atlanta, GA
Sept. 11-13, 2020		Executive Committee Extended Meeting Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, SC

Board of Governors

Annual 2020	June 11-14, 2020	Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort Miramar Beach, FL
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

Spring 2020	April 24-26, 2020	Graduate Athens Athens, GA
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Annual 2020	June 11-14, 2020	Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort Miramar Beach, FL
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
Annual 2022	June 2-5, 2022	Omni Amelia Island Resort Amelia Island, FL

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

2020	April 24
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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

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



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Governors
From: Bill NeSmith
Date: March 28, 2020
Re: Proposed Rule changes

Below is a short explanation of the proposed rules changes on the agenda for the March 28, 2020, Spring Board of Governors Meeting:

1. Bar Rule 1-202. Classes of Members – This proposed change adds paragraph (f) Retired Status to Bar Rule 1-202. *Bar Counsel in its motion will ask the Court to allow this provision to become effective upon the membership approving Article I. Members, Section 9. Retired Status Member at the 2020 annual meeting.*
2. Bar Rule 4-202. Receipt of Grievances; Initial Review by Bar Counsel – This proposed housekeeping change renames *Consumer Assistance Program* to *Client Assistance Program*.
3. Bar Rule 4-204. Investigation and Disposition by State Disciplinary Board-Generally- This proposed housekeeping change renames *Consumer Assistance Program* to *Client Assistance Program*.
4. Bar Rule 4-221.1. Confidentiality of Investigations and Proceedings - This proposed housekeeping change renames *Consumer Assistance Program* to *Client Assistance Program*.
5. Bar Rule 4-222. Limitation- This proposed housekeeping change renames *Consumer Assistance Program* to *Client Assistance Program*.
6. Bar Rule 4-228. Receiverships – The first proposed change is to paragraph (h) which clarifies the requirement of a lawyer having professional liability insurance to be eligible to be appointed as a receiver.

The second proposed change is to paragraph (k) which adds a provision for assessing the costs of receivership incurred by the State Bar of Georgia to a disbarred or indefinitely suspended lawyer who failed to follow the duties required under Bar Rule 4-219(b). These costs would have to be reimbursed by a disbarred or indefinitely suspended lawyer to the State Bar of Georgia before the lawyer would be eligible for readmission to the practice of law.

7. Bar Rule 1.2. Scope of Representation and Allocation of Authority Between Client and Lawyer – The first proposed change is at line 15, which adds (d) Except as provided in paragraph (e), a The purpose of this change is to direct the reader to paragraph (e), beginning at line 20.

The second proposed change is at line 20-23. The purpose of this change is to address conflicts in the law, including, but not limited to state laws concerning the cultivation of cannabis, which conflicts with current federal statutes.

The third proposed change to this rule amends Comment [9] beginning at Line 89 through Line 91. This language was recommended by the International Trade in Legal Services Committee to address growing concerns about money laundering.

1 Rule 1-202. Membership Status

2 Membership in the State Bar of Georgia shall consist of five categories: Active
3 Status, Foreign Law Consultant Status, Emeritus Status, Disabled Status and
4 Inactive Status. The bylaws shall make provision for the registration of each active
5 member and the location of his or her principal office for the practice of law, the
6 registration of each foreign law consultant and the location of his or her principal
7 office, and the registration of emeritus and inactive members and their mailing
8 addresses. Only Active Status members and Emeritus Status members may vote on
9 any State Bar of Georgia matter or election or nominate an active member for office.
10 Emeritus Status members can vote only in person or electronically.

11 (a) Inactive Status Members. Any member of the State Bar of Georgia
12 may contact the Membership Department and elect to be transferred to Inactive
13 Status membership provided that the member:

- 14 (1) is not engaged in the practice of law;
- 15 (2) does not hold themselves out as a practicing lawyer or attorney;
- 16 (3) does not occupy any public or private position in which the
17 member may be called upon to give legal advice or counsel;
- 18 (4) does not examine the law or to pass upon the legal effect of any
19 act, document, or law for the benefit of another person, company, or
20 corporation.
- 21 (5) is active duty in any branch of the United States military.

22 (b) Active Status Members. Active Statusmembers shall be all other
23 lawyers including judges but excluding foreign law consultants. Only Active Status
24 members of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing may hold office in the State
25 Bar of Georgia.

26 (c) Foreign Law Consultant Status. Foreign Law Consultants shall be
27 those persons, who are licensed under the Rules Governing Admission to the
28 Practice of Law as adopted by the Supreme Court of Georgia.

29 (d) Emeritus Status Members. Any member in good standing of the State
30 Bar of Georgia who will attain the age of 70 years in a Bar year and who shall have
31 been admitted to the practice of law for at least 25 years, five years of which must
32 be as a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia, may request Emeritus
33 Status from the State Bar upon petition to and approval by the Membership
34 Department. When approved, the member shall be transferred to Emeritus Status.
35 An Emeritus Status member of the State Bar of Georgia shall not be required to pay
36 license fees or other fees, and may not hold office in the State Bar of Georgia. An
37 Emeritus Status member of the State Bar of Georgia shall not be privileged to
38 practice law except that an Emeritus Status member may handle pro bono cases
39 referred by either an organized pro bono program recognized by the Pro Bono
40 Project of the State Bar of Georgia or a non-profit corporation that delivers legal
41 services to the poor. An Emeritus Status member may be reinstated to active or
42 inactive membership upon application to the Membership Department and payment
43 of non-prorated license fees for the year in which the Emeritus Status member
44 returns to Active Status or Inactive Status membership.

45 (e) Members Unable to Practice Law due to a Disability. Any member of
46 the State Bar of Georgia who is temporarily or permanently disabled may submit to
47 the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia a written request to be
48 transferred to Disabled Status. Members who elect this status must submit adequate
49 medical and/or psychological documentation of their disability with the written
50 request. Adequate documentation includes:

51 (1) documentation from Social Security of approval of disability;

52 (2) documentation from an insurance company of receipt of benefits based
53 upon disability;

54 (3) documentation from a medical doctor that the member is disabled. Any
55 request by a member to be transferred to Disabled Status must comply with all of
56 the provisions contained in Section 1, Article 10 of the Bylaws of the State Bar of
57 Georgia.

58 (f) Retired Status Member.

59 (1) Any member of the State Bar of Georgia who is not
60 engaged in the active practice of law in any state, district, or territory of the
61 United States may transfer to Retired Status by submitting a request in
62 writing to the Executive Director and General Counsel of the State Bar of
63 Georgia. Upon approval by the Executive Director and General Counsel, the
64 Membership Department shall transfer the member to Retired status. A
65 member in Retired Status shall not be entitled to practice law in this state
66 and may not practice law in any other jurisdiction. Further, such members
67 shall not be eligible to vote or hold office in the State Bar of Georgia. Any
68 member transferred to Retired status shall be relieved of their membership
69 fees and CLE obligations.

70 (2) A request for Retired Status must be unqualified, is irrevocable
71 and permanent. A member in Retired status will appear in the State Bar of
72 Georgia member directory as “Retired.”

73 (3) A member of the State Bar of Georgia with a pending
74 disciplinary matter may transfer to Retired status with the consent of the
75 Office of the General Counsel. Grievances received after a member has
76 transferred to retired status may be investigated and prosecuted through the
77 disciplinary process at the option of the Office of the General Counsel.

78 (4) Members suspended from the practice of law because of failure
79 to meet CLE requirements or failure to pay Bar membership fees are not
80 eligible for retired status.

81

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6 registration of each foreign law consultant and the location of his or her principal
7 office, and the registration of emeritus and inactive members and their mailing
8 addresses. Only Active Status members and Emeritus Status members may vote on
9 any State Bar of Georgia matter or election or nominate an active member for office.
10 Emeritus Status members can vote only in person or electronically.

11 (a) Inactive Status Members. Any member of the State Bar of Georgia
12 may contact the Membership Department and elect to be transferred to Inactive
13 Status membership provided that the member:

- 14 (1) is not engaged in the practice of law;
- 15 (2) does not hold themselves out as a practicing lawyer or attorney;
- 16 (3) does not occupy any public or private position in which the
17 member may be called upon to give legal advice or counsel;
- 18 (4) does not examine the law or to pass upon the legal effect of any
19 act, document, or law for the benefit of another person, company, or
20 corporation.
- 21 (5) is active duty in any branch of the United States military.

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30 Bar of Georgia who will attain the age of 70 years in a Bar year and who shall have
31 been admitted to the practice of law for at least 25 years, five years of which must
32 be as a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia, may request Emeritus
33 Status from the State Bar upon petition to and approval by the Membership
34 Department. When approved, the member shall be transferred to Emeritus Status.
35 An Emeritus Status member of the State Bar of Georgia shall not be required to pay
36 license fees or other fees, and may not hold office in the State Bar of Georgia. An
37 Emeritus Status member of the State Bar of Georgia shall not be privileged to
38 practice law except that an Emeritus Status member may handle pro bono cases
39 referred by either an organized pro bono program recognized by the Pro Bono
40 Project of the State Bar of Georgia or a non-profit corporation that delivers legal
41 services to the poor. An Emeritus Status member may be reinstated to active or
42 inactive membership upon application to the Membership Department and payment
43 of non-prorated license fees for the year in which the Emeritus Status member
44 returns to Active Status or Inactive Status membership.

45 (e) Members Unable to Practice Law due to a Disability. Any member of
46 the State Bar of Georgia who is temporarily or permanently disabled may submit to
47 the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia a written request to be
48 transferred to Disabled Status. Members who elect this status must submit adequate
49 medical and/or psychological documentation of their disability with the written
50 request. Adequate documentation includes:

51 (1) documentation from Social Security of approval of disability;

52 (2) documentation from an insurance company of receipt of benefits
53 based upon disability;

54 (3) documentation from a medical doctor that the member is
55 disabled. Any request by a member to be transferred to Disabled Status must
56 comply with all of the provisions contained in Section 1, Article 10 of the
57 Bylaws of the State Bar of Georgia.

58 (f) Retired Status Member.

59 (1) Any member of the State Bar of Georgia who is not engaged in
60 the active practice of law in any state, district, or territory of the United
61 States may transfer to Retired Status by submitting a request in writing to the
62 Executive Director and General Counsel of the State Bar of Georgia. Upon
63 approval by the Executive Director and General Counsel, the Membership
64 Department shall transfer the member to Retired status. A member in
65 Retired Status shall not be entitled to practice law in this state and may not
66 practice law in any other jurisdiction. Further, such members shall not be
67 eligible to vote or hold office in the State Bar of Georgia. Any member
68 transferred to Retired status shall be relieved of their membership fees and
69 CLE obligations.

70 (2) A request for Retired Status must be unqualified, is irrevocable
71 and permanent. A member in Retired status will appear in the State Bar of
72 Georgia member directory as "Retired."

73 (3) A member of the State Bar of Georgia with a pending
74 disciplinary matter may transfer to Retired status with the consent of the
75 Office of the General Counsel. Grievances received after a member has
76 transferred to retired status may be investigated and prosecuted through the
77 disciplinary process at the option of the Office of the General Counsel.

78 (4) Members suspended from the practice of law because of failure
79 to meet CLE requirements or failure to pay Bar membership fees are not
80 eligible for retired status.

1 **Rule 4-202. Receipt of Grievances; Initial Review by Bar Counsel**

2 (a) Grievances shall be filed in writing with the Office of the General Counsel of the
3 State Bar of Georgia. In lieu of a Memorandum of Grievance the Office of the General Counsel
4 may begin an investigation upon receipt of an Intake Form from the ~~Consumer-Client~~ Assistance
5 Program. All grievances must include the name of the complainant and must be signed by the
6 complainant.

7 (b) The Office of the General Counsel may investigate conduct upon receipt of credible
8 information from any source after notifying the respondent lawyer and providing a written
9 description of the information that serves as the basis for the investigation. The Office of the
10 General Counsel may deliver the information it obtains to the State Disciplinary Board for initiation
11 of a grievance under Rule 4-203 (2).

12 (c) The Office of the General Counsel shall be empowered to collect evidence and
13 information concerning any grievance. The screening process may include forwarding a copy of
14 the grievance to the respondent in order that the respondent may respond to the grievance.

15 (d) The Office of the General Counsel may request the Chair of the State Disciplinary
16 Board to issue a subpoena as provided by OCGA § 24-13-23 requiring a respondent or a third party
17 to produce documents relevant to the matter under investigation. Subpoenas shall be enforced in
18 the manner provided at Rule 4- 221 (c).

19 (e) Upon completion of its screening of a grievance, the Office of the General Counsel
20 shall be empowered to dismiss those grievances that do not present sufficient merit to proceed.
21 Rejection of such grievances by the Office of the General Counsel shall not deprive the
22 complaining party of any right of action he might otherwise have at law or in equity against the
23 respondent.

24 (f) Those grievances that appear to allege a violation of Part IV, Chapter 1 of the
25 Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct may be forwarded to the State Disciplinary Board pursuant
26 to Bar Rule 4-204. In lieu of forwarding a matter to the State Disciplinary Board, the Office of the
27 General Counsel may refer a matter to the ~~Consumer-Client~~ Assistance Program so that it may
28 direct the complaining party to appropriate resources.

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25 to Bar Rule 4-204. In lieu of forwarding a matter to the State Disciplinary Board, the Office of the
26 General Counsel may refer a matter to the Client Assistance Program so that it may direct the
27 complaining party to appropriate resources.

1 **Rule 4-204. Investigation and Disposition by State Disciplinary Board-Generally**

2 (a) Each grievance that presents sufficient merit to proceed may be referred with a
3 Notice of Investigation to the State Disciplinary Board for investigation and disposition in
4 accordance with its rules. The Clerk of the State Disciplinary Boards shall assign a lawyer member
5 of the State Disciplinary Board to be responsible for the investigation. The Office of the General
6 Counsel shall simultaneously assign a staff investigator to assist the State Disciplinary Board
7 member with the investigation. If the investigation of the State Disciplinary Board establishes
8 Probable Cause to believe that the respondent has violated one or more of the provisions of Part IV,
9 Chapter 1 of these rules, it shall:

- 10 (1) issue a Formal Letter of Admonition;
11 (2) issue a Confidential Reprimand;
12 (3) issue a Notice of Discipline;
13 (4) refer the case to the Supreme Court of Georgia for hearing before a Special Master
14 and file a formal complaint with the Supreme Court of Georgia, all as hereinafter provided;
15 or
16 (5) refer a respondent for evaluation by an appropriate medical or mental health
17 professional pursuant to Bar Rule 4-104 upon the State Disciplinary Board's determination
18 that there is cause to believe the lawyer is impaired.

19 All other cases may be either dismissed by the State Disciplinary Board or referred to the
20 ~~Consumer-Client~~ Assistance Program so that it may direct the complaining party to
21 appropriate resources.

22 (b) The primary investigation shall be conducted by the member of the State
23 Disciplinary Board responsible for the investigation, assisted by the staff of the Office of the
24 General Counsel, upon request of the State Disciplinary Board member. The Board of Governors
25 of the State Bar of Georgia shall fund the Office of the General Counsel so that the Office of the
26 General Counsel will be able to adequately investigate and prosecute all cases.

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24 General Counsel, upon request of the State Disciplinary Board member. The Board of Governors
25 of the State Bar of Georgia shall fund the Office of the General Counsel so that the Office of the
26 General Counsel will be able to adequately investigate and prosecute all cases.

1 **Rule 4-221.1 Confidentiality of Investigations and Proceedings**

2 ...

3 (e) The Office of the General Counsel may reveal confidential information to the
4 following person if it appears that the information may assist them in the discharge of their duties:

5 ...

6 (9) The ~~Consumer-Client~~ Assistance Program;

7 ...

1 Rule 4-221.1 Confidentiality of Investigations and Proceedings

2 (a) The State Bar of Georgia shall maintain as confidential all disciplinary
3 investigations and proceedings pending at the screening or investigative stage, unless otherwise
4 provided by these Rules.

5 (b) After a proceeding under these Rules is filed with the Supreme Court of Georgia,
6 all evidentiary and motions hearings shall be open to the public and all documents and pleadings
7 filed of record shall be public documents, unless the Special Master or the Supreme Court of
8 Georgia orders otherwise.

9 (c) Nothing in these Rules shall prohibit the complainant, respondent, or a third party
10 from disclosing information regarding a disciplinary proceeding, unless otherwise ordered by the
11 Supreme Court of Georgia or a Special Master in proceedings under these Rules.

12 (d) The Office of the General Counsel of the State Bar of Georgia or the State
13 Disciplinary Board may reveal or authorize disclosure of information that would otherwise be
14 confidential under this Rule under the following circumstances:

15 (1) In the event of a charge of wrongful conduct against any member of the State
16 Disciplinary Board, the State Disciplinary Review Board, or any person who is otherwise
17 connected with the disciplinary proceeding in any way, the State Disciplinary Board or its Chair
18 or his designee, may authorize the use of information concerning disciplinary investigations or
19 proceedings to aid in the defense against such charge.

20 (2) In the event the Office of the General Counsel receives information that suggests
21 criminal activity, such information may be revealed to the appropriate criminal prosecutor.

22 (3) In the event of subsequent disciplinary proceedings against a lawyer, the Office of
23 the General Counsel may, in aggravation of discipline in the pending disciplinary case, reveal the
24 imposition of confidential discipline under Rules 4-205 to 4-208 and facts underlying the
25 imposition of discipline.

26 (4) A complainant and/or lawyer representing the complainant shall be notified of the
27 status or disposition of the complaint.

28 (5) When public statements that are false or misleading are made about any otherwise
29 confidential disciplinary case, the Office of the General Counsel may disclose all information
30 necessary to correct such false or misleading statements.

31 (e) The Office of the General Counsel may reveal confidential information to the
32 following persons if it appears that the information may assist them in the discharge of their
33 duties:

34 (1) The Committee on the Arbitration of Attorney Fee Disputes or the comparable
35 body in other jurisdictions;

36 (2) The Trustees of the Clients' Security Fund or the comparable body in other
37 jurisdictions;

38 (3) The Judicial Nominating Commission or the comparable body in other
39 jurisdictions;

40 (4) The Lawyer Assistance Program or the comparable body in other jurisdictions;

41 (5) The Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants or the comparable body in
42 other jurisdictions;

43 (6) The Judicial Qualifications Commission or the comparable body in other
44 jurisdictions;

45 (7) The Executive Committee with the specific approval of the following
46 representatives of the State Disciplinary Board: the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and a third
47 representative designated by the Chair;

48 (8) The Formal Advisory Opinion Board;

49 (9) The Client Assistance Program;

50 (10) The General Counsel Overview Committee;

51 (11) An office or committee charged with discipline appointed by the United States
52 Circuit or District Court or the highest court of any state, District of Columbia, commonwealth
53 or possession of the United States; and

54 (12) The Unlicensed Practice of Law Department.

55 (f) Any information used by the Office of the General Counsel in a proceeding under
56 Rule 4-108 or in a proceeding to obtain a receiver to administer the files of a lawyer, shall not be
57 confidential under this Rule.

58 (g) The Office of the General Counsel may reveal confidential information when
59 required by law or court order.

60 (h) The authority or discretion to reveal confidential information under this Rule shall
61 not constitute a waiver of any evidentiary, statutory or other privilege which may be asserted by
62 the State Bar of Georgia or the State Disciplinary Board under Bar Rules or applicable law.

63 (i) Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit the Office of the General Counsel or the State
64 Disciplinary Board from interviewing potential witnesses or placing the Notice of Investigation
65 out for service by the sheriff or other authorized person.

66 (j) Members of the Office of the General Counsel and State Disciplinary Board may
67 respond to specific inquiries concerning matters that have been made public by the complainant,
68 respondent, or third parties but are otherwise confidential under these Rules by acknowledging
69 the existence and status of the proceeding.

70 (k) The State Bar of Georgia shall not disclose information concerning discipline
71 imposed on a lawyer under prior Supreme Court of Georgia Rules that was confidential when
72 imposed, unless authorized to do so by said prior Rules.

Rule 4-222. Limitation

(a) No proceeding under Part IV, Chapter 2, shall be brought unless a Memorandum of Grievance or a ~~Consumer-Client~~ Assistance Program referral form has been received at the State Bar of Georgia headquarters or instituted pursuant to these rules within four years after the commission of the act; provided, however, this limitation shall be tolled during any period of time, not to exceed two years, that the offender or the offense is unknown, the offender's whereabouts are unknown, or the offender's name is removed from the roll of those authorized to practice law in this state.

(b) Referral of a matter to the State Disciplinary Board by the Office of the General Counsel shall occur within 12 months of the receipt of the Memorandum of Grievance at the State Bar of Georgia headquarters or institution of an investigation.

1 **Rule 4-222. Limitation**

2 (a) No proceeding under Part IV, Chapter 2, shall be brought unless a Memorandum of
3 Grievance or a Client Assistance Program referral form has been received at the State Bar of
4 Georgia headquarters or instituted pursuant to these rules within four years after the commission
5 of the act; provided, however, this limitation shall be tolled during any period of time, not to exceed
6 two years, that the offender or the offense is unknown, the offender's whereabouts are unknown,
7 or the offender's name is removed from the roll of those authorized to practice law in this state.

8 (b) Referral of a matter to the State Disciplinary Board by the Office of the General
9 Counsel shall occur within 12 months of the receipt of the Memorandum of Grievance at the State
10 Bar of Georgia headquarters or institution of an investigation.

1 **Rule 4-228-Receiverships**

2

3 . . .

4

5 (h) Professional Liability Insurance-

6 ~~Only lawyers who~~

7 ~~To serve as a receiver, a lawyer must maintain errors and omissions an Errors & Omissions~~

8 ~~insurance, or other appropriate insurance, may be. policy which includes coverage for conduct as a~~

9 ~~receiver.~~

10

11 . . .

12 (k) State Bar of Georgia as a receiver. If a lawyer who is an employee of the State Bar

13 of Georgia is appointed as receiver of an Absent Lawyer's client files, the State Bar upon motion

14 may request that the Supreme Court of Georgia enter an order assessing the absent lawyer the

15 costs of receivership. The assessed amount must be paid in full by the absent lawyer before the

16 Court will consider any application for reinstatement to the practice of law in this state.

17 (l) Service. Service under this Rule may be perfected under Rule 4-203.1.

1 **Rule 4-228. Receiverships**

2 (a) Definitions.

3 Absent Lawyer: A member of the State Bar of Georgia (or a Domestic or Foreign lawyer
4 authorized to practice law in Georgia) who has disappeared, died, been disbarred, disciplined or
5 incarcerated, become so impaired as to be unable to properly represent clients, or who poses such
6 a substantial threat of harm to clients or the public that it is necessary for the Supreme Court of
7 Georgia to appoint a receiver.

8 (b) Appointment of Receiver.

9 (1) Upon a final determination by the Supreme Court of Georgia, on a petition
10 filed by the State Bar of Georgia, that a lawyer has become an absent lawyer, and that no
11 partner, associate, or other appropriate representative is available to notify his clients of
12 this fact, the Supreme Court of Georgia may order that a member or members of the State
13 Bar of Georgia be appointed as receiver to take charge of the absent lawyer's files and
14 records. Such receiver shall review the files, notify the absent lawyer's clients and take
15 such steps as seem indicated to protect the interests of the clients and the public. A
16 motion for reconsideration may be taken from the issuance or denial of such protective
17 order by the respondent, his partners, associates, or legal representatives or by the State
18 Bar of Georgia.

19 (2) If the receiver should encounter, or anticipate, situations or issues not
20 covered by the order of appointment, including but not limited to, those concerning
21 proper procedure and scope of authority, the receiver may petition the Supreme Court of

22 Georgia for such further order or orders as may be necessary or appropriate to address the
23 situation or issue so encountered or anticipated.

24 (3) The receiver shall be entitled to release to each client the papers, money,
25 or other property to which the client is entitled. Before releasing the property, the receiver
26 may require a receipt from the client for the property.

27 (c) Applicability of Lawyer-Client Rules.

28 (1) Confidentiality. The receiver shall not be permitted to disclose any
29 information contained in the files and records in his care without the consent of the client
30 to whom such file or record relates, except as clearly necessary to carry out the order of
31 the Supreme Court of Georgia or, upon application, by order of the Supreme Court of
32 Georgia.

33 (2) Lawyer-Client Relationship; Privilege. The receiver relationship standing
34 alone does not create a lawyer-client relationship between the receiver and the clients of
35 the absent lawyer. However, the lawyer-client privilege shall apply to communications by
36 or between the receiver and the clients of the absent lawyer to the same extent as it would
37 have applied to communications by or to the absent lawyer.

38 (d) Trust Account.

39 (1) If after appointment the receiver should determine that the absent lawyer
40 maintained one or more trust accounts and that there are no provisions extant that would
41 allow the clients, or other appropriate entities, to receive from the accounts the funds to
42 which they are entitled, the receiver may petition the Supreme Court of Georgia or its
43 designee for an order extending the scope of the receivership to include the management

44 of the said trust account or accounts. In the event the scope of the receivership is
45 extended to include the management of the trust account or accounts, the receiver shall
46 file quarterly with the Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee a report showing the
47 activity in and status of said accounts.

48 (2) Service on a bank or financial institution of a copy of the order extending
49 the scope of the receivership to include management of the trust account or accounts shall
50 operate as a modification of any agreement of deposit among such bank or financial
51 institution, the absent lawyer and any other party to the account so as to make the
52 receiver a necessary signatory on any trust account maintained by the absent lawyer with
53 such bank or financial institution. The Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee, on
54 application by the receiver, may order that the receiver shall be sole signatory on any
55 such account to the extent necessary for the purposes of these Rules and may direct the
56 disposition and distribution of client and other funds.

57 (3) In determining ownership of funds in the trust accounts, including by
58 subrogation or indemnification, the receiver should act as a reasonably prudent lawyer
59 maintaining a client trust account. The receiver may (i) rely on a certification of
60 ownership issued by an auditor employed by the receiver; or (ii) interplead any funds of
61 questionable ownership into the appropriate Superior Court; or (iii) proceed under the
62 terms of the Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act (OCGA § 44-12-190 et seq.). If the
63 absent lawyer's trust account does not contain sufficient funds to meet known client
64 balances, the receiver may disburse funds on a pro rata basis.

65 (e) Payment of Expenses of Receiver.

66

67 (1) The receiver shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and reasonable
68 costs incurred by the receiver for expenses, including, but not limited to, (i) the actual and
69 reasonable costs associated with the employment of accountants, auditors, and
70 bookkeepers as necessary to determine the source and ownership of funds held in the
71 absent lawyer’s trust account, and (ii) reasonable costs of secretarial, postage, bond
72 premiums, and moving and storage expenses associated with carrying out the receiver’s
73 duties. Application for allowance of costs and expenses shall be made by affidavit to the
74 Supreme Court of Georgia, or its designee, who may determine the amount of the
75 reimbursement. The application shall be accompanied by an accounting in a form and
76 substance acceptable to the Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee. The amount of
77 reimbursement as determined by the Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee shall be
78 paid to the receiver by the State Bar of Georgia. The State Bar of Georgia may seek from
79 a court of competent jurisdiction a judgment against the absent lawyer or his or her estate
80 in an amount equal to the amount paid by the State Bar of Georgia to the receiver. The
81 amount of reimbursement as determined by the Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee
82 shall be considered as prima facie evidence of the fairness of the amount, and the burden
83 of proof shall shift to the absent lawyer or his estate to prove otherwise.

84 (2) The provision of paragraph (e) (1) above shall apply to all receivers
85 serving on the effective date of this Rule and thereafter.

86 (f) Receiver-Client Relationship. With full disclosure and the informed consent, as
87 defined in Rule 1.0 (l), of any client of the absent lawyer, the receiver may, but need not, accept
88 employment to complete any legal matter. Any written consent by the client shall include an
89 acknowledgment that the client is not obligated to use the receiver.

90 (g) Unclaimed Files.

91 (1) If upon completion of the receivership there are files belonging to the
92 clients of the absent lawyer that have not been claimed, the receiver shall deliver them to
93 the State Bar of Georgia. The State Bar of Georgia shall store the files for six years, after
94 which time the State Bar of Georgia may exercise its discretion in maintaining or
95 destroying the files.

96 (2) If the receiver determines that an unclaimed file contains a Last Will and
97 Testament, the receiver may, but shall not be required to do so, file said Last Will and
98 Testament in the office of the Probate Court in such county as to the receiver may seem
99 appropriate.

100 (h) Professional Liability Insurance. To serve as a receiver, a lawyer must maintain
101 an Errors & Omissions insurance policy which includes coverage for conduct as a receiver.

102 (i) Requirement of Bond. The Supreme Court of Georgia or its designee may require
103 the receiver to post bond conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties.

104 (j) Immunity.

105 (1) The Supreme Court of Georgia recognizes the actions of the State Bar of
106 Georgia and the appointed receiver to be within the Court's regulatory function, and
107 being regulatory in nature, the State Bar of Georgia and the receiver are entitled to that
108 immunity customarily afforded to court-appointed receivers.

109 (2) The immunity granted in paragraph (j) (1) above shall not apply if the
110 receiver is employed by a client of the absent lawyer to continue the representation.

111 (k) State Bar of Georgia as a receiver. If a lawyer who is an employee of the State
112 Bar of Georgia is appointed as receiver of an Absent Lawyer's client files, the State Bar upon
113 motion may request that the Supreme Court of Georgia enter an order assessing the absent
114 lawyer the costs of receivership. The assessed amount must be paid in full by the absent lawyer
115 before the Court will consider any application for reinstatement to the practice of law in this
116 state.

117 (l) Service. Service under this Rule may be perfected under Rule 4-203.1.

1 RULE 1.2 SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION AND ALLOCATION OF AUTHORITY
2 BETWEEN CLIENT AND LAWYER

3 (a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions
4 concerning the scope and objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult
5 with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action
6 on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall
7 abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide
8 by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to
9 waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

10 (b) A lawyer's representation of a client, including representation by appointment,
11 does not constitute an endorsement of the client's political, economic, social or moral views or
12 activities.

13 (c) A lawyer may limit the scope and objectives of the representation if the limitation
14 is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.

15 (d) A Except as provided in paragraph (e), a lawyer shall not counsel a client to
16 engage in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, nor knowingly assist a client
17 in such conduct, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of
18 conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine
19 the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

20 ~~(e)~~ A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by
21 Georgia or other applicable law, even if such conduct would be criminal under other law,
22 provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the legal consequences of the client's proposed
23 course of conduct.

24 The maximum penalty for a violation of this rule is disbarment.

25
26 Comment

27 Allocation of Authority between Client and Lawyer

28 [1] Paragraph (a) confers upon the client the ultimate authority to determine the purposes to be
29 served by legal representation, within the limits imposed by law and the lawyer's professional

30 obligations. The decisions specified in paragraph (a), such as whether to settle a civil matter,
31 must also be made by the client. See Rule 1.4 (a) (1) for the lawyer's duty to communicate with
32 the client about such decisions. With respect to the means by which the client's objectives are to
33 be pursued, the lawyer shall consult with the client as required by Rule 1.4 (a) (2) and may take
34 such action as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation.

35

36 [2] On occasion, however, a lawyer and a client may disagree about the means to be used to
37 accomplish the client's objectives. Clients normally defer to the special knowledge and skill of
38 their lawyer with respect to the means to be used to accomplish their objectives, particularly with
39 respect to technical, legal and tactical matters. Conversely, lawyers usually defer to the client
40 regarding such questions as the expense to be incurred and concern for third persons who might
41 be adversely affected. Because of the varied nature of the matters about which a lawyer and
42 client might disagree and because the actions in question may implicate the interests of a tribunal
43 or other persons, this rule does not prescribe how such disagreements are to be resolved. Other
44 law, however, may be applicable and should be consulted by the lawyer. The lawyer should also
45 consult with the client and seek a mutually acceptable resolution of the disagreement. If such
46 efforts are unavailing and the lawyer has a fundamental disagreement with the client, the lawyer
47 may withdraw from the representation. See Rule 1.16 (b) (4). Conversely, the client may resolve
48 the disagreement by discharging the lawyer. See Rule 1.16 (a) (3).

49

50 [3] At the outset of a representation, the client may authorize the lawyer to take specific action
51 on the client's behalf without further consultation. Absent a material change in circumstances and
52 subject to Rule 1.4, a lawyer may rely on such an advance authorization. The client may,
53 however, revoke such authority at any time.

54

55 [4] In a case in which the client appears to be suffering from diminished capacity, the lawyer's
56 duty to abide by the client's decisions is to be guided by reference to Rule 1.14.

57

58 Independence from Client's Views or Activities

59 [5] Legal representation should not be denied to people who are unable to afford legal services,
60 or whose cause is controversial or the subject of popular disapproval. By the same token,

61 representing a client does not constitute approval of the client's views or activities.

62

63 Agreements Limiting Scope of Representation

64 [6] The scope of services to be provided by a lawyer may be limited by agreement with the client
65 or by the terms under which the lawyer's services are made available to the client. When a lawyer
66 has been retained by an insurer to represent an insured, for example, the representation may be
67 limited to matters related to the insurance coverage. A limited representation may be appropriate
68 because the client has limited objectives for the representation. In addition, the terms upon which
69 representation is undertaken may exclude specific means that might otherwise be used to
70 accomplish the client's objectives. Such limitations may exclude actions that the client thinks are
71 too costly or that the lawyer regards as repugnant or imprudent.

72

73 [7] Although this rule affords the lawyer and the client substantial latitude to limit the
74 representation, the limitation must be reasonable under the circumstances. If, for example, a
75 client's objective is limited to securing general information about the law the client needs in
76 order to handle a common and typically uncomplicated legal problem, the lawyer and client may
77 agree that the lawyer's services will be limited to a brief telephone consultation. Such a
78 limitation, however, would not be reasonable if the time allotted was not sufficient to yield
79 advice upon which the client could rely. Although an agreement for a limited representation does
80 not exempt a lawyer from the duty to provide competent representation, the limitation is a factor
81 to be considered when determining the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation
82 reasonably necessary for the representation. See Rule 1.1.

83

84 [8] All agreements concerning a lawyer's representation of a client must accord with the Georgia
85 Rules of Professional Conduct and other law. See, e.g., Rules 1.1, 1.8 and 5.6.

86

87 Criminal, Fraudulent and Prohibited Transactions

88 [9] Paragraph (d) prohibits a lawyer from knowingly counseling or assisting a client to commit a
89 crime or fraud. A lawyer's knowledge may be inferred from the circumstances. See Rule 1.0
90 (m). Knowledge of the fact in question may be shown by actual knowledge or deliberate
91 ignorance. This prohibition, however, does not preclude the lawyer from giving an honest

92 opinion about the actual consequences that appear likely to result from a client's conduct. Nor
93 does the fact that a client uses advice in a course of action that is criminal or fraudulent of itself
94 make a lawyer a party to the course of action. There is a critical distinction between presenting
95 an analysis of legal aspects of questionable conduct and recommending the means by which a
96 crime or fraud might be committed with impunity.

97

98 [10] When the client's course of action has already begun and is continuing, the lawyer's
99 responsibility is especially delicate. The lawyer is required to avoid assisting the client, for
100 example, by drafting or delivering documents that the lawyer knows are fraudulent or by
101 suggesting how the wrongdoing might be concealed. A lawyer may not continue assisting a
102 client in conduct that the lawyer originally supposed was legally proper but then discovers is
103 criminal or fraudulent. The lawyer must, therefore, withdraw from the representation of the client
104 in the matter. See Rule 1.16 (a). In some cases, withdrawal alone might be insufficient. It may be
105 necessary for the lawyer to give notice of the fact of withdrawal and to disaffirm any opinion,
106 document, affirmation or the like. See Rule 4.1.

107

108 [11] Where the client is a fiduciary, the lawyer may be charged with special obligations in
109 dealings with a beneficiary.

110

111 [12] Paragraph (d) applies whether or not the defrauded party is a party to the transaction. Hence,
112 a lawyer must not participate in a transaction to effectuate criminal or fraudulent avoidance of tax
113 liability. Paragraph (d) does not preclude undertaking a criminal defense incident to a general
114 retainer for legal services to a lawful enterprise. The last clause of paragraph (d) recognizes that
115 determining the validity or interpretation of a statute or regulation may require a course of action
116 involving disobedience of the statute or regulation or of the interpretation placed upon it by
117 governmental authorities.

118

119 [13] If a lawyer comes to know or reasonably should know that a client expects assistance not
120 permitted by the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct or other law or if the lawyer intends to
121 act contrary to the client's instructions, the lawyer must consult with the client regarding the
122 limitations on the lawyer's conduct. See Rule 1.4 (a) (5).

1 RULE 1.2 SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION AND ALLOCATION OF AUTHORITY
2 BETWEEN CLIENT AND LAWYER

3 (a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions
4 concerning the scope and objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult
5 with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action
6 on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall
7 abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide
8 by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to
9 waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

10 (b) A lawyer's representation of a client, including representation by appointment,
11 does not constitute an endorsement of the client's political, economic, social or moral views or
12 activities.

13 (c) A lawyer may limit the scope and objectives of the representation if the limitation
14 is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.

15 (d) Except as provided in paragraph (e), a lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage
16 in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, nor knowingly assist a client in such
17 conduct, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct
18 with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the
19 validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

20 (e) A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by
21 Georgia or other applicable law, even if such conduct would be criminal under other law,
22 provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the legal consequences of the client's proposed
23 course of conduct.

24 The maximum penalty for a violation of this rule is disbarment.

25

26 Comment

27 Allocation of Authority between Client and Lawyer

28 [1] Paragraph (a) confers upon the client the ultimate authority to determine the purposes to be
29 served by legal representation, within the limits imposed by law and the lawyer's professional

30 obligations. The decisions specified in paragraph (a), such as whether to settle a civil matter,
31 must also be made by the client. See Rule 1.4 (a) (1) for the lawyer's duty to communicate with
32 the client about such decisions. With respect to the means by which the client's objectives are to
33 be pursued, the lawyer shall consult with the client as required by Rule 1.4 (a) (2) and may take
34 such action as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation.

35

36 [2] On occasion, however, a lawyer and a client may disagree about the means to be used to
37 accomplish the client's objectives. Clients normally defer to the special knowledge and skill of
38 their lawyer with respect to the means to be used to accomplish their objectives, particularly with
39 respect to technical, legal and tactical matters. Conversely, lawyers usually defer to the client
40 regarding such questions as the expense to be incurred and concern for third persons who might
41 be adversely affected. Because of the varied nature of the matters about which a lawyer and
42 client might disagree and because the actions in question may implicate the interests of a tribunal
43 or other persons, this rule does not prescribe how such disagreements are to be resolved. Other
44 law, however, may be applicable and should be consulted by the lawyer. The lawyer should also
45 consult with the client and seek a mutually acceptable resolution of the disagreement. If such
46 efforts are unavailing and the lawyer has a fundamental disagreement with the client, the lawyer
47 may withdraw from the representation. See Rule 1.16 (b) (4). Conversely, the client may resolve
48 the disagreement by discharging the lawyer. See Rule 1.16 (a) (3).

49

50 [3] At the outset of a representation, the client may authorize the lawyer to take specific action
51 on the client's behalf without further consultation. Absent a material change in circumstances and
52 subject to Rule 1.4, a lawyer may rely on such an advance authorization. The client may,
53 however, revoke such authority at any time.

54

55 [4] In a case in which the client appears to be suffering from diminished capacity, the lawyer's
56 duty to abide by the client's decisions is to be guided by reference to Rule 1.14.

57

58 Independence from Client's Views or Activities

59 [5] Legal representation should not be denied to people who are unable to afford legal services,
60 or whose cause is controversial or the subject of popular disapproval. By the same token,

61 representing a client does not constitute approval of the client's views or activities.

62

63 Agreements Limiting Scope of Representation

64 [6] The scope of services to be provided by a lawyer may be limited by agreement with the client
65 or by the terms under which the lawyer's services are made available to the client. When a lawyer
66 has been retained by an insurer to represent an insured, for example, the representation may be
67 limited to matters related to the insurance coverage. A limited representation may be appropriate
68 because the client has limited objectives for the representation. In addition, the terms upon which
69 representation is undertaken may exclude specific means that might otherwise be used to
70 accomplish the client's objectives. Such limitations may exclude actions that the client thinks are
71 too costly or that the lawyer regards as repugnant or imprudent.

72

73 [7] Although this rule affords the lawyer and the client substantial latitude to limit the
74 representation, the limitation must be reasonable under the circumstances. If, for example, a
75 client's objective is limited to securing general information about the law the client needs in
76 order to handle a common and typically uncomplicated legal problem, the lawyer and client may
77 agree that the lawyer's services will be limited to a brief telephone consultation. Such a
78 limitation, however, would not be reasonable if the time allotted was not sufficient to yield
79 advice upon which the client could rely. Although an agreement for a limited representation does
80 not exempt a lawyer from the duty to provide competent representation, the limitation is a factor
81 to be considered when determining the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation
82 reasonably necessary for the representation. See Rule 1.1.

83

84 [8] All agreements concerning a lawyer's representation of a client must accord with the Georgia
85 Rules of Professional Conduct and other law. See, e.g., Rules 1.1, 1.8 and 5.6.

86

87 Criminal, Fraudulent and Prohibited Transactions

88 [9] Paragraph (d) prohibits a lawyer from knowingly counseling or assisting a client to commit a
89 crime or fraud. A lawyer's knowledge may be inferred from the circumstances. See Rule 1.0
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91 ignorance. This prohibition, however, does not preclude the lawyer from giving an honest

92 opinion about the actual consequences that appear likely to result from a client's conduct. Nor
93 does the fact that a client uses advice in a course of action that is criminal or fraudulent of itself
94 make a lawyer a party to the course of action. There is a critical distinction between presenting
95 an analysis of legal aspects of questionable conduct and recommending the means by which a
96 crime or fraud might be committed with impunity.

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99 responsibility is especially delicate. The lawyer is required to avoid assisting the client, for
100 example, by drafting or delivering documents that the lawyer knows are fraudulent or by
101 suggesting how the wrongdoing might be concealed. A lawyer may not continue assisting a
102 client in conduct that the lawyer originally supposed was legally proper but then discovers is
103 criminal or fraudulent. The lawyer must, therefore, withdraw from the representation of the client
104 in the matter. See Rule 1.16 (a). In some cases, withdrawal alone might be insufficient. It may be
105 necessary for the lawyer to give notice of the fact of withdrawal and to disaffirm any opinion,
106 document, affirmation or the like. See Rule 4.1.

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109 dealings with a beneficiary.

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112 a lawyer must not participate in a transaction to effectuate criminal or fraudulent avoidance of tax
113 liability. Paragraph (d) does not preclude undertaking a criminal defense incident to a general
114 retainer for legal services to a lawful enterprise. The last clause of paragraph (d) recognizes that
115 determining the validity or interpretation of a statute or regulation may require a course of action
116 involving disobedience of the statute or regulation or of the interpretation placed upon it by
117 governmental authorities.

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119 [13] If a lawyer comes to know or reasonably should know that a client expects assistance not
120 permitted by the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct or other law or if the lawyer intends to
121 act contrary to the client's instructions, the lawyer must consult with the client regarding the
122 limitations on the lawyer's conduct. See Rule 1.4 (a) (5).

1 **Standing Executive Committee Policy 1000 (State Bar of Georgia Elections)**

2

3 Active members of the State Bar of Georgia are encouraged to run for a number of important leadership
4 positions, including officers (President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer), Executive Committee at large
5 members, Board of Governors members elected by judicial circuit and ABA delegates.

6 As a supplement to the applicable Rules, Bylaws and other provisions listed below in paragraph (j), this
7 policy is designed to:

- 8 1. Assist members who wish to offer as candidates with information about the election process;
9 2. Assist voters by providing to them a reasonable amount of information furnished by candidates
10 in contested races; and
11 3. Afford all candidates a fair and equal election process.

12

13 (a) Election Schedule For All Leadership Positions. Pursuant to Article VII, Section 14, of the State Bar
14 Bylaws, the Elections Committee will prepare an Election Schedule with appropriate time lines and dates
15 for review and approval by the Board of Governors.

16 (b) Campaigning For All Leadership Positions in Contested Races.

17 1. Professionalism. Candidates are encouraged to conduct positive campaigns and to refrain from
18 sending negative, false or misleading information of any kind.

19

20 2. State Bar Trademarks. The State Bar and YLD logos are registered trademarks of the State Bar
21 of Georgia. Any use of these trademarks without the prior written consent of the State Bar of
22 Georgia is strictly prohibited. All candidates for office with the State Bar and the YLD must refrain
23 from incorporating these logos or any similar likeness, Bar letterhead, Bar images or any language
24 that might imply an endorsement, into campaign materials.

25 3. State Bar Website. Pursuant to the approved Election Schedule ((a) above), the State Bar will
26 provide each candidate a page on the State Bar website. The candidate page will contain the
27 candidate's biography, candidate message, and photo, as described below. No hyperlinks will be
28 allowed on the State Bar created page for candidates except as provided in 4.b below. Each
29 candidate's information will remain on the State Bar website throughout the election. Changes
30 submitted after the deadline established for receipt of this information will not be accepted, and
31 no date extensions for submitting the form will be granted for any reason.

32

33 a. Biography and Candidate Message Form. The Biography and Candidate Message Form
34 affords an opportunity for candidates to further state qualifications and to better inform
35 voters. Candidates wishing to submit a Biography and Candidate Message Form must
36 provide it in the electronic format supplied by the Bar. Only the Biography and Candidate
37 Message Form submitted via this method will be accepted. Candidates will be advised
38 how to obtain the electronic fillable form at the time they are notified of the contested
39 race. The candidate also will be supplied with the deadline date for submission of the form
40 at that time. Forms received after the designated deadline date will not be published on
41 the State Bar website.

42 There will be no additions, deletions or changes done to the electronic form by the
43 candidate once the form is received by the State Bar. The Elections Committee retains the

44 right to decline to distribute any Biography or Candidate Message Form which is false,
45 misleading, offensive or arguably illegal.

46 b. Photo. Each candidate may provide a headshot that will be included on the candidate
47 page on the State Bar's website.

48 4. State Bar Election E-mail.

49 a. Executive Committee Elections. The State Bar will distribute one email to officers and
50 members of the Board of Governors for candidates seeking an Executive Committee
51 position.

52 b. Announcing Intent to Seek an Officer Position. Prior to the Midyear Meeting when
53 officer nominations are made, the State Bar will distribute one email to officers and
54 members of the Board of Governors to inform them of a candidate's intent to seek an
55 officer position.

56 c. Board of Governors Elections. The State Bar will distribute one e-mail per race per circuit
57 to the eligible voters in the candidates' circuit, which will contain the name of each
58 candidate within that circuit with a link to his or her candidate page on the State Bar's
59 website.

60 b.d. Statewide Elections. The State Bar will distribute one e-mail per race to all eligible
61 voters, which will contain the name of each candidate with a link to the candidate's page
62 on the State Bar's website. In addition, each candidate in a contested statewide race may
63 send 2 emails to all eligible voters. The emails can be a letter of any length and may
64 include hyperlinks if desired. The letters will be included in the body of the email and will
65 be sent through the State Bar e-mail system following the guidelines in Standing Executive
66 Committee Policy 500.

67 Candidates are free to send additional e-mails on their own, but e-mail addresses of voting
68 members will not be provided as a list in electronic form or any other form by the State
69 Bar, in accordance with Standing Executive Committee Policy 500. Such campaign
70 messages must state that the e-mail is coming directly from the candidate and not from
71 the State Bar and that the recipient's e-mail address was not provided in electronic or any
72 other form to the candidate by the State Bar. E-mail addresses for many State Bar
73 members are publicly available through the printed and online directory
74 at www.gabar.org.

75
76 All e-mails of this type must include the following language:

77 This e-mail is being sent directly by (Candidate) (or by _____ on behalf of and authorized
78 by candidate) and not from the State Bar of Georgia. E-mail addresses were not provided
79 in electronic or any other form to the candidate by the State Bar of Georgia for this
80 purpose. E-mail addresses for many State Bar members are publicly available through the
81 printed and online directory at www.gabar.org.

82

83 5. Mailing. A candidate may, upon request, receive one free set of printed or electronic mailing
84 labels for the eligible voters in that candidate's race for a single mailing in that year's election
85 only. Additional sets may be purchased by contacting the State Bar's Membership
86 Department. A nominal fee will be charged for additional sets. Candidates will be provided with

87 the most current number of active members in their circuit to budget accordingly. A candidate
88 may not copy the printed labels provided, or the information contained on them, and must delete
89 the electronic file after the single use provided herein. None of the information contained on the
90 labels or in the file may be used at any other time or for any other purpose except as provided in
91 this section.

92 (c) Board of Governors Nominating Petitions. In accordance with the State Bar of Georgia Bylaws, Article
93 VII, Sections 2 and 4, all candidates, including incumbents and non-incumbents, for circuit and out-of-
94 state posts on the Board of Governors, are required to submit petitions of nomination. Each candidate's
95 petition must be signed by a minimum number of active members of the State Bar from the circuit in
96 which the candidate's address as registered with the State Bar of Georgia under Rule 1-205 is
97 located. The minimum number of signatures varies by circuit size as follows:

- 98 1. three signatures from a circuit having less than twenty-five members;
- 99 2. seven signatures from a circuit having more than twenty-four but less than one hundred
100 members;
- 101 3. twenty signatures from a circuit having more than ninety-nine members; or
- 102 4. five active non-resident signatures for candidates for out-of-state posts.

103
104 In no case will nominating petition forms or other election materials be sent to a candidate prior to the
105 date designated for such distribution on the approved election schedule. The dated nominating petition
106 form for a given election must be used. Undated forms or dated forms from prior years may not be
107 used. Petitions on incorrect forms will be rejected and may be returned to the candidate.

108 **Caution:** *Candidates are strongly encouraged to submit more than the required minimum number of*
109 *signatures to compensate for any signatories who either are not active members or whose official*
110 *address with the State Bar is not in the circuit of the candidate running for the Board of Governors*
111 *post. Early submission (approximately one week before deadline) is advised to allow the candidate time*
112 *to obtain additional signatures, if necessary, before the deadline. Failure to timely submit a petition with*
113 *the required number of eligible signatures will result in that candidate's exclusion from the ballot.*

114 Regardless of the method of submission, all nominating petitions must be received at the Atlanta
115 headquarters of the State Bar of Georgia no later than 11:59 p.m. on the appropriate deadline date,
116 which is different for incumbent and non-incumbent candidates. Candidates may submit nominating
117 petitions via U.S. Postal Service, private sector delivery service, hand delivery, facsimile or e-mail. Time
118 receipt stamps on e-mails and facsimiles will determine if they were received prior to the deadline.
119 Extensions of time may not be granted for any reason. If original petitions are not submitted, then it is
120 the responsibility of the candidate to maintain the original petition for thirty days past the date when
121 results for that election are certified and announced. Failure to provide the original petition at the
122 request of the Elections Committee may result in the disqualification of the candidate, at the discretion
123 of the Elections Committee.

124 The Election Schedule will establish the deadline date for nominating petitions to be submitted by
125 incumbent candidates and a second deadline for petitions to be submitted by non-incumbent
126 candidates. If an incumbent's valid petition is not received at the Atlanta headquarters of the State Bar
127 of Georgia by 11:59 p.m. of the deadline date, that candidate will no longer be considered an
128 incumbent. He or she may run as a non-incumbent and submit the nominating petition by the date
129 established on the approved Election Schedule for non-incumbent candidates. In such a case, the
130 incumbent will not be listed as an incumbent on the official election ballot.

131 If a non-incumbent's valid petition is not received at the Atlanta headquarters of the State Bar of
132 Georgia by 11:59 p.m. of the deadline date, that candidate will not be listed on the ballot, but may run
133 as a write-in candidate.

134 (d) Board of Governors Circuit/Post Vacancies. As soon as practicable after the deadline for receipt of
135 incumbent nominating petitions has passed, a list of all expiring Board of Governors terms with the
136 name of the incumbent if they have qualified will be e-mailed to all eligible voters in the Bar. All
137 Circuit/Posts with no candidate will be shown as having a vacancy. In this email, there will also be
138 detailed information instructing members on how to obtain a nominating petition, qualifications to
139 become a candidate for a Board of Governors seat and appropriate election deadlines. The same
140 information will be included on the State Bar website.

141 Candidates may seek election to only one post within their circuit in a given election cycle, but may
142 withdraw and re-qualify for a different post prior to the qualification deadline by submitting a new
143 petition. During the nomination period, the State Bar will disclose only the names of properly qualified
144 candidates. Other information, including the number or identities of members who have requested or
145 filed petitions, or the names of signatories on petitions, will not be disclosed.

146 (e) Ballots.

147 1. Board of Governors Candidates. Candidates will be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order
148 by last name. Candidates' names will appear on the ballot as they appear in the Bar
149 membership record. If candidates wish to add a nickname, it will be noted in quotations, along
150 with their official name. Candidates will indicate on their nominating petition forms if they wish
151 to include a nickname on the ballot. Incumbent candidates who submit their nominating
152 petitions prior to the deadline for incumbents will be designated on the ballot with either the
153 word "(Incumbent)" or "(I)." See item (c) Board of Governors Nominating Petitions.

154
155 2. Statewide Elections. Candidates will be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order by last name
156 under the heading of the office they are seeking. Candidates' names will appear on the ballot as
157 they appear in the Bar membership record. If candidates wish to add a nickname, it will be
158 noted in quotations, along with their official name. Incumbent candidates will be designated on
159 the ballot with either the word "(Incumbent)" or "(I)."

160 (f) Voting. Only those active members who were eligible to vote in a particular circuit at the time the
161 ballot mailing file is transmitted to the printer will be eligible to vote in the election, even if their status
162 changes during the period between the time the ballot mailing file is transmitted and the actual election
163 begins. Members will receive a ballot for the circuit they were in according to their official address at
164 the time the ballot mailing file was transmitted, or if so elected under rule 1-205, the circuit in which the
165 member resides. Ballot changes will not be made due to the Bar having an incorrect address for the
166 member (see Rule 1-207) once the mailing file is transmitted.

167 The Elections Committee or its designee will review write-in votes to reasonably assure that slight
168 variations in the spelling of a write-in candidate's name are identified with the same person.

169 (g) Declaration of Results. After the Elections Committee Chair approves the release of election results,
170 the President and Executive Director will be notified of the results and all candidates in contested races
171 will be notified of the results in their races via e-mail or telephone. Statewide candidates will be notified
172 by the Chair of the Elections Committee or his/her designee. Staff liaison will contact all other
173 candidates. Thereafter, the names of the winning candidates are public information and will be posted

174 on the State Bar website no later than the date for election results release included in the election
175 schedule. They may be made available to any interested person. Additional information including vote
176 counts by circuit will be available to any member upon request. This includes any election for any year
177 for which records are available. Out of respect for members who did not offer for election, but
178 nevertheless did receive votes, write-in information is available only if deemed relevant by the Chair or
179 Vice-Chair of the Elections Committee.

180 (h) Questions and Appeals.

181 1. Election Procedure. The Elections Committee, or its Chair, Co-Chair or Vice-Chair, is the final
182 authority on all election matters except election result contests. Therefore, any decision by State
183 Bar staff may be appealed in writing within three business days to the Executive Director. The
184 Elections Committee or its designee has the discretion to, but is not obligated to, grant a hearing
185 with all interested parties invited in connection with any appeal.

186 2. Election Result Contests. The Executive Committee of the State Bar is the final authority on all
187 election contests, but any contest should first be made to the Elections Committee, which will
188 seek to resolve the matter or make a recommendation to the Executive Committee. Any person
189 receiving one or more votes may file a written contest. All contests shall be received by the
190 Executive Director within ten business days after the result was released and shall specify the re-
191 count or other relief requested. The Executive Committee or its designee has the discretion, but
192 is not obligated, to grant a hearing with all interested parties invited in connection with any
193 appeal.

194 (i) Executive Committee Elected Positions

195 1. Notification Procedure. No later than 5 days after officer election results are posted and made
196 available, an e-mail notice shall be provided to members of the Board of Governors of the
197 Executive Committee positions to be elected pursuant to the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1.

198 2. Campaigning. Members of the Board of Governors who are candidates for the Executive
199 Committee of the State Bar are entitled to send 2 emails to all members of the Board of
200 Governors. The emails can be a letter of any length and may include hyperlinks, if desired. The
201 letters will be included in the body of the email and will be sent through the State Bar email
202 system following the guidelines in Standing Executive Committee Policy 500. In addition, each
203 candidate is entitled to receive one free set of printed or electronic mailing labels which are to be
204 used to inform the Board of their candidacy. Additional sets may be purchased by contacting the
205 State Bar's Membership Department. A nominal fee will be charged for additional sets. A
206 candidate may not copy the printed labels provided, or the information contained on them, and
207 must delete the electronic file after the single use provided herein. None of the information
208 contained on the labels or in the file may be used at any other time or for any other purpose
209 except as provided in this section.

210

211 (j) Related State Bar Rules and Bylaws.

212 Part I

213 Chapter 2

214 Rule 1-205 Bar of Judicial Circuit

215 Chapter 3

216	Rule 1-304 Election of Members of Board of Governors
217	Rule 1-306 Vacancies; Ties
218	Chapter 4
219	Rule 1-402 Election of Officers
220	Rule 1-403 Vacancies; Ties
221	Chapter 7
222	Rule 1-701 Executive Committee
223	Bylaws
224	Article VII
225	Section 1. Nomination of Officers
226	Section 2. Nomination of Members for the Board of Governors
227	Section 3. Circuits Having More Than One Member of Board of Governors
228	Section 4. Nominating Petitions
229	Section 5. Accepting Nominations
230	Section 6. Ballots
231	Section 7. Voters Lists: Distribution of Ballots
232	Section 8. Method of Voting
233	Section 9. Elections Committee
234	Section 10. Declaration of Results of Elections
235	Section 11. Tie Vote
236	Section 12. Run-Off
237	
238	Article X
239	Section 1. Delegates: Designation; Nomination and Election; Alternates
240	Section 2. Terms of Office
241	Section 3. Alternate Appointments
242	

BY-LAWS

CHILD PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SECTION STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

ARTICLE I

Name and Purpose

Section 1: The name of this Section shall be the “Child Protection and Advocacy Section.”

Section 2: The purpose of this Section shall be to promote the objectives of the State Bar of Georgia within the field of Child Protection and Advocacy. The Section shall provide a forum for dissemination of information on aspects of juvenile law practice related to children, including, but not limited to: prosecution and agency representation, parent representation, child representation, and guardian ad litem work in dependency and termination of parental rights proceedings in Juvenile and Probate Courts; defense and prosecution of delinquency, CHINS (Children in Need of Services), and special proceeding cases; other miscellaneous Juvenile Court advocacy including, but not limited to, competency, emancipation, investigation and *I* or determinations of custody matters transferred from Superior Court, and parental notification issues; and handling of adoption proceedings. The Section shall additionally focus on (1) access to public benefits, Medicaid, Title IV-E, and other entitlements and services available to children and their families and (2) issues related to education law and policy, including representation at school tribunals, advocacy in IEP and other meetings and other reform efforts designed to best support children's needs in the educational setting. The Section will participate in efforts to keep members informed of changing federal and state laws and of agency rules, policies, and regulations and to enhance the practice of law relevant to children, except for matters related to matrimonial law as covered by the Family Law Section.

ARTICLE II

Membership and Dues

Section 1: Each member of this Section shall be a member in good standing of the State Bar. Any member of the State Bar, upon request and payment of annual Section dues of \$20.00 for the current year, shall be enrolled as a member of this Section. Thereafter, such dues shall be paid in advance each year at the time of the payment of dues to the State Bar. Members so enrolled and whose dues are so paid shall constitute the membership of this Section.

ARTICLE III

Officers

Section 1: The Officers of the Section shall be a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be members in good standing of the Section.

Section 2: Each Officer shall hold office for a one-year term beginning at the close of the annual meeting of the Section at which the officer is elected and ending at the close of the second year succeeding annual meeting of the Section and until a successor shall have been

elected and qualified. If a vacancy shall arise in the office of Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall become Chairperson for the unexpired term. If a vacancy shall arise in the office of the Chairperson and there is also a vacancy in the office of Vice Chairperson, the President of the State Bar with consultation by the Executive Committee of the Section shall appoint a successor Chairperson for the unexpired term.

Section 3: The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Section, appoint appropriate committees of the Section to serve during his or her term as Chairperson, plan and supervise the program of the Section at its annual meeting, and perform all executive and administrative duties necessary or proper to the organization and functioning of the Section, including any duties as from time to time may be prescribed by the Section or by the State Bar.

Section 4: The Vice Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson and in the absence or disability of the Chairperson, shall perform the duties of the Chairperson.

Section 5: The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Section, maintain the permanent records, give notices of meetings, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Chairperson.

Section 6: The Treasurer shall monitor the receipt and disbursement of funds, oversee the activities described in Article VII herein, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Chairperson.

ARTICLE IV **Meetings of the Section**

Section 1: An annual meeting of the Section shall be held each year at or about the time and place of the Mid-Year Meeting of the State Bar or a Continuing Legal Education program sponsored by the Section; the date, time and meeting room shall be fixed by the Chairperson.

Section 2: A Special Meeting of the Section may be called by the Chairperson to be convened at such time and place and with such program and order of business as may be fixed by the Chairperson.

Section 3: Ten (10) members of the Section present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum of the Section for the transaction of business.

Section 4: All action of the Section shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Section present at any properly called meeting at which a quorum is present.

Section 5: At least ten (10) days' written notice of the time and place of each meeting of the Section shall be given by mailing same to each member of the Section on the rolls of the Section in the Office of the State Bar at the member's address as the same appears in said office. Notice may also be given by facsimile or by email transmission at the member's facsimile

telephone number or email address as the same appears in said Office. However, it shall not be required that any such notice be by a specifically separate mailing; the same may be included in other written or printed material which is being distributed by mail to all members of the State Bar or to any part thereof which is inclusive of all of the members of the Section.

ARTICLE V **Executive Committee**

Section 1: The Executive Committee of the Section shall consist of the four officers of the Section, the Immediate Past Chairperson, and at least five other members of the Section appointed by the Chairperson from a list of individuals nominated by the Officers. The Executive Committee Members appointed by the Chairperson appointment runs concurrent with the Chairperson until removal and/or replacement and each appointee may resign at any time with written notice to the Chairperson. Efforts shall be made to include representatives of the many and various types of practices of lawyers who are members of the Section, as well as to include diversity of location in the State. The nominees should include representatives from each judicial circuit, attorneys from different child welfare roles (child-directed, Guardian Ad Litem/Best Interest, parent attorney, SAAG, prosecutors, defenders, child advocate attorneys), and judges. Six (6) members of the Executive Committee, either in person or on the telephone, shall constitute a quorum, and motions may be passed by a majority of those present.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall have full authority to act for the Section in any way in which the Section itself would be authorized to act, and any such action taken by the Executive Committee pursuant to this provision shall be reported to the members of the Section at the next Annual Meeting of the Section.

ARTICLE VI **Elections**

Section 1: Elections for Officer positions shall be conducted annually. Prior to each annual meeting of the Section in a year when an election is to occur, the Chairperson shall appoint not less than three (3) members of the Section to be a nominating committee which shall nominate one or more members of the Section as qualified to hold each of the offices of the Section for the ensuing terms of office. The report of the nominating committee shall be made to the annual meeting; thereafter, and, prior to the election of Officers, any member of the Section present at the annual meeting may nominate any other member of the Section for election to any of the offices. Members serving on the nominating committee should avoid appointing a member serving on the nominating committee.

Section 2: The names of all members of the Section nominated for each office either by the nominating committee or from the floor shall be submitted to the annual meeting, and ballots shall be cast until there shall be a majority of the members of the Section present favoring the election of a designated member to an office. Voting shall be *viva-voce*, and the nominee for an office with the lowest number of votes in any ballot shall be dropped from consideration on the next succeeding ballot, provided that any annual meeting, by majority vote of the members of the Section present, may require written secret ballots or otherwise modify the procedure governing any election.

ARTICLE VII

Finances

Section 1: Funds of the Section shall be deposited in the treasury of the State Bar of Georgia and shall be disbursed by the treasurer of the State Bar of Georgia to pay bills and/or approved expenses of the Section which have been approved for payment by the Executive Committee of the Section.

Section 2: Funds of the Section shall be expended for such purposes related to the activities of the Section from time to time and shall be authorized by the Section's Executive Committee.

Section 3: Officers and members of the Section shall not be compensated for services thereto.

Section 4: A financial report of the funds of the Section shall be rendered at each annual meeting thereof. This Section shall have the same fiscal year as the State Bar.

ARTICLE VIII

Miscellaneous

Section 1: The Section shall from time to time conduct programs for continuing education of this Section, and may coordinate its efforts in this regard with other Sections of the State Bar of Georgia.

Section 2: The Section may from time to time, subject to the Rules, Bylaws and Standing Board Policies of the State Bar, sponsor, promote, study and/or review proposed legislation within the Purposes specifically Set forth in Article I, Section 2 above. The Section may from time to time also report on its legislative activities to the State Bar.

ARTICLE IX

Bylaws Effective Date and Amendment(s)

Section 1: These Bylaws shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Governors of the State Bar.

Section 2: These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the Section present at any properly called meeting at which a quorum is present and subsequent approval thereof by the Board of Governors of the State Bar.

State Bar of Georgia
Child Protection and Advocacy Section
Bylaws adopted January 30, 2020

Signed, sealed and subscribed before
the undersigned this the 11th day of
February, 2020.



Deborah H. Dixon
Witness

[Signature]
CHAIRPERSON

Approved by the Board of Governors
the ____ day of _____,
20____.

PRESIDENT



State Bar of Georgia

To: Bar Officers
Finance Committee

From: Ron Turner

Date: February 25, 2020

Re: December 2019 Financial Statements-Bar Operations and Bar Center

Attached please find the December 2019 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

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 \$3,831 due to the use of temporary personnel while staff members were not working due to various medical issues.

Consumer Assistance Program

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.

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)

High School Mock Trial incurred \$1,278 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 \$1,965 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 \$1,341 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.

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

Repairs and maintenance general building has a budget of \$5,500 while actual costs incurred to date are \$5,732. 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.

Shared Office Overhead

Shared office allocations exceed actual expense by approximately **\$62,100**. 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

2/25/2020

**State Bar of Georgia
Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures
Operations and Bar Center Combined
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019**

Category	Year Ending 06/30/2019	Year To Date 12/31/2019	% of Budget	Year Ending 06/30/2020
	Actual	Actual		Annual Budget
Membership Numbers				
Active Members	39,193	39,773	100.95 %	39,400
Inactive Members	8,838	8,718	97.41 %	8,950
Associates/Affiliates	13	14	100.00 %	14
Foreign Legal Consultants	6	385	6416.67 %	6
Students	274	2860	1040.15 %	275
Emeritus	2,745	2,860	127.11 %	2,250
Total Membership Numbers	51,069	51,756	101.69 %	50,895
Revenue				
Dues Active	\$ 9,896,539	\$ 10,060,203	100.53 %	\$ 10,007,600
Dues Inactive	1,144,650	1,118,796	98.43 %	1,136,660
Dues Emeritus	1,400,000	1,400,000	100.00 %	1,400,000
Dues Foreign Legal Consultant	0	1,524	100.00 %	1,524
Dues Late Fees	197,730	220,900	118.31 %	186,720
Dues NSF Check Fee	320	140	50.00 %	280
Dues Prior Years	5,550	3,192	127.68 %	2,500
Total License & Dues	\$ 11,246,189	\$ 11,406,155	100.61 %	\$ 11,336,674
Section Expense Reimbursement	\$ 191,196	\$ 190,644	100.00 %	\$ 190,644
CSF Expense Reimbursement	\$ 73,000	\$ 36,500	50.00 %	\$ 73,000
Advertising and Sales	\$ 36,716	\$ 23,731	62.50 %	\$ 45,200
Membership Income	\$ 158,266	\$ 70,940	59.36 %	\$ 119,500
Interest Income	\$ 112,826	\$ 145,219	145.22 %	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 18,956	\$ 9,768	217.07 %	\$ 4,500
Total Bar Revenue	\$ 11,837,149	\$ 11,882,957	100.11 %	\$ 11,869,518
Total Bar Expenses	\$ 13,276,196	\$ 6,248,858	46.40 %	\$ 13,466,284
SBG Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,439,047)	\$ 5,634,099	(352.84) %	\$ (1,596,766)
Total Bar Center Operations Revenue	\$ 4,042,903	\$ 971,524	30.49 %	\$ 3,185,888
Total Bar Center Operations Expenses	\$ 2,500,070	\$ 1,224,600	46.45 %	\$ 2,636,395
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,542,833	\$ (253,076)	(46.06) %	\$ 549,503
Combined Revenue	\$ 15,880,052	\$ 12,854,481	85.38 %	\$ 15,055,406
Combined Expenses	\$ 15,776,266	\$ 7,473,458	46.41 %	\$ 16,102,669
Total Combined Net Income (Loss)	\$ 103,786	\$ 5,381,023	(513.82) %	\$ (1,047,263)

Legend
█ Bar Operations
█ Bar Center
█ Combined Bar Operations and Bar Center

Note: Non-Cash depreciation expense is excluded from this schedule.

2/25/2020

**State Bar of Georgia
Total Bar Center Operations
Revenues and Expenditures- Executive Summary
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019**

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 %	\$1,050	0.00 %	\$0	(\$1,050)	\$206,173
Conference Center Copier	31	3.14 %	386	38.62 %	1,000	614	738
Gain/Loss on Investments	3,940	0.00 %	12,875	0.00 %	0	(12,874)	23,210
CLE Contributions to Bar Center	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	1,315,000	1,315,000	1,339,560
Transfer from Operations	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	0	0	628,512
Interest Income	22,177	52.80 %	39,977	95.18 %	42,000	2,022	51,941
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts	\$ 26,148	1.93 %	\$ 54,288	4.00 %	\$ 1,358,000	\$ 1,303,712	\$ 2,250,134
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements							
Bond Premium Amortization	5,832	0.00 %	5,832	0.00 %	0	(5,832)	0
Investment Service Fees	5,551	0.00 %	5,551	0.00 %	0	(5,551)	0
Parking Deck Construction	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	20,000	20,000	0
Conference Center Contingency	0	0.00 %	37	0.37 %	10,000	9,963	5,780
Conference Center Renovations	1,453	5.49 %	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	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	2,000	2,000	71,666
Rehabilitation	0	0.00 %	450	0.45 %	100,000	99,550	84,504
President's Boardroom	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	5,000	5,000	2,848
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements	12,836	7.73 %	41,169	24.80 %	165,975	124,806	258,102
Bar Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 13,312	1.12 %	\$ 13,119	1.10 %	\$ 1,192,025	\$ 1,178,906	\$ 1,992,032
Conference Center Income and Expenses							
Room Rentals and Various Charges	1,540	7.94 %	8,616	44.41 %	19,400	10,785	16,113
Conference Center Operating Expenses	38,731	8.63 %	223,254	49.74 %	448,865	225,611	429,191
Conference Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (37,191)	8.66 %	\$ (214,638)	49.98 %	\$ (429,465)	\$ (214,826)	\$ (415,076)
Rental Income and Expenses							
Rental Income	118,501	8.19 %	704,489	48.67 %	1,447,488	742,999	1,365,050
Building Operating Expenses	110,922	6.56 %	802,872	47.39 %	1,694,355	891,483	1,493,785
Rental Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 7,579	(3.07) %	\$ (98,383)	39.85 %	\$ (246,867)	\$ (148,484)	\$ (128,735)
Parking Income and Expenses							
Parking Income	37,436	10.37 %	204,132	56.55 %	361,000	156,868	411,606
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	24,231	7.41 %	157,304	48.08 %	327,190	169,896	318,992
Parking Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 13,205	39.06 %	\$ 46,828	138.50 %	\$ 33,810	\$ (13,016)	\$ 92,613
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (3,095)	(0.56) %	\$ (253,074)	(46.06) %	\$ 549,503	\$ 802,579	\$ 1,542,833

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

2/25/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Income Statement YTD - Operations
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD % of Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Revenues				
Dues - Active	\$ 10,060,203	\$ 10,007,600	100.53 %	\$ 9,896,539
Dues - Inactive	\$ 1,118,796	1,136,650	98.43 %	1,144,650
Dues - Misc. Types	\$ 2,924	2,924	100.00 %	1,400
Dues - Late Fees	\$ 224,232	189,500	118.33 %	203,600
Total Dues & Licenses	11,406,155	11,336,674	100.61 %	11,246,189
Section Expense Reimbursement	190,644	190,644	100.00 %	191,196
CSF Expense Reimbursement	36,500	73,000	50.00 %	73,000
Advertising and Sales	23,731	45,200	52.50 %	36,716
Membership Income	40,489	69,500	58.26 %	79,241
Pro Hac Vice	162,051	290,000	55.88 %	390,701
Pro Hac Vice Contra	(131,600)	(240,000)	54.83 %	(311,676)
Interest Income	145,219	100,000	145.22 %	112,826
Miscellaneous Revenues	9,768	4,500	217.07 %	18,956
Total Revenues	11,882,957	11,869,518	100.11 %	11,837,149
Expenses				
Administration	1,224,236	2,497,233	49.02 %	2,379,493
Management Info Systems	0	0	0.00 %	647,023
General Counsel	1,872,745	3,911,511	47.88 %	3,584,216
Consumer Assistance Pgm.	298,995	605,939	49.34 %	575,632
Communications	458,772	1,013,429	45.27 %	805,924
Lawyer's Assistance Program	31,856	62,500	50.97 %	64,582
Fee Arbitration	267,760	593,394	45.12 %	533,450
Law Practice Management	209,347	492,168	42.54 %	429,777
Sections	92,133	190,644	48.33 %	185,181
Savannah Office	130,895	270,047	48.47 %	250,564
Tifton Office	92,332	192,401	47.99 %	178,298
Young Lawyers	188,410	494,049	38.14 %	480,636
Unauthorized Practice of Law	421,517	855,067	49.30 %	812,092
Law Related Education	184,078	387,705	47.48 %	363,659
High School Mock Trial	47,098	154,192	30.55 %	150,683
MLAP	62,902	129,974	48.40 %	117,500
Pro Bono	106,108	212,216	50.00 %	212,216
Fastcase	117,830	244,000	48.29 %	228,522
Officers' Expenses	20,848	129,442	16.11 %	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	222,758	770,041	28.93 %	1,054,863
Unallocated Services	(62,094)	0	0.00 %	(155,077)
Total Expenses	6,248,858	13,466,284	46.40 %	13,276,199
Net Income	\$ 5,634,099	\$ (1,596,766)	(352.84) %	\$ (1,439,050)

State Bar of Georgia
Income Statement YTD - Operations
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD % of Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Other Expenses				
BOG and Member Meetings	4,544	339,006	1.34 %	487,736
Supreme Court Meetings	2,944	84,000	3.50 %	42,645
Executive Committee Meetings	42,765	40,800	104.82 %	39,019
Court of Appeals Meetings	0	7,500	0.00 %	3,636
Southern Conference	51,341	50,000	102.68 %	374
State Disciplinary Board Lawyers	0	30,000	0.00 %	30,000
Elections	15,336	39,685	38.64 %	34,683
Dues Notice	3,325	44,000	7.56 %	36,947
Letters of Good Standing	1,058	3,200	33.06 %	3,249
Bar Membership Cards	3,056	11,100	27.53 %	9,277
50 Year Certificates	0	2,750	0.00 %	1,677
Membership Database Project	0	15,000	0.00 %	0
State Bar Committees	13,176	28,000	47.06 %	25,874
Strategic Plan	40,000	40,000	100.00 %	40,000
Georgia Diversity Program	0	20,000	0.00 %	20,000
Conference Sponsorship	0	0	0.00 %	(186)
ABA Delegate Breakfast	1,455	2,500	58.20 %	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	17,466	0	0.00 %	2,959
Investment Service Fees	16,293	0	0.00 %	0
Access to Justice/Pro Bono	10,000	10,000	100.00 %	0
Other Expenses	<u>222,759</u>	<u>770,041</u>	<u>28.93 %</u>	<u>1,054,863</u>

State Bar of Georgia
Status and Use of Cash and Investments as of December 31, 2019

Cash and Investments - December 31, 2019 - Bar 28,173,785

Less:

CCLC Cash Included in Above Amount (7,117,727)

Net Cash Available for State Bar 21,056,058

Use of Cash:

Less:

Board Designated - See Separate Schedule Attached (8,378,036)

Temporarily Restricted - See Separate Schedule Attached (2,082,560)

Total Board Designated and Temporarily Restricted (10,460,596)

Other - Cash Allocated:

Collection of Outstanding Accounts Receivable 163,455

Payment of Accounts Payable (123,461)

Payment of Accrued Vacation (530,344)

Deferred Income (5,000)

Payment of Credit Card Bill (68,427)

Payment of Accrued Salary (586,244)

Payment of Accrued Taxes (44,848)

Other Accrued Expenses (primarily pension) (319,462)

Payment to Client Security Fund (776,663)

Operational Expenses for Remaining Bar Year (6,880,769)

Net Amount to be received from Related Entities 79,994

Total Other - Cash Allocated (9,091,769)

Estimated Cash and Investments - June 30, 2020 - Bar 1,503,693

Cash and Investments - December 31, 2019 - Bar Center 183,708

Other Cash Allocated - Bar Center:

Collection of Outstanding Accounts Receivable 118,089

Payment of Accounts Payable (96)

Deferred Income 0

Other Accrued Expenses (116,208)

Receipt of Contribution from CCLC (to Bar Center) 802,579

Total Other - Cash Allocated - Bar Center 804,364

Estimated Cash and Investments - June 30, 2020 - Bar Center 988,072

Total Estimated Cash Balance at June 30, 2020 **2,491,765**

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.

2/25/2020

State Bar of Georgia
Board-Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted Net Assets
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019

	2017 June 30	2018 June 30	2019 June 30	2019 December 31
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	267,358
Cornerstones of Freedom	600,000	600,000	0	0
Sections	2,445,106	2,660,285	2,793,143	3,269,581
YLD Meetings	11,052	33,481	29,716	91,097
Total Board-Designated excludes ICLE	8,106,158	8,343,766	7,872,859	8,378,036
Donor Temporarily Restricted				
Legislative	1,221,403	1,257,657	1,285,674	1,380,445
Law Related Education/Marshall fund	320,854	312,580	316,570	285,875
High School Mock Trial	13,287	9,018	14,095	14,445
National Mock Trial	20,067	20,161	0	0
Basics Program	74,218	65,414	67,032	143,031
Younger Lawyers	160,992	154,216	125,032	154,655
Lawyers Assistance	24,463	30,454	32,553	34,184
Georgia Diversity Program	9,790	17,588	18,957	1,936
Bar Media Conference	21,108	21,247	18,697	18,583
Justice Hunstein's Portrait	0	0	7,813	14,980
Law Day	6,247	6,276	6,356	6,402
Access to Justice	1,448	1,437	1,456	1,465
iCivics Program	559	(245)	603	853
Promote Inclusion	15,363	10,235	11,120	11,754
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	1,500	1,280	0	0
Military Vet Pro Bono	13,616	13,680	13,854	13,952
Unauthorized Practice of Law	100,049	100,518	0	0
Total Donor Temporarily Restricted	2,004,964	2,021,516	1,919,812	2,082,560
Net Board Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted	10,111,122	10,365,282	9,792,671	10,460,596
Amounts for 2019 shown herein are unaudited				

State Bar of Georgia
Summary of Members and Voluntary Legislative Contributions
With Contributions Paid Through December 31, 2019

Dues	2019-20 Dues Season	2018-19 Dues Season	2017-18 Dues Season
Total Number of Members at Apr 30 of Previous Bar year (active and inactive)	47,964	47,029	47,442
Active - Number Paid	40,117	36,888	39,244
Inactive - Number Paid	8,857	8,123	8,839
Total Number of Members With Dues Paid	48,974	45,011	48,083
Percent of Total Members With Dues Paid	102.1%	95.7%	101.4%
Number of Members Who Made A Contribution	3,684	5,339	5,811
Percent of Members Who Made A Contribution	7.5%	11.9%	12.1%
Total Contribution Amount	\$ 320,817	\$ 494,906	\$ 546,905
Average Amount Paid	\$ 87	\$ 93	\$ 94

Legislative Contribution Amounts by Dues Year

2019 - 2020	\$ 320,817
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
2010 - 2011	\$ 657,526

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 December 31, 2019

Dues	2019-20 Dues Season	2018-19 Dues Season	2017-18 Dues Season
Total Number of Members at Apr 30 of Previous Bar year (active and inactive)	47,964	47,029	47,442
Active - Number Paid	40,117	36,888	39,244
Inactive - Number Paid	8,857	8,123	8,839
Total Number of Members With Dues Paid	48,974	45,011	48,083
Percent of Total Members With Dues Paid	102.1%	95.7%	101.4%
Number of Members Who Made A Contribution	2,987	3,197	2,743
Percent of Members Who Made A Contribution	6.1%	7.1%	5.7%
Total Contribution Amount	\$ 365,461	\$ 295,454	\$ 312,251
Average Contribution Amount	\$ 122	\$ 92	\$ 114

GLSP Contribution Amounts by Dues Year

2019 - 2020	\$ 365,461
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
2010 - 2011	\$ 241,772

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 December 31, 2019

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

Income:

Interest Income on Fund	9,663
Gain/Loss on Investments	3,032
Contributions	322,523

Total Income **335,218**

Expenditures:

Staff and Contract Lobbyists	223,435
Grassroots Efforts	612
Travel	2,752
Shared Office Allocation	7,992
Computer Hardware	928
Miscellaneous	4,728

Total Expenditures **240,447**

Net Donor Temporarily Restricted Balance at December 31, 2019 **\$ 1,380,445**

2/25/2020

Client Security Fund
Summary of Client Security Fund Activity
For the Current Period Ending December 31, 2019

	2015 June 30	2016 June 30	2017 June 30	2018 June 30	2019 June 30	2019 December 31
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	6,755
Gain/Loss Investment Interest Allocation	3,793	(155)	(142)	0	4,544	2,206
Client Security Fund Assessments	164,877	150,897	153,863	144,628	102,884	78,801
Restitution Income	14,532	9,744	5,386	25,250	30,451	9,835
Total Income:	192,611	170,968	167,114	177,906	149,801	97,597
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)	(36,500)
Client Security Fund Claims Payments	(328,986)	(495,338)	(292,358)	(491,619)	(496,038)	(313,526)
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0	0	0	0	(980)
Investment Service Fees	0	0	0	0	0	(940)
Total Expenses:	(401,986)	(568,338)	(365,358)	(564,651)	(569,038)	(351,946)
Net Income	290,625	(397,370)	(198,244)	(386,745)	(419,237)	(254,349)
Fund Balance, End of Period	2,432,608	2,035,238	1,836,994	1,450,249	1,031,012	776,663

State Bar of Georgia

2020-2021 Budget Assumptions

1. Dues at \$266. 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. Average investment (interest) income, bond amortization premium and investment expenses are based upon annualization of actual amounts as of December 31, 2019.
3. Inflationary has been at 1.5% based on Annual CPI—BLS South Region.
4. Vendor quotes or actual contracted amounts used whenever information was available
5. Salary increases anticipated to be approved by the Personnel Committee – 2.0 max % (1.5% cost of living, up to 0.5% merit increase).
6. Imputed rent transfer from State Bar to Bar Center has been eliminated in both the 2019-2020 budget and the 2020-2021 budget.
7. Includes the effects of items recommended approved by the Board of Governors, recommended by the Programs Committee and approved by the Personnel Committee.
8. Includes projected officer reimbursement for projected officer slate, including out-of-Atlanta, if needed.

DRAFT #2
3/5/2020

State Bar of Georgia
2020-2021 Proposed State Bar of Georgia Consolidated Budget - with Bar Center
(Active dues \$266 and inactive dues \$133 in 2020-2021)
For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Category	Fiscal Year Actual 2017-2018	Fiscal Year Actual 2018-2019	Fiscal Year to Date December 2019 Actual 2019-2020	Budget 2019-2020	Budget 2020-2021
Membership Numbers					
Active Members	38,802	39,193	39,773	39,400	40,600
Inactive Members	8,936	8,638	8,718	8,950	8,650
Associates/Affiliates	15	13	14	14	14
Foreign Legal Consultants	0	0	0	0	0
Student Members	287	276	286	275	400
Emeritus	2,274	2,745	2,680	2,250	2,950
Total Membership Numbers	50,320	51,069	51,756	50,895	52,620
Revenue					
Dues Active	\$ 9,718,563	\$ 9,896,539	\$ 10,060,203	\$ 10,007,600	\$ 10,799,600
Dues Inactive	1,128,875	1,144,650	1,118,796	1,136,650	1,150,450
Dues Associates	1,300	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,500
Dues Emeritus	1,480	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Dues Foreign Legal Consultant	247,125	197,730	220,900	186,720	220,000
Dues Late Fees	280	320	140	280	300
Dues NSF Check Fee	8,424	5,550	3,192	2,500	6,000
Dues Prior Years					
Total License & Dues	\$ 11,104,567	\$ 11,246,189	\$ 11,406,155	\$ 11,336,674	\$ 12,179,346
Section Expense Reimbursement	\$ 196,015	\$ 191,196	\$ 190,644	\$ 190,644	\$ 191,947
CSF Expense Reimbursement	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000
Advertising and Sales	\$ 100,500	\$ 36,816	\$ 23,731	\$ 45,200	\$ 45,200
Membership Income	\$ 146,603	\$ 158,266	\$ 70,940	\$ 119,500	\$ 121,000
Interest Income	\$ 65,475	\$ 113,582	\$ 145,219	\$ 100,000	\$ 210,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 3,203	\$ 18,956	\$ 9,768	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,900
Total Bar Revenue	\$ 11,889,163	\$ 11,838,005	\$ 11,882,957	\$ 11,869,518	\$ 12,826,393
Total Bar Expenses	\$ 13,106,634	\$ 13,276,196	\$ 6,248,858	\$ 13,466,284	\$ 13,020,566
SBG Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,417,470)	\$ (1,438,191)	\$ 5,634,099	\$ (1,596,766)	\$ (194,173)
Total Bar Center Operations Revenue	\$ 3,943,792	\$ 4,042,903	\$ 971,524	\$ 3,185,888	\$ 3,247,138
Total Bar Center Operations Expenses	\$ 2,636,023	\$ 2,500,070	\$ 1,224,900	\$ 2,636,365	\$ 2,985,579
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,307,769	\$ 1,542,833	\$ (253,376)	\$ 549,503	\$ 261,559
Combined Revenue	\$ 15,632,955	\$ 15,880,908	\$ 12,854,481	\$ 15,055,406	\$ 16,073,531
Combined Expenses	\$ 15,742,657	\$ 15,776,266	\$ 7,473,458	\$ 16,102,669	\$ 16,006,145
Total Combined Net Income (Loss)	\$ (109,701)	\$ 104,642	\$ 5,381,023	\$ (1,047,263)	\$ 67,386

Legend
■ Bar Operations
■ Bar Center
■ Combined Bar Operations and Bar Center

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

**State Bar of Georgia
2020-2021 Proposed Total Bar Center Operations Budget
For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Category	Fiscal Year Actual 2017-2018	Fiscal Year Actual 2018-2019	Fiscal Year to Date December 2019-2020	Budget 2019-2020	Budget 2020-2021
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts					
Bar Center Assessments	289,900	206,173	1,050	0	1,000
Conference Center Copier	1,087	738	386	1,000	850
Gain/Loss on Investments	0	23,210	12,874	0	0
CLE Contributions to Bar Center	1,310,643	1,339,560	0	1,315,000	1,325,000
Transfer from Operations	616,188	628,512	0	0	0
Interest Income	21,197	51,941	39,978	42,000	80,000
Bar Center Income and Cash Receipts	\$ 2,239,015	\$ 2,250,134	\$ 54,288	\$ 1,358,000	\$ 1,406,850
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements					
Bond Premium Amortization	0	0	5,832	0	12,000
Investment Service Fees	0	0	5,551	0	12,000
Parking Deck Construction	13,350	0	0	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 Renovation	0	93,304	29,299	2,760	54,400
Media and Podium Motion Exhibit	0	0	0	2,500	0
Audio Visual Furniture and Equipment	107,654	71,668	0	2,000	16,000
Rehabilitation	268,496	84,504	450	100,000	300,000
Tenant Improvements	59,488	0	0	0	0
2nd Floor Build out	37,190	0	0	0	0
President's Boardroom	0	2,848	0	5,000	0
Bar Center Expenses and Cash Disbursements	498,124	258,102	41,169	165,975	399,400
Bar Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 1,740,891	\$ 1,992,032	\$ 13,119	\$ 1,192,025	\$ 1,007,450
Conference Center Income and Expenses					
Room Rentals and Various Charges	20,296	16,113	8,616	19,400	15,800
Conference Center Operating Expenses	414,261	429,191	223,254	448,865	453,559
Conference Center Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (393,965)	\$ (413,078)	\$ (214,638)	\$ (429,465)	\$ (437,759)
Rental Income and Expenses					
Rental Income	1,331,358	1,365,050	704,489	1,447,488	1,447,488
Building Operating Expenses	1,429,679	1,493,785	802,872	1,694,355	1,805,430
Rental Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ (98,321)	\$ (128,735)	\$ (98,383)	\$ (246,867)	\$ (357,942)
Parking Income and Expenses					
Parking Income	353,123	411,606	204,132	361,000	377,000
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	293,959	318,992	157,304	327,190	327,190
Parking Combined Net Cash Flow	\$ 59,164	\$ 92,613	\$ 46,828	\$ 33,810	\$ 49,810
Total Bar Center Operations Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,307,766	\$ 1,542,933	\$ (255,076)	\$ 549,503	\$ 261,559

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

**State Bar of Georgia
Dues and Revenue History**

Dues History:	Year End 6-30	Active & Inactive Members
\$75	1976-1983	6/30/83 = 15,000
\$90	1984-1987	6/30/87 = 19,425
\$110	1988-1989	6/30/89 = 20,193
\$135	1990-1995	6/30/95 = 26,320
\$150	1996-2000	6/30/00 = 30,694
\$175	2001-2003	6/30/03 = 33,706
\$190	2004	6/30/04 = 34,717
\$208	2005	6/30/05 = 35,704
\$218	2006	6/30/06 = 36,694
\$230	2008	6/30/08 = 38,852
\$236**	2009-2011	6/30/11 = 42,334
\$238	2011-2012	6/30/12 = 42,957
\$240	2012-2013	6/30/13 = 44,184
\$246***	2013-2014	6/30/14 = 45,143
\$248	2014-2017	6/30/17 = 47,967
\$250	2017-2018	6/30/18 = 47,759
\$252	2018-2019	6/30/19 = 48,050
\$254	2019-2020	6/30/20 = 48,370 - Budgeted

**One time dues credit of \$20 per active member (\$10 inactive) approved by Board of Governors, reducing net active dues to \$216 (\$108 inactive) for 2008-09 only.

***One time dues credit of \$2 per active member (\$1 inactive) approved by Board of Governors, reducing net active dues to \$244 (\$122 inactive) for 2013-14 only.

Membership counts as of June 30, 2017 and subsequent represent total members excluding emeritus.



State Bar of Georgia

BAR NUMBER:
STATUS:

2020-2021 LICENSE FEE AND ASSESSMENTS NOTICE DUE JULY 1, 2020

PAY ONLINE AT WWW.GABAR.ORG

A \$3 convenience fee applies to online or phone payments.

Or mail to P.O. Box 102054, Atlanta, GA 30368-2054
TAX ID NUMBER: 58-0939623

QUESTIONS?
PHONE: 404-527-8777 or 800-334-6865
EMAIL: membership@gabar.org
WEB: www.gabar.org

**SEE MANDATORY ASSESSMENTS/
FEES AND OTHER IMPORTANT
RULES ON THE REVERSE SIDE.**

SUMMARY

A. \$ 392 (+) Your Amount Includes:

- License Fee: Active **\$266** or Inactive **\$133**
- Mandatory Clients' Security Fund Assessment of **\$15 ***
- Mandatory Professionalism Fee of **\$11** (Active <70 only)
- Optional Legislative & Public Education Fund of **\$100**
**see note on back*

B. \$ ____ (+) or (-) Legislative & Public Education Fund Contribution

- Not funded by Bar license fees, your voluntary contribution is the only support the program receives; it is not funded by Bar dues. The program helps ensure the profession is well represented in supporting or opposing issues relating to the practice of law. Line A includes a \$100 contribution.*

C. \$ ____ (+) Section Dues

D. \$ ____ (+) GLSP Contribution

- Georgia Legal Services Program is a nonprofit law firm that provides civil legal services for low income persons, creating equal access to justice and opportunities out of poverty. Suggested contributions are \$350 per year; \$100 for younger lawyers.*

E. \$ ____ (+) Late Fee (After 8/1)

\$ ____ TOTAL PAYMENT

SECTION DUES (C)

Section memberships from last year are marked with an "X". Please check all desired sections for this year and place the total on Line C in the summary. For section descriptions, visit www.gabar.org/sections.

___ \$25 Administrative (02)	___ \$35 Family (09)
___ \$20 Agriculture (31)	___ \$35 Fiduciary (10)
___ \$20 Animal (51)	___ \$20 Franchise & Distribution (50)
___ \$20 Antitrust (03)	___ \$40 General Practice & Trial (11)
___ \$15 Appellate Practice (42)	___ \$10 Government Attorneys (44)
___ \$15 Aviation (04)	___ \$25 Health (36)
___ \$35 Bankruptcy (05)	___ \$15 Immigration (46)
___ \$20 Bike (59)	___ \$15 Individual Rights (12)
___ \$20 Business (06)	___ \$35 Intellectual Property (18)
___ \$35 Cannabis & Hemp (62)	___ \$25 International (14)
___ \$20 Child Protection & Advocacy (55)	___ \$20 Judicial (47)
___ \$25 Class Action (61)	___ \$20 Labor & Employment (15)
___ \$35 Constitutional Law (56)	___ \$25 Law & Economics (58)
___ \$25 Construction Law (60)	___ \$10 Legal Economics (26)
___ \$25 Consumer (48)	___ \$10 Local Government (16)
___ \$25 Corporate Counsel (28)	___ \$15 Military/Veterans (17)
___ \$20 Creditors' Rights (39)	___ \$25 Nonprofit (53)
___ \$20 Criminal (07)	___ \$25 Product Liability (33)
___ \$20 Dispute Resolution (38)	___ \$15 Professional Liability (54)
___ \$25 E-Discovery (57)	___ \$35 Real Property (19)
___ \$20 Elder (40)	___ \$15 School & College (30)
___ \$35 Eminent Domain (43)	___ \$10 Senior (41)
___ \$20 Employee Benefits (52)	___ \$20 Taxation (20)
___ \$25 Entertainment & Sports (25)	___ \$25 Privacy & Technology (27)
___ \$25 Environmental (08)	___ \$15 Tort & Insurance Practice (13)
___ \$20 Equine (49)	___ \$30 Workers' Compensation (21)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- JUL 1** Fees due for 2020-21 Bar year (July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021)
- AUG 1** \$75 late fee if USPS postmark is after 11:59 p.m. (EDT) on August 1
- SEPT 1** Ineligible to practice
- JAN 1** \$175 late fee if USPS postmark is after 11:59 p.m. (EST) on January 1

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The State Bar of Georgia is unable to accept faxed or emailed license fee notices for credit card charges. Credit card payments using Visa, Mastercard and American Express can be made at www.gabar.org.

NOTICE OF DESIGNATED ATTORNEY

I hereby nominate the following State Bar of Georgia member(s) to assist with coordinating the return of client files and property in the event I become an "absent attorney" as defined under Rule 4-228(a) of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct. I have discussed this with the person(s) named below, and they are willing to be considered to serve in this capacity. (See *insert for additional information.*)

NAME _____ STATE BAR NUMBER _____

NAME _____ STATE BAR NUMBER _____



YOUR LICENSE = MEMBER BENEFITS FEE

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- » Free Legal Research with Fastcase
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- Check CLE Status
- Order Letters of Good Standing
- Search the Member Directory
- Pay Bar License Fees
- Online Vendor Directory
- » Insurance Offerings
- » Conference Center
- » Resource Library
- » Satellite Offices (Savannah and Tifton)
- » Access to Multiple Bar Programs:
 - Lawyer Assistance Program
 - Law Practice Management Program
 - Attorney Wellness Program



MORE

RULE 1-202. CLASSES OF MEMBERS

Membership in the State Bar of Georgia shall consist of five classes: active, foreign law consultant, emeritus, disabled and inactive. The bylaws shall make provision for the registration of each active member and the location of his or her principal office for the practice of law, the registration of each foreign law consultant and the location of his or her principal office, and the registration of emeritus and inactive members and their mailing addresses. Only active members and emeritus members may vote on any State Bar matter or election or nominate an active member for office. Emeritus members can vote only in person or electronically.

- (a) **Inactive Members.** All lawyers who are neither engaged in the practice of law nor holding themselves out as practicing attorneys nor occupying any public or private position in which they may be called upon to give legal advice or counsel, to examine the law or to pass upon the legal effect of any act, document, or law may be inactive members at their election. Members who are in military service may be inactive if they so elect.
- (b) **Active Members.** Active members shall be all other lawyers including judges but excluding foreign law consultants. Only active members of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing may hold office in the State Bar of Georgia.
- (c) **Foreign Law Consultants.** Foreign Law Consultants shall be those persons, who are licensed under the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law as adopted by the Supreme Court of Georgia.
- (d) **Emeritus Members.** Any member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia who will attain the age of 70 years in a Bar year and who shall have been admitted to the practice of law for at least 25 years, five years of which must be as a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia, may request emeritus status from the State Bar upon petition to and approval by the Membership Department. When approved, the member shall hold emeritus status. An emeritus member of the State Bar shall not be required to pay dues or annual fees, and may not hold office in the State Bar of Georgia. An emeritus member of the State Bar of Georgia shall not be privileged to practice law except that an emeritus member may handle pro bono cases referred by either an organized pro bono program recognized by the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia or a non-profit corporation that delivers legal services to the poor. An emeritus member may be reinstated to active or inactive membership upon application to the Membership Department and payment of non-prorated dues for the year in which the emeritus members return to active or inactive service.
- (e) **Disabled Members.** Any member of the State Bar of Georgia may petition the Executive Committee for disabled status provided the member meets one of the following criteria:

- (1) the member has been determined to be permanently disabled by the Social Security Administration; or
- (2) the member is in the process of applying to the Social Security Administration for permanent disability status; or
- (3) the member has been determined to be permanently disabled or disabled for a period in excess of one year by an insurance company and is receiving payments pursuant to a disability insurance policy; or
- (4) the member has a signed statement from a medical doctor that the member is permanently disabled, or disabled for a period in excess of one year, and unable to practice law.

Upon the Executive Committee's grant of the member's petition for disability status, the disabled member shall be treated as an inactive member of the State Bar of Georgia and shall not be privileged to practice law. A member holding disabled status shall not be required to pay dues or annual fees. A disabled member shall continue in such status until the member requests reinstatement by written application to the Membership Department of the State Bar of Georgia.

RULE 1-208. RESIGNATION FROM MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Resignation while in good standing. A member of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing may, under oath, petition the Executive Committee for leave to resign from the State Bar of Georgia. Upon acceptance of such petition by the Executive Committee by majority vote, such person shall not practice law in this state nor be entitled to any privileges and benefits accorded to active members of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing unless such person complies with part (f) or part (g) of this Rule. See www.gabar.org/rules for the complete Rule.

CLIENTS' SECURITY FUND ASSESSMENT

Per Rule 1-506, the State Bar of Georgia is authorized to assess each new member a fee of \$100 for the Clients' Security Fund, which fulfills, in part, the duty of the legal profession to keep faith with the public and serves to maintain the profession's collective reputation for honesty and trustworthiness. This \$100 fee may be paid in minimum annual installments of \$25 for a period of four years, beginning with the second full year following the year of admission.

Per Rule 10-103, in any year following a year in which the balance of the fund falls below \$1 million, the State Bar of Georgia can assess and collect from all other dues-paying members a pro rata share of the difference between the actual fund balance and \$1 million, provided that such assessments shall not exceed \$25 in any single year. This year, the Board of Governors approved a \$15 assessment to increase the fund's balance to the minimum balance required by this Supreme Court rule. See www.gabar.org/rules for the complete versions of Rule 1-506 and Rule 10-103.

PROFESSIONALISM FEE

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism was created in 1989 by the Supreme Court of Georgia. Since 1998, a \$15 per hour professionalism fee has been charged. This year, the Commission has determined that the Court-mandated surcharge shall be reduced to an \$11 per year fee for unlimited professionalism courses taken for CLE credit. The surcharge shall be assessed annually on the license fee notice for all active members less than 70 years old.

TRANSCRIPTS/BAR APPLICATIONS

Requests for copies of applications to practice law in Georgia and for transcripts from the Bar Exam should be addressed to the Office of Bar Admissions at 404-656-3490. Additional information can be obtained from their website at www.gabaradmissions.org.

DEDUCTIBILITY

Pursuant to Sections 162(e) and 6033(e) of the Internal Revenue code, certain lobbying and political expenses are not deductible and information concerning their non-deductibility must be communicated by tax-exempt organizations to their members. In compliance with these requirements, the voluntary contribution to the Legislative & Public Education Fund is not tax deductible.

APPLICABILITY OF RULES

See www.gabar.org/rules for a complete set of all State Bar of Georgia Rules.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

Disabled members needing printed materials in alternative format can call Membership at 404-527-8777 or 800-334-6865.



March 5, 2020

Board of Governors,

I am pleased to give you an update on what the YLD has accomplished in the 2019-20 Bar year. It has been both an honor and a pleasure to serve as YLD President this year, and I look forward to seeing what our membership accomplishes over the next four months!

YLD COMMITTEES

The YLD has more than 25 committees working to support our motto of service to the community and profession. Each committee works diligently to provide substantive programming in their respective focus areas. Below are some of the accomplishments of our YLD Committees this year:

YLD Advocates for Students with Disabilities Committee

Jack Grote and Jenna Rubin, co-chairs

The committee has hosted several successful lunch and learn events this Bar year in October, November and February dealing with a variety of topics including Individualized Educational Plan meetings; the Georgia Department of Education's alternative dispute resolution process, including IEP facilitation, mediation, formal complaints and due process hearings; and the historical background and legislative history of the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) and how to advocate for a student involved in GNETS, and other practical tips.

YLD Community Service Projects Committee

Sarah Jett and Kayla Winters Strozier, co-chairs

In November, the YLD Community Service Projects Committee partnered with the Gwinnett County Children's Shelter to provide them with snacks and supplies they need for their shelter. We collected donations from committee members, co-workers and attendees at the YLD Fall Meeting. We are proud to announce our members were able to donate more than \$250 to the organization and more than 30 donation items.

On Saturday, Dec. 7, we partnered with WellSpring Living who provides housing and support to women ages 12-21 who have been victims of sex-trafficking in Georgia. We were able to decorate one of their residence homes in College Park, Georgia for Christmas, both inside and out. It was a great way for our committee to give the girls a happy and warm home for the holidays. (photos attached).

On Jan. 20, for our MLK service day project, we planned a resume workshop with the Gateway Center. We were excited to partner with this organization for a second year.

This Bar year, we have already had service projects at the Atlanta Beltline, with the Atlanta VA, Gwinnett Children's Shelter and WellSpring Living. We are excited about the second half of the 2019-20 Bar year—serving even more of our community and showing those outside the legal profession that attorneys really do care about them and love to give back.

YLD Corporate Counsel Committee***Javier Becerra and Becca Hallum, co-chairs***

On Dec. 4, the committee joined with the Georgia Hispanic Bar Association to present “Climbing to the Top,” a panel of general counsels and legal recruiters, at the offices of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP. Panelists included Lauren Tashma, Graphic Packaging Int’l; Lynette Smith, Chick-fil-A; Keri Conley, Georgia Hospital Association; and Bonnie Youn, The RMN Agency. The panel was moderated by Kiyoko Kojima, Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP. The presentation was followed by a reception.

YLD Criminal Law Committee***Eufemia Cabrera-D’Amour and Megan Eustice, co-chairs***

On Feb. 27, the committee joined with the Georgia Public Defender Council to present “Voir Dire: A Lawyer’s Guide to Jury Selection,” a day long CLE event which provided an in depth look at the jury selection process. The seminar instructed attendees on the nuts and bolts of jury selection, including the law, planning and preparation, mechanics, and practice tips and tricks. Experts discussed how to build rapport with jurors, the importance of understanding local practice and the art of jury de-selection. Participants also learned how to make Batson challenges and strike jurors for cause.

YLD Health Law Committee***Dana Lohrberg and Sally Robertson, co-chairs***

On Nov. 7, the YLD Health Law Committee held our Atlanta Kickoff Event at Cold Beer Atlanta on the BeltLine. We hope to join forces this winter with the YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee to host an event featuring a keynote speaker that can touch on relevant IP issues within the health care field (e.g. Artificial Intelligence).

This spring, we hope that out-of-town members will want to use this as an opportunity to get away for a beautiful weekend in Savannah and that local members will take advantage of the opportunity to attend a YLD Health Law event with a keynote speaker that can address hot topics in the health care field.

YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee***Erica Taylor and Blair Weatherly, co-chairs***

On Feb. 18, in conjunction with the Georgia State Center for the Advancement of Students & Alumni Pre-Law Program, the YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee held a panel discussion for students interested in law school and specifically in criminal law to show students the various paths that can lead to law school and the legal profession. Our panelists, Alisha Marie S. Nair and Assistant Solicitor-General Andrew Turner, both have criminal law experience—one on the defense side and one on the prosecution side. The committee co-chairs introduced the panelists and also moderated the discussion. The format included prepared questions as well as questions from the audience.

YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee***Jason H. Cooper and Amy Lester Drew, co-chairs***

The YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee held its first event on Oct. 24 at Ted’s Montana Grill in Midtown. Committee members met and mingled while enjoying some delicious food and learning more about the committee and its upcoming events. Representatives from the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF) were in attendance and shared information with members about its Saturday Lawyer program.

On Nov. 23, the committee co-sponsored a Saturday Lawyer pro bono legal clinic for AVLF. Ten attorneys showed up early Saturday morning for consultations with AVLF clients facing landlord-tenant and housing issues. AVLF’s Saturday Lawyer program is its oldest and largest program, providing free legal assistance to low-income Atlantans for the last 40 years. The YLD IP Law Committee has regularly sponsored Saturday Lawyer clinics for the last three years.

YLD Labor and Employment Law Committee
Jana Anandaragam and JonVieve Hill, co-chairs

The YLD Labor and Employment Law Committee held a very exciting happy hour event on Nov. 14 at 5Church in Midtown sponsored by Ricoh Legal, Veritext, KLDDiscovery, The RMN Agency and Compliance Discovery Solutions. Our committee is planning several exciting events in 2020 including a lunch and learn in the winter and a collaboration with the State Bar of Georgia Labor and Employment Law Mentorship Academy in May to offer a networking event at a Braves game.

The committee has a lunch and learn planned for March 19 at Ogletree Deakins entitled “Supreme Court Analysis: The Future of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Under Title VII.”

YLD Law School Outreach Committee
Kindall Browning and Jamie McDowell, co-chairs

On Aug. 29, 2019, Kindall Browning attended Mercer Law’s Professional Organization Fair to talk to current law students about getting involved with the YLD once they become members of the State Bar. YLD Secretary Ron Daniels and YLD members Brittanie Browning and Andrew Bennett also attended the event. The group distributed informational flyers and YLD swag and recruited several students to sign up for law student membership with the State Bar. Additionally, we advertised the Houston County YLD BBQ and had a number of students turn up for that event in October.

Similarly, on Nov. 19, Jamie McDowell attended the Third Annual Bar Organization Fair at Georgia State University College of Law, hosted by Georgia State’s Center for Professional Development and Career Strategies. Jamie discussed the YLD’s positive impact on the professional development of young lawyers. She also recruited several students to join the State Bar as student members.

As for future events, the committee is planning a spring event at UGA Law in conjunction with YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee Co-Chairs Erica Taylor and Blair Weatherly. The event will take place during the YLD Spring Meeting in Athens.

YLD Public Interest Internship Program Committee
Andrew Navratil and Danielle Russell, co-chairs

This fall, the PIIP Committee represented the YLD at public interest organization fairs at Georgia State University College of Law on Sept. 23, and Emory University School of Law on Oct. 2. We shared information about our summer public interest internship funding, opportunities to get involved with the YLD more broadly, and signed up new student YLD members. On Nov. 12, we joined the State Bar’s Access to Justice Committee and the Pro Bono Resource Center for the annual State Bar Pro Bono and Public Interest Awards Reception, where we honored the 10 finalists and three recipients of our summer 2019 PIIP grants.

This winter, the PIIP Committee helped organize the YLD’s sponsorship day at the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation Saturday Lawyer Program on Dec. 14. Ten YLD lawyers interviewed low-income tenants facing landlord-tenant issues to screen their case and determine whether they or another lawyer will represent the tenant pro bono.

The committee has released the 2020 grant application. The deadline for receipt of applications is March 30. The 2020 grant recipients and finalists will be notified by May 1.

YLD Solo Practice/Small Firm Committee
Alicia Mack and Persephone Shelton, co-chairs

The committee hosted an Ask-a-Lawyer event on Jan. 16 at the Douglas County Public Library. Attorneys from various practice areas, including family law, workers’ compensation, personal injury, taxation, criminal defense, landlord/tenant issues and debt collections were available to provide attendees with free legal advice or consultations.

YLD Women in the Profession Committee
Jena Emory and Samantha Mullis, co-chairs

The Women in the Profession Committee loved 2019 and is looking forward to a fantastic 2020. We are excited to share with you what we have been up to and our plans for the coming year.

Membership

In August, the WIP Committee had 29 members. In September, the WIP Committee had 42 members. In October, the WIP Committee had 66 members. Currently, the WIP Committee has 84 members! Our committee is growing, and we look forward to planning more exciting events for our members.

January

On Jan. 10, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., the YLD WIP Committee is having coffee with Judge Shondeana C. Morris of the Superior Court of DeKalb County at The Georgian Terrace. This coffee is in conjunction with the Midyear Meeting.

The committee is also working with the YLD Family Law Committee to host an after work event on meal prepping to help members start the new year right.

February

On Feb. 17, from 12-1 p.m., the YLD WIP Committee and the YLD Labor and Employment Law Committee will be hosting a “Fairness February” lunch and learn with Judge Janis C. Gordon of the State Court of DeKalb County. Judge Gordon will discuss being a woman in this profession and developing a fair and unbiased outlook on life.

March

On March 28, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., the YLD WIP Committee will host its third annual Women’s Estate Planning Clinic at First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta. The clinic will be hosted with the help of Cari Hipp at Atlanta Legal Aid. Lawyers, paralegals and volunteers are welcome. No estate experience required.

April

As a part of our Coffee with a Judge series, the YLD WIP Committee will plan coffee with a local judge in conjunction with the YLD Spring Meeting at Graduate Athens in Athens, Georgia.

The committee is also hoping to host an “Appellate April” lunch and learn.

May

For our end of the year blockbuster, the YLD WIP Committee has purchased a block of tickets for an outing to the Atlanta Braves vs. New York Mets game on May 22 at 7:20 p.m. at SunTrust Park. We are hoping to host this event in conjunction with the Cobb County Bar (or the WIP of the Cobb County Bar).

YLD AFFILIATES

Houston County YLD

The Houston County YLD hosted their annual Christmas party on Dec. 12, complete with a cookie swap. They also continued the tradition of sponsoring a local family for Christmas.

Macon YLD

The Macon YLD will host the YLD Leadership Academy in Macon for their third session on March 13-14, 2020. They have arranged for a BBQ dinner at the home of Carl Reynolds.

Savannah YLD

The Savannah YLD recently held its annual “tacky sweater” Holiday Party in December and members look forward to participating in the annual Admiral Harvey Weitz Savannah Bar Association Boat Ride in April.

MEETINGS

Spring Meeting in Athens, GA | April 24-26

The YLD will gather for our Spring Meeting and enjoy the Twilight Criterium in Athens! The Graduate Athens will be our host hotel and plans for the weekend include CLE, group dinners, a possible swearing-in with the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia and enjoying the bike race downtown on Saturday night. The 2020 YLD Leadership Academy will attend the Spring Meeting as part of their programming.

NOTABLE UPCOMING EVENTS

Intrastate Moot Court Competition

YLD Intrastate Moot Court Competition Committee Co-Chairs J.D. Fichtner and Abbey Morrow have done a magnificent job planning this year’s competition scheduled for March 13-14, 2020, at the University of Georgia School of Law.

Signature Fundraiser

The YLD will host its 14th Signature Fundraiser on March 21, 2020, in Atlanta with more details to follow. The YLD looks forward to raising funds for the Georgia Legal Services Program which provides legal assistance to low-income Georgians in 154 of Georgia’s 159 counties. Signature Fundraiser Committee Co-Chairs Morgan Carrin and Christina Gualtieri are looking forward to hosting a great event for a great cause!

Georgia Legal Food Frenzy

The Georgia Legal Food Frenzy is a two-week food and fund drive competition done in partnership with the Georgia Attorney General, the State Bar and YLD, and the Georgia Food Bank Association. The competition is open to everyone in the legal community to see which law firm, legal organization and corporate/in-house counsel can have the biggest impact on hunger. The competition will take place in Spring 2020, and we look forward to a great year under our YLD Legal Food Frenzy Committee Co-Chairs Morgan Lyndall and Veronica Rogusky.

Young Lawyers Roundtable with the Judiciary

The Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference will be hosted in Atlanta this year. Part of the conference will include a Young Lawyers Roundtable with the Judiciary on Saturday, May 9. The YLD has been instrumental in facilitating the registration process for the roundtable and will act as hosts on the day of the event.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,



Will Davis
2019-20 YLD President

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 21, 2019/12:00 p.m.
Berry College/Rome, Georgia**

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; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD President-elect; Rizza O'Connor, YLD Immediate Past President (by phone); Ivy N. Cadle; Tony DelCampo (by phone); Amy V. Howell (by phone); R. Javoyne Hicks; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughan (by phone).

Members Absent:

William T. Davis, YLD President.

Staff Participating:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Sarah Coole, Director of Communications; 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 12:00 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Future Meetings

Sutton reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

Members Requesting Resignation

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-208, the Executive Committee approved the following resignation requests by unanimous voice vote: Donald B. Kuperman-430342, Adam Chapman-115077, Paul Libretta-491888, Frank M. Holbrook-360200, Susan Hilton Munger-355440, Stacey Chanelle McClurkin-429362, Kathryn Johnson Tanksley-394867, Kevin Aaron Chastine-120203, Robert Michael Zakem-593606, Christina Marie Mims-509990, Dianne M. Moonves-518310, Victor R. Donovan-225817, Julie Hackenberry Savell-316459, James Warren Ott-550332, W. Randy Eaddy-237040, Sandra Ganus Moses-283815, Steven John Roberts-608888, Lillian Cousins Giornelli-003070, Catherine Amspacher Meeker-016101, John Paul Musone-532855, John DeSaussure Allison-012890, Michael D. Payne-568212, Donna Lynn Spruill-673220, Catherine Rose Stanton-720293, W. Jay Hughes-109609, Christopher C. Howard Jr.-370150, Richard Dallas Elms Jr.-243970, Julie Christine Jared-801699, Lucas Matthew Brainerd-737090, Beth A. Des Jardins-219413, Amy E. Angle-019832, Glen Roy Fagan-253944, Daniel Steven Francom-725489, Adrienne J. Rodgers-611226

Members Requesting Disabled Status

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-202, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved three requests for disabled status.

Members Status Appeals

The Executive Committee took no action on a request from Sundee Davis to waive her Administrative Suspension.

Members Requesting Military Dues Waiver

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, denied a request from Jennifer Coleman for a waiver of inactive dues.

Amendment to Rule 10-104. Board of Trustees Bylaws and Rules

Following a report by Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved proposed amendments to Rule 10-104. Board of Trustees as follows:

Rule 10-104. Board of Trustees of the Clients' Security Fund

- (a) The Board of Trustees shall consist of six lawyers and one non-lawyer appointed by the President of the State Bar of Georgia. The initial appointments to the Board shall be for such terms as to result in the staggered expiration of the terms of all members of the Board. Thereafter, the appointments shall be for a term of ~~five~~ three years.
- (b) Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the President of the State Bar of Georgia for any unexpired term.
- (c) The Board members shall select a chairperson, who is a member of good standing of the State Bar of Georgia and such other officers as the Board members deem appropriate.
- (d) A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board shall consist of three current members in attendance.
- (e) The Board may adopt a regulation to terminate Trustees who fail to regularly attend meetings and may adopt additional regulations for the administration of the Fund which are not otherwise inconsistent with these Rules.

Programs Update

Sutton reported that the Executive Committee has received the following information, which was requested by Board of Governors members at the Fall Board meeting: 1) The Resource Center's funding sources (still awaiting information from the Center about its staffing levels), 2) a breakdown of the BASICS budget, and 3) a dues history demonstrating a purposeful slowing of dues increases, and consequently, dues rates lagging inflation. That, and our negative budgeting, has resulted in the depletion of allocated cash leading to the programs assessment and recommended defunding of certain programs.

David Lipscomb reported that he talked to Rob Remar about The Resource Center's caseload

and was told that it has 48 open cases, contrary to a report made during the Fall Board meeting. Sutton said he has invited The Resource Center to the Midyear Meeting to answer any further questions from the Board of Governors. David requested that along with the dues history, a chart demonstrating our dues level relative to other state bars be provided with the Midyear Board meeting agenda.

Sutton reminded the committee that during the Fall Board meeting a request was made for an explanation about why the Executive Committee did not recommend eliminating funding for the programs rated with a C but not being considered for defunding by the Board. The committee then held a discussion, coming to a consensus explanation:

- 1) Some programs are in the process of being restructured, such as the Clients' Security Fund and the Fee Arbitration Program.
- 2) The Wellness Program has no direct cost, but wellness (and mental health issues) affect lawyers' competency to practice law, which is part of the Bar's mission.
- 3) The High School Mock Trial Program and the Law-Related Education (LRE) Program were considered to be cost-effective for the number of people they touch and the impact they have on teaching an understanding of and appreciation for the law, court procedures and the legal system to young people. Additionally, some LRE program costs are funded through the Marshall Fund.
- 4) The Pro Bono Project plays a critical role in providing access to justice for low-income Georgians and has also agreed to take on MLAP.

Building Security Upgrades

Following a report by Sutton, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved building security upgrades totaling up to \$399,512. The upgrades include replacing existing security cameras with HD cameras, both inside and outside the building; conversion of the building elevators to key card access only on all floors other than the 1st and 3rd floors; emergency lights and call boxes in the parking deck; a command center with space for two additional security officers; and a tie-in to the VIC system, which is a video surveillance network system that allows APD officers to monitor area activities from one location. The cost of these upgrades will be funded from Bar Center reserves.

President-elect Dawn Jones asked the staff to develop a cost estimate for building-out the 5th floor.

Executive Session

Following a motion, second, and unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss security at the Bar Center. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee emerged from Executive Session.

Registration of In-House Counsel

General Counsel Paula Frederick presented a proposed draft rule for the registration of in-house

counsel, which she believes may apply to 200-300 lawyers in Georgia. Following discussion, the Executive Committee asked Paula to disseminate the information for comments from the Sections, Committees, and corporate counsel groups.

Request from Member Benefits, Inc. for Insurance Program Name Change

This item was withdrawn.

Proposed Membership Category for Non-Lawyer Judge Membership

Sutton reported that Georgia allows non-lawyer probate and magistrate judges in certain counties, approximately 240 state-wide. Since the probate courts handle complex matters and demands on both classes of judges increase each year, the Council of Probate Judges has requested that its non-lawyer members be given a class of membership with the State Bar that would allow them to participate in the Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP), access Fastcase, and participate in CLE training.

Following this, Sutton asked Bill Nesmith to draft proposed revisions to the bylaws for an affiliate membership category that was included in the agenda. Sutton also reported that the Supreme Court was generally supportive of this initiative, but desired feedback from the Executive Committee before making a determination about how to proceed.

After discussion by the Executive Committee where there was support for but concerns about creating this membership category, Paula indicated the need for a better understanding about governance issues for affiliate members, such as how they will be tracked and how we will operate their benefits. She agreed to inquire with the Membership Department about how affiliate memberships are currently handled.

Others raised questions about why ICJE does not provide the training the non-lawyer judges need, the ability of non-lawyer judges to attend ICLE seminars without having to be a Bar member, and the Council of Probate Judges ability to separately contract the services of Fastcase. Sutton said he will consider the comments made and report them back to the Supreme Court.

President's Report

Sutton thanked the Bar staff, and in particular Michelle Garner, for their work on the meeting of the Southern Conference of Bar Presidents the State Bar hosted in October. The attendees were impressed by the State Bar Building, and by the responses we have received, the conference programming and events were a huge success.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Elizabeth Fite reported on the Bar's finances.

The Executive Committee received copies of the Consolidated (Operational and Bar Center) Revenues and Expenditures Report as of June 30, 2019; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Report for the Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2019; Income Statement YTD-Operations for

the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2019; Status and Use of Cash and Investment as of June 30, 2019; Board-Designated and Donor Temporarily Restricted Net Assets; Summary of Members and Voluntary Legislative Contributions Paid Through June 30, 2019; Summary of Members and Voluntary Contributions to GLSP with Contributions Paid Through June 30, 2019; Legislative Activity Report from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; and Cornerstones of Freedom Activity Report from July 1, 2018-through June 30. The Executive Committee also received copies of the ICLE Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2019, and Statement of Revenues and Expenses from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 with Budget for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019.

YLD Report

YLD President-elect Bert Hummel provided the YLD Report. He reported that the YLD Fall Meeting was recently held at Lake Lanier, and those in attendance included ten first-time attendees. LAP chair Lynn Garson spoke about LAP, and Director of Governmental Affairs Christine Butcher Hayes conducted a CLE about *Fleck*. Meeting attendees also volunteered at a local food bank.

Bert further reported that the 2020 Leadership Academy participants have been selected and the Academy will kick-off at the Midyear Meeting. Other upcoming YLD activities include the YLD Litigation Committee Clerks Luncheon at Maggiano's Restaurant on December 4, the Leadership Academy Alumni Luncheon on December 5 at the Piedmont Driving Club, and the YLD Spring Meeting on April 24-26, 2020 in Athens in conjunction with the Twilight Series bike race.

Bert further reported that the YLD is assisting with the 11th Circuit Judicial Conference in the Spring, and there will be an opportunity for YLD'ers to be sworn into the U.S. Supreme Court. Also, the Signature Fundraiser will be held March 21, 2020, with a St. Patrick's theme to benefit GLSP. And the National Moot Court Competition is being held this weekend in Atlanta, and Bert thanked anyone who is judging the rounds on Saturday.

Bert also reported that in the Spring of 2021 there will be a joint meeting of the YLD and Board of Governors at Brasstown Valley Resort.

Executive Director's Report

There was no report.

Office of General Counsel Report

Paula reported that the merger with CAP and her office is going well and she believes the Bar can deliver better client service through this merger. She said that to date, paying the Special Masters and the Disciplinary Board members has not put a strain on the Office's budget, but very few of the cases that were pending when the Bar began paying Special Masters have been resolved.

Executive Session

Following a motion, second, and unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee emerged from Executive Session.

Advisory Committee on Legislation/Legislative Report

Governmental Affairs Director Christine Butcher Hayes reported that the Advisory Committee on Legislation will meet December 5. She recently attended a meeting of Governmental Affairs representatives, where Tony Wiler, Executive Director of the North Dakota Bar, reported that a cert. petition had not yet been filed in the *Fleck* case. Christine also reported that the Oregon Bar has two lawsuits pending in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and it has just filed its responses to them. Christine also told Executive Committee members to be on the lookout for invitations to the House and Senate Judiciary Committee dinners and the State of the Judiciary sometime in January.

Legislative Program Marketing/Awareness Campaign/Fund Reserve

Christine reported that contributions to the legislative fund are down substantially this Bar year. To date only \$209,000 has been collected. Bar staff have therefore been working on plans to increase contributions, and there is now a link on the Legislative Program's web page to make contributions online. There is also an initiative in the works to encourage more Section members to contribute to the program, especially members of Sections that frequently submit legislation. Christine plans to actively push this initiative at upcoming Section institutes.

Christine also reported that there will be a CLE legislative program in conjunction with the Midyear Meeting. Tony DelCampo suggested holding a reception at that meeting for legislative fund donors, but due to scheduling it was decided to look at holding that reception at the Annual Meeting.

Board of Governors Minutes

The Executive Committee received the (draft) minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held October 19, 2019.

New Georgia Legal Incubator Will be a "Law Firm Ride-Along"

The Executive Committee received an article about two lawyers starting an incubator program for lawyers who either want to start their own firm or become shareholders in one. It is a one-year program offering firsthand experience and advice to those starting their own law practice.

Old Business

Immediate Past President Ken Hodges asked for an update about succession planning. Sutton said it would be on the next meeting agenda.

New Business


Sally Akins reported that ABOTA, both nationally and the Georgia Chapter, would like to have

some additional language added to the Attorney Oath, similar to what 21 other states have added, that gives professionalism and civility more emphasis. Paula said she would find the rules applicable to the oath, which she believes may reside with the Office of Bar Admissions.

Immediate Past President Ken Hodges said that he recently learned from some other states that their appellate judges have the technology where one or both litigants can present their arguments remotely and the judge comes in as needed. He would like to start exploring that idea with the Georgia Court of Appeals and asked the Executive Committee for their thoughts.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Approved: 

Darrell L. Sutton, President



Sarah B. (Sally) Akins, Secretary

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Friday, January 31, 2020/10:00 a.m.
Conference Call**

Members Participating:

Darrell L. Sutton, President; Elizabeth Louise Fite, Treasurer; Kenneth B. Hodges, III, Immediate Past President; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD President-elect; Ivy N. Cadle; Tony DelCampo; Amy V. Howell; and David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughan.

Members Absent:

Dawn M. Jones, President-elect; William T. Davis, YLD President; Rizza O'Connor, YLD Immediate Past President; Sally B. Akins, Secretary; R. Javoyné Hicks.

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.

Call to Order

Upon obtaining approval in advance for a specially called meeting of the Executive Committee by a 2/3rd vote, and after establishing a quorum, President Darrell Sutton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Proposed Amendments to Rule 7.5 Firm Names and Letterheads

After discussion, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, 1) approved a motion to ask the Supreme Court of Georgia to waive the 30-day notice requirement for a rules change, and 2) approved a motion recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia the proposed amendments to Rule 7.5 Firm Names and Letterheads as follows:

Rule 7.5 Firm Names and Letterheads

- a. A lawyer shall not use a firm name, trade name, letterhead or other professional designation that ~~violates Rule 7.1~~ is false or misleading.
- b. A law firm with offices in more than one jurisdiction may use the same name in each jurisdiction, but identification of the lawyers in an office of the firm shall indicate the jurisdictional limitations on those not licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where the office is located.
- c. The name of a lawyer holding public office shall not be used in the name of a law firm, or in communications on its behalf, during any substantial period in which the lawyer is not actively and regularly practicing with the firm.
- d. Lawyers may state or imply that they practice in a partnership or other organization only when that is the fact.

- e. ~~A trade name may be used by a lawyer in private practice if:~~
- ~~1. the trade name includes the name of at least one of the lawyers practicing under said name. A law firm name consisting solely of the name or names of deceased or retired members of the firm does not have to include the name of an active member of the firm; and~~
 - ~~2. the trade name does not imply a connection with a government entity, with a public or charitable legal services organization or any other organization, association or institution or entity, unless there is, in fact, a connection.~~

The maximum penalty for a violation of this Rule is a public reprimand.


Comment

[1] Firm names and letterheads are subject to the general requirement of all advertising that the communication must not be false, fraudulent, deceptive or misleading. Therefore, lawyers sharing office facilities, but who are not in fact partners, may not denominate themselves as, for example, "Smith and Jones," for that title suggests partnership in the practice of law.


[2] ~~Trade names may be used so long as the name includes the name of at least one or more of the lawyers actively practicing with the firm. Firm names consisting entirely of the names of deceased or retired partners have traditionally been~~ are permitted and have proven a useful means of identification. ~~Sub-paragraph (e)(1) permits their continued use as an exception to the requirement that a firm name include the name of at least one active member.~~

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Approved: 

Darrell L. Sutton, President



Sarah B. (Sally) Akins, Secretary

PUBLISHED ARTICLES 2019-2020			Circulation
Date	Newspaper	Headline	
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	Irvn 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 Mikel	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	Newnan 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	Times Courier, 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
2/24/2020	Marietta Daily Journal	Congratulations and thanks to retiring Cobb Superior Court judges	12,287
		TOTAL CIRCULATION	908,391

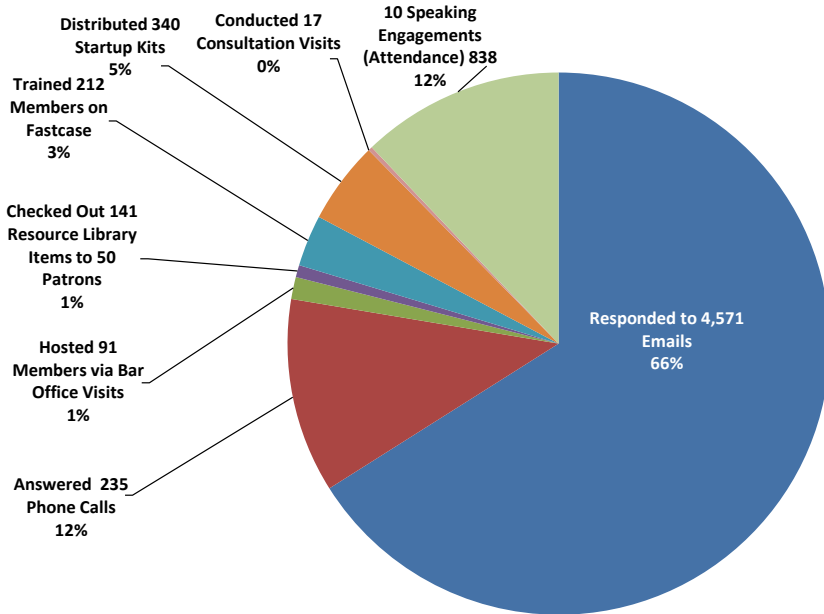
Law Practice Management Program

(Abbreviated report for the 2019-2020 Bar Year)

Members Served by LPMP

Total Number of Members Served – 7,420

July 1, 2019 – February 28, 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 **340** *Starting Your Georgia Law Practice* booklets as requested by attorneys, as well as, answered and responded to **803** phone calls and **4,571** 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 **141** checkouts by **50** patrons.

Speaking Engagements

There were a total of **10** completed and scheduled programs during this period. The Program's staff has given **6** 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 **838** Georgia Bar members. **6** programs are scheduled at a future date.

State Bar of Georgia – Private Exchange Report

February 28, 2020

INDIVIDUAL MARKETPLACE		
Individual Visits	25,779	Individuals that have visited the Individual Marketplace Registration page at least once
Individual Registrations	19,919	Individuals that have registered to begin shopping for benefits
Product Enrollments	3,738	Total Individual Product Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical 	1,723	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 	583	Total Individual Dental Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision 	288	Total Individual Vision Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teladoc 	127	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 	689	Total Individual Life/AD&D Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability 	214	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	2,502	Employers that have visited the Employer Registration page at least once
Employer Registrations	642	Employers that have submitted a quote request to initiate the sales process
Product Enrollments	886	Total Product Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical 	520	Total Medical Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancillary 	262	Total Ancillary Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workers' Comp 	14	Total Workers' Comp Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Liability 	88	Total Professional Liability Enrollments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyber Security 	2	Total Cyber Security Enrollments

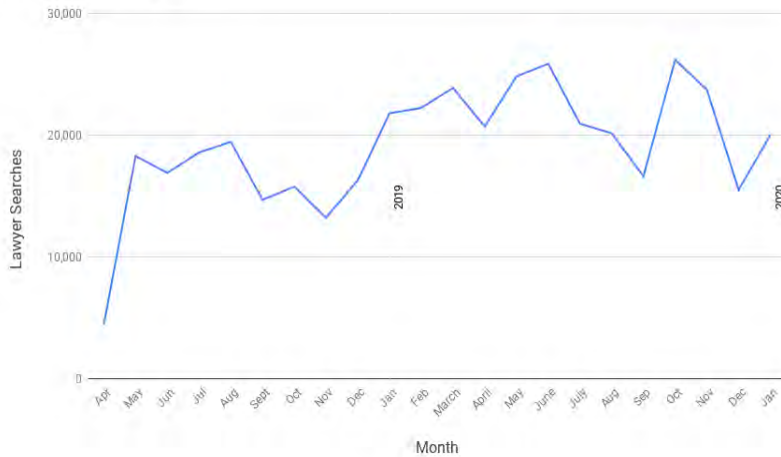
CloudLawyers Report

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 **435,920** searches have been performed to find Georgia lawyers utilizing this service. The directory is also maintaining a steady stream of pageviews and to date **656,955** pages have been viewed in the directory. Over **230** 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 December 11th, **3,074** (increase of 181 members) went through the CloudLawyers profile wizard. CloudLawyers is in the process of changing credit card systems to better handle expired cards, so members are not downgraded without meaning to be. Thus far **18** members have seamlessly transferred to the new system. Members will be transferred to the new system when their current cards expire.

State Bar of Georgia Searches



Fastcase Report

December 12, 2019 – February 28, 2020

During this period, a total of 125 members and 4 staff person have attended Fastcase CLE seminars, double the amount last quarter. Since January 2011, 2,277 attorneys and 111 staff members have attended Fastcase live training. Others have taken advantage of webinar training.

Since January 2011, 28,036 members have logged on at least once with an increase of 169 first time users this period: Over 50% of our members have used Fastcase since January 1, 2011.

As of October 7th, 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 7 offers new features such the ability to search across multiple jurisdictions and multiple material types, (cases, AG opinions, law reviews) Jurisdictions can be selected from picklists or a map with options to customize to specific types of documents from precise jurisdictions. A semantic word cloud suggests terms or concepts that commonly appear in your results list and allows you to simply click on the term and add it as a filter to your search. Visually distinct displays invite researchers to explore results in new ways. Two new free secondary material are included; Expert Witness content from Juris Pro and Lex Blog.

Fastcase Partner Usage Report

July 1, 2019 – February 28, 2020

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
First Time Logins	80	69	50	84	90	78	91	68	610
Total Logins	14,406	15,241	13,373	15,672	11,796	10,318	14,016	12,912	107,734
Total Users Who Logged In	3,544	3,575	3,334	3,679	3,188	3,030	3,399	3,383	27,132
Searches Conducted	81,799	86,172	76,541	60,560	39,310	34,384	48,413	45,102	472,281
Documents Viewed	129,062	135,177	120,904	121,490	92,385	82,802	102,730	113,852	898,402
Documents Printed	12,769	13,934	12,249	13,419	11,542	9,602	12,555	11,428	97,498
Total Transactions	241,660	254,168	226,451	214,904	158,311	140,214	181,204	170,382	1,587,294

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>1/9/19 Member Comment: Member called saying he couldn't log in.</p>	<p>1/9/19 FC Response: It will be back up within 15 min.</p>
<p>2/20/19 Member Comment: Member called with complaint that FC was not showing results as normal and some cases seemed to be missing.</p>	<p>2/20/19 FC Response: Site was being updated so moving slowly, Also, noticing a pattern on day and time when the system seems to be slow. Working on getting that fixed.</p>
<p>2/21/19 Fastcase training was disrupted by intermittent crashing. Several members complained of the same.</p>	<p>2/22/19 Was told that they system has experienced crashes due to particular member searches; working on finding what the problem is and correcting.</p>
<p>4/15/19 Member Comment: Are current Georgia Rules and Regulations available in Fastcase?</p>	<p>4/15/19 Fastcase Response: We attempt to keep our libraries as up-to-date as possible. In some instances, our information is not as current as it could possibly be. Fastcase updates daily, and is constantly seeking to expand our libraries, so hopefully this content will be coming soon with planned updates. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. I found that Fastcase is up to date as possible but Lawriter lawsuit is an obstacle.</p>
<p>4/15/19 Fastcase sent notice that they had calls based on this incident.</p>	<p>4/15/19 The State Bar login apparently had a problem beginning sometime on 4/14/19 (Sunday) afternoon (storm related?), a key service stopped on the iMIS Application server. Logging into the iMIS Desktop program was also affected by this error.</p> <p>It was corrected about 8:30am 4/15/19</p>

<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 FC 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 was having 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 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>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.</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 suffocate* 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 and the search system is more sophisticated than 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>

CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Hon. Harold D. Melton Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Georgia, Chair



Karlise Y. Grier
Executive Director

Memorandum

TO: State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors

FROM: Karlise Y. Grier, Executive Director, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

RE: Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

DATE: March 28, 2020

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism ("Commission"), currently under the leadership of its Chair, Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, has a 22-year history of conservative fiscal management that has enabled the Commission to consistently maintain the professionalism surcharge at an amount of \$15 since 1998, and to build a surplus reserve in the amount of \$1,081,792 as of June 30, 2019. The surplus reserve amount includes \$250,000 (plus interest) that the Commission received from a Consent Order entered by Judge Hugh Lawson on December 31, 1998. Although the amount of the professionalism surcharge has been \$15 since 1998, in 2018, the Commission changed the collection of the surcharge from a \$15 *hourly* rate to a \$15 *annual* rate, and this change went into effect on July 1, 2018. A copy of the Commission's Fiscal Year 18-19 Audited Statements of Financial Positions and Statement of Activities is attached hereto as "Exhibit A." The accounting firm of Mauldin & Jenkins has audited the Commission's Financial Reports annually since the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

Notwithstanding this historically consistent professionalism surcharge amount, the Commission is pleased to announce to the Board of Governors that the Commission has voted to reduce the annual professionalism surcharge amount from \$15 per year per active member of the Bar under 70 years of age to \$11 per year per active member of the Bar under 70 years of age.

A 22-member Commission whose membership composition is determined by Part IX of the Rules and Regulations of the State Bar of Georgia reviews the Commission's operations and governance at three meetings per year. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, currently The Honorable Harold D. Melton, chairs the Commission. In addition, Justice Sarah

Hawkins Warren serves as an active and engaged advisor to the Commission. The Commission's other members are comprised, in part, of representatives (by Rule) from several classes of court and include Judge Clyde L. Reese II for the Court of Appeals of Georgia; Judge Meng H. Lim (Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit) for the Council of Superior Court Judges; and Judge Susan E. Edlein (Fulton County State Court) for the Council of State Court Judges. Judge William McCrary Ray II currently serves as the Commission's required member from the federal judiciary. The President of the State Bar of Georgia and the President of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia are both ex-officio voting members of the Commission with one-year terms from July 1st – June 30th so that each year the current presidents of both groups serve on the Commission. A summary of some of the Commission's recent and upcoming programs and activities are as follows.

SUICIDE AWARENESS PROGRAM

The Commission will convene a **Suicide Awareness Program on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** at the State Bar of Georgia Auditorium in Atlanta, with videoconferencing to Savannah and Tifton, and with live-streaming to 21 other Satellite Viewing Locations. **The registration fee for the program is \$25 (plus credit card fees) for any lawyer who wants CLE credit and free for all others, both lawyers and non-lawyers. Both lawyers and non-lawyer legal community members are invited to participate.** The \$25-registration fee will cover the cost of 3 hours of CLE credit for lawyer attendees. The program is approved for 3 hours of CLE, including 1 hour of professionalism. Judges should check with their individual classes of court to determine if the program will qualify for CJE credit. Please visit the Commission's web site at <http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/> for information about registration and to locate a Satellite Viewing Location near you.

The members of the planning team for the program are Judge Clyde Reese, Court of Appeals of Georgia (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair); Judge Render Heard, Tifton County Juvenile Court (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair), Judge Shondeana Crews Morris, Superior Court of DeKalb County (State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee Chair) and Mr. Joe Chancey, Managing Partner, Drew Eckl Farnham.

The confirmed moderator for the event is Ms. Sally Q. Yates. Currently confirmed speakers include Ms. Robin Frazer Clark, Ms. R. Javoyne Hicks, Dr. Ben Hunter, Mr. Eric Lang, Judge Bill Reinhardt, and Judge Wesley B. Taylor.

The Commission is providing staff support for the program. The program co-sponsors are the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts, the State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee, the State Bar of Georgia Wellness Committee, the State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee, Drew Eckl Farnham, and the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Please share the flyer and information about the program found at the link here (<http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/>) with your networks. A flyer about the program is also attached hereto as “Exhibit B.”

A TASTE OF WELLNESS

Immediately following the Suicide Awareness Program, the State Bar’s Wellness Committee, chaired by Ms. R. Javoyne Hicks, will hold “*A Taste of Wellness*” event. King & Spalding has graciously agreed to host the event by providing complimentary parking in the 1180 Peachtree Parking Deck and by providing the space on its rooftop patio, which features a 180° view of the City of Atlanta. The Commission’s Executive Director, as a member of the State Bar’s Wellness Committee, is assisting in the planning of *A Taste of Wellness*. After the Suicide Awareness Program on **April 28, 2020**, please plan to join us at King & Spalding for food and fellowship, as we work to combat the “trends of . . . loss of professional community in the practice of law” referenced in *A Lawyer’s Creed and the Aspirational Statement on Professionalism*.

Thank you to the co-sponsors for *A Taste of Wellness* who were confirmed as of March 3, 2020, as follows: Mr. William C. Gentry, *Gentry Law Firm LLC*, and Ms. Dawn Jones, *The Firm of Dawn M. Jones LLC*.

21ST ANNUAL JUSTICE ROBERT BENHAM AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

The awards ceremony for the 21st Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service was held on **Saturday, March 14, 2020, at the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center**. The honorees were as follows:

District Award Recipients

Mr. Donarell Rhea Green IV, <i>Athens</i>	Ms. Connie L. Williford, <i>Macon</i>
Honorable Robert Dale Leonard II, <i>Marietta</i>	Ms. Jennifer Leigh Weizenecker, <i>Atlanta</i>
Ms. Rita C. Spalding, <i>Brunswick</i>	Ms. Sally Quillian Yates, <i>Atlanta</i>

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

Mr. Thomas William Malone, *Atlanta* (posthumously)
Ms. Jacqueline L. Payne, *Marietta*

The Commission is also grateful to several individuals for volunteering their time, talent and/or resources to ensure the awards ceremony dinner was a great success. They are as follows.

Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs

Adwoa Seymour
R. Kyle Williams

Volunteer Committee Co-chairs

Jena Emory
Paula Myrick

Visual Arts Committee

Vanessa Hickey Gales, Chair

Philip A. Sandick, Contributing Artist Judge Phinia Aten, Contributing Artist
William J. Stiles, Jr., Contributing Artist Rita C. Spalding, Contributor

Musical Entertainment

Norman L. Barnett, Keyboardist

Laurel R. Boatright, Singer Abbey Martin, Singer Kevin C. Wilson, Singer
and

The Honorable Chung H. Lee and the Korean American Saxophone Band

Finally, the Commission thanks the event co-sponsors as follows:

Greenberg Traurig	Squire Patton Boggs
Jones Day	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
Krevolin & Horst	Georgia Defense Lawyers Association
Miller & Martin	Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton	Ann Baird Bishop
King & Spalding	Hon. Chung H. Lee

CONNECT WITH A COLLEAGUE CONTEST

The Commission provides staff support to the State Bar of Georgia's Committee on Professionalism (COP), and in that role the Commission is assisting the COP with the *Connect With A Colleague Contest*, which **runs March 2, 2020, through and including April 3, 2020**. The Commission must receive all entries on or before April 6, 2020. The COP re-launched the *Connect With A Colleague Contest* in the fall of 2019 under the leadership of COP sub-committee co-chairs, Carlos R. Vilela and Stephanie A. Glymph-Ramsey. The Grand Prize is four (4) tickets to an Atlanta United game, courtesy of sponsor Kevin Patrick Law, and a one-night hotel stay at a hotel chosen by the COP, courtesy of sponsor Michael S. Burnett LLC. A flyer about the Connect With A Colleague Contest, including all of the contest rules, is attached as "Exhibit C."

PROFESSIONALISM PAGE IN THE GEORGIA BAR JOURNAL

One of the ways the Commission communicates with State Bar members is through its Professionalism Page, which appears in each issue of the Georgia Bar Journal that is published 6 times per year. You are invited to read the Professionalism Page article that appeared in the **February 2020** Georgia Bar Journal written by the Commission’s Executive Director entitled *Celebrating 30 years of Legal Professionalism in Georgia*. A copy of the article is attached as “Exhibit D.”

COMMISSION WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Commission continues to enhance the Commission website, www.cjcpgea.org. For example, a picture of the 2019-2020 Commission members, advisors, and liaisons is now on the Commission’s website. The Commission has also added a page at www.cjcpgea.org/2u that invites comments to the questions of “What It Means and Why It Matters” so that judges and lawyers can share their thoughts on professionalism with the Commission and other #GeorgiaLawyers. 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/cjcpgea/>

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



CONCLUSION

The above summary highlights some of the Commission’s work. The Commission looks forward to continuing to engage Georgia’s judges, lawyers, and law students on professionalism issues for the next 30 years!

Memorandum

To: Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia

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

Date: March 3, 2020

Subject: Report on the Military Legal Assistance Program

(1) **Overview:** Soon, MLAP will be consolidating its efforts with the Georgia Legal Services Program. This will provide great opportunity for MLAP to be able to more effectively help veterans with a wide variety of issues, while maintaining a focus on military and veteran specific legal issues. To this effect, MLAP and GLSP have already mapped out several new clinics that will be coming in the next few months. In particular, a clinic in Brunswick is already planned for April 17, 2020 and another clinic in Columbus, where we had prior success in March 2019, will be coming in October 2020 with the help of the Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans. In addition to the clinics, MLAP will be focusing on recruiting new attorneys to focus specifically on military/veterans issues such as issues arising under USERRA, veterans' benefits, discharge upgrades, and other VA and Department of Defense related legal issues.

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) **Attorney Recruitment:** We are undergoing new attorney recruitment drives. One will be on April 29, 2020 at Troutman Sanders. We will soon be holding a meeting with the Savannah Bar Association as well to discuss further attorney recruitment and a veterans’ legal clinic in the area.

(4) **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**. 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

(5) **The MLAP/Georgia Legal Services Legal Clinic:** A military/veterans legal clinic is scheduled to take place in Brunswick on April 17, 2020. The clinic will be organized by myself, Rachael Henderson (GLSP), Doug Alexander, and Sherri Allen. We are looking for volunteer attorneys of all practice fields. However, if you have VA accreditation and would like to give consultations concerning VA benefits, please let me know.

Additionally, the Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans expressed interest in assisting with a clinic in Columbus. The tentative date is for October 2020. The clinic is being organized by myself, Dina Nelson (GLSP), and the Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans.

(6) **Jeff Bramlett Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs 2020.** The MLAP committee approved for the planning of a Military Legal Assistance Program symposium for 2020. Because the American Bar Association is planning on conducting their 2020 Equal Justice Conference in Atlanta, it was observed that participation may be increased by having the symposium in conjunction with this Conference. As such, the current plan is to have the symposium as a pre-conference to the ABA's Equal Justice Conference from May 7 to 9, 2020. The symposium is scheduled to take place on May 6, 2020 at the State Bar Conference Center.

M. Christopher Pitts
 Director
 Military Legal Assistance Program

