

Board Book

State Bar of Georgia
Board of Governors
Agenda Book



2015 Spring Meeting
Young Harris, Ga.



State Bar of Georgia

256th BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Saturday, April 18, 2015

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Brasstown Valley Resort

Young Harris, GA

REVISED AGENDA

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1) ADMINISTRATION		
a) Welcome and Call to Order	Patrise Perkins-Hooker President	1-4
b) Invocation	Dr. Tim Moore Dean of the Chapel, Minister to the College at Young Harris & Assistant Professor of Religious Studies	
c) Recognition of Former Presidents, Judges And Special Guests	Patrise Perkins-Hooker	
d) Roll Call (by signature)	Pat O'Connor, Secretary	5-11
e) Recognition of Retiring Board Members	Patrise Perkins-Hooker	
• Steven A. Hathorn, Alcovy Circuit – 16 years on Board		
• Emily S. Bair, Atlanta Circuit – 6 years on Board		
• James Randolph Evans, Atlanta Circuit – 2 years on Board		
• Donald W. Gillis, Dublin Circuit – 1 year on Board		
• Brian A. McDaniel, Southern Circuit – 10 years on Board		
• Andrea D. McGee, Stone Mountain Circuit – 4 years on board		
f) Approval of the Meeting Agenda	Patrise Perkins-Hooker	
g) Future Meetings Schedule	Patrise Perkins-Hooker	12-13

2) CONSENT AGENDA

(Unanimous consent items. Any item may be moved from Consent Agenda to Board Action Items upon request of any member of the Board of Governors.)

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 255th meetingPatrise Perkins-Hooker14-21 of the Board of Governors on January 10, 2015

3) LEGISLATION

- a) 2015 Legislation UpdateThomas Worthy22-23

4) BOARD ACTION ITEMS

- a) Investment PolicyPatrise Perkins-Hooker29-41

- b) *Pro Hac Vice* Fees.....Patrise Perkins-Hooker42-43

- c) Clients' Security Fund Funding.....Darrell Sutton44-46

- d) Civil Legal Services Task Force.....Rita Sheffey

- (1) Excess Law Library Funds.....47-49

- (2) *Cy Pres* Doctrine.....50-61

- e) Dues 2015-2016.....Rita Sheffey, Treasurer
Patrise Perkins-Hooker

(1) Recommendation

- Recommendations of the Programs and Personnel Committees.....62
- Recommendation of the Executive Committee (no dues increase)

Active Dues \$248

Inactive Dues \$124

(2) Approval of Other Bar Dues Statement Items

- Section Dues (\$10 to \$35 opt in)
- Assessments Required by Bar Rules
 - Clients' Security Fund (\$100 @ \$25/year)
 - Bar Center (\$200 @ \$50/year)

- Checkoffs
 - Legislative and Public Education Fund Contribution
 - \$100 opt-out (no change from 2006-07 through 2014-15)
 - Georgia Legal Services Program
 - \$300 opt-in suggested individual contribution
 - \$100 opt-in suggested contribution for YLD or younger Lawyers

f) Approval of 2013-2014 Annual AuditRita Sheffey..... 63-97

5) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

a) Law School Incubator Program Report.....Patrise Perkins-Hooker 24-28

b) President’s ReportPatrise Perkins-Hooker ...98-106

c) Treasurer’s ReportRita Sheffey..... 107-111
Treasurer

d) Young Lawyers Division.....Sharri Edenfield 112-121
YLD President

e) Activities in the Circuits.....Alvin Leaphart
Brunswick Circuit

Hon. Joy R. Parks
Enota Circuit

Walter James Gordon, Jr.
Hon. Chris Phelps
Northern Circuit

6) WRITTEN REPORTS

a) Executive Committee Minutes 122-141
 (1) November 20, 2014
 (2) January 28, 2015
 (3) February 16, 2015
 (4) March 2, 2015

b) 2015 Board of Governors Election Information..... 142-145

c) 2015 Election Schedule	146
d) Office of General Counsel Report.....	147-150
e) Executive Director’s Report	151
f) Military Legal Assistance Program	152-157
g) Consumer Assistance Program.....	158-159
h) Law Practice Management Program	160-164
i) Communications Report	165-171

7) CLOSING

a) Old Business.....	Patrise Perkins-Hooker
b) New Business.....	Patrise Perkins-Hooker
c) Questions/Answers; Comments/Suggestions	Board of Governors Officers, Executive Committee Executive Director General Counsel
d) Adjournment	Patrise Perkins-Hooker



STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Spring 2015



BRASSTOWN VALLEY *Resort & Spa*

APRIL 17-19

YOUNG HARRIS, GA.

HOTEL CUT-OFF | FRIDAY, MARCH 20
REGISTRATION CUT-OFF | FRIDAY, APRIL 10



State Bar
of Georgia



Schedule of Events

FRIDAY | APRIL 17

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Investigative Panel

12 – 1:30 p.m.

ICLE Board of Trustees Meeting

12 – 3 p.m.

ICJE Quarterly Board of Trustees Meeting

12:30 – 4 p.m.

Review Panel

1:30 – 3 p.m.

Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency

3 – 4 p.m.

Law Practice Management Program Committee

3 – 5 p.m.

Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee

4 – 5 p.m.

Member Benefits Committee

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Board of Governors Dinner

SATURDAY | APRIL 18

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Board of Governors Meeting



Hotel Accommodations

Cut-off date | Friday, March 20

Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, 6321 Highway 76
Young Harris, GA 30582; 706-379-9900

Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa will be our host hotel offering discounted room rates. A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for the meeting. Our room rate is \$169 single/double, a \$10 resort fee, plus applicable taxes. The resort fee includes: wireless internet access in guestrooms and throughout the conference center, self-parking, unlimited local phone calls and unlimited toll free calling, access to the fitness center and steam/sauna, access and equipment usage for onsite bass fishing pond, daily housekeeping, unlimited hours of lighted tennis court time with complimentary equipment usage, daily newspaper and in-room coffee and business center access.

To make reservations and receive our special rate, please call Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa at 800-201-3205 and reference the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors Meeting, or visit the website, www.brasstownvalley.com, and enter group code SPR0416. Reservations must be made by Friday, March 20, as rooms will be on a space and rate availability basis after this date.

- Valet parking is \$4/per day.
- Hotel check-in is 4 p.m.
- Hotel check-out is 12 p.m.



Evening Event

BOARD OF GOVERNORS DINNER

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | Friday, April 17

Visit with friends and colleagues during a relaxed dinner.

Recreation Options

CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF

The Brasstown Valley Golf Course has been ranked by both *Golf Digest* and Leading Golf Courses of America as one of the top courses to play in Georgia. Designed by Denis Griffiths, the golf course winds through wildlife preserves, ponds and streams framed by the mountains. Please call 706-379-9900 for reservations.

HORSEBACK RIDING

Featuring five miles of trails, the Stables at Brasstown Valley primarily offer one- and two-hour guided mountain trail rides, accommodating all experience levels, from beginner to advanced. Please call 706-379-9900 for reservations.

EQUANI SPA

Nestled within the majestic beauty, the Equani Spa offers a true sanctuary from the stress of urban life. Infusing the spirit of this serene environment into first-class service, they provide body treatments, facials, soothing massages and unique rituals indigenous to the Cherokee people, designed to stimulate and refresh the mind, body and soul. To make your reservations for the spa, please call 706-379-2336. The State Bar has a 20 percent discount for services.

HIKING

With a summit elevation of 4,784 feet, Brasstown Bald is the highest point in the state of Georgia. Located only 20 minutes from the resort in the heart of the Chattahoochee National Forest, Brasstown Bald offers visitors breathtaking views across four states.

Ana Ruby Falls, DeSoto Falls and Helton Creek Falls are among several notable waterfalls located within 40 minutes of the resort. Spend the day hiking or picnicking surrounded by nature's beauty.

VINEYARDS

There are several local vineyards in the area. Please call the resort at 706-379-9900 for more information.



Attire

The attire for this meeting is business casual.

Directions

From Atlanta

- Take I-75 N to I-575 N, Exit #268
- Follow I-575 N toward Canton (I-575 N becomes Zell Miller Mountain Pkwy./GA-515)
- Follow GA 515 N until it becomes US 76 E.
- Stay on US 76 E through Young Harris and follow the signs to Brasstown Valley

THANK YOU

CORPORATE SPONSORS



Registration Form

Please complete and remit the enclosed registration form by Friday, April 10, 2015. Please use this form to register by checking all events you plan to attend. Registration is required for all events, including "no charge" functions.

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Bar Number _____

Name _____

Nickname _____

Spouse/Guest Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

SPECIAL NEEDS

Dietary Restrictions _____

ADA: If you have a special need addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call our ADA coordinator at 404-527-8700.

REFUND POLICY

The cancellation deadline for refunds is Friday, April 10, 2015. The State Bar of Georgia will accept only written requests for refund of registration fees. No refunds will be made after Friday, April 10.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FUNCTIONS

Board of Governors Meeting N/C _____

BOG Dinner (Fri.) \$70 _____

COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency N/C _____

Law Practice Management Committee N/C _____

Member Benefits Committee N/C _____

RELATED ORGANIZATION FUNCTIONS

ICJE Board Meeting N/C _____

ICLE Board of Trustees Meeting N/C _____

Total Enclosed: _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Please bill my Visa MasterCard Amex

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

Name as it appears on the card (Please print) _____

Signature _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registrations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Visa, MasterCard and Amex are accepted. Please make checks payable to State Bar of Georgia and mail to:

Michelle Garner, Director of Meetings
Spring BOG Meeting
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303-2743
Fax 404-527-8717 (credit card and "no charge" functions only)

-or-

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.GABAR.ORG



Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyll	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyll	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL
Virgil L. Adams	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Sarah Akins	.	.	e	e	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	.
Mark W. Alexander	n/a	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Anthony B. Askew	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Emily S. Bair	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Eric A. Ballinger	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Donna Barwick	.	.	e	.	e	e	e	e	.	e	.	.	.	.
Joshua C. Bell	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Kenneth R. Bernard, Jr.	n/a	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.
Diane E. Bessen	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	e	.	e	.	.	.	.
Sherry Boston	n/a	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	e	.	.	e	.
Jeb T. Branham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Thomas Neal Brunt	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Thomas R. Burnside III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Stephanie D. Burton	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	e	.
JaDawyna C. Butler	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
S. Kendall Butterworth	.	.	e	.	e	.	.	e	e	e	.	.	.	e
David Lee Cannon, Jr.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Paul Todd Carroll, III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Carol V. Clark	e	e	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
John Christopher Clark	.	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Edward R. Collier	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Martin L. Cowen III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL
Susan W. Cox	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Terrence Lee Croft			•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Matthew B. Crowder	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	e				
William V. Custer, IV	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
David P. Darden	•	•	e		•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	e	•
Gerald Davidson	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	e
J. Anderson Davis	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	e
Kimberly Cooper Davis	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	e
Randall H. Davis	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Antonio Delcampo	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Scott Dewitt Delius	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
Joseph W. Dent			•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Foy R. Devine	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Thomas V. Duck, III	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V. Sharon Edenfield	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Damon E. Elmore	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Randolph Evans	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Archibald A. Farrar	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Douglass Kirk Farrar			•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Elizabeth L. Fite	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
John A. Fitzner III			•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Gregory A. Futch	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William Gilmore Gainer	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL
Laverne Lewis Gaskins	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
William C. Gentry	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
Donald W. Gillis	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
Walter J. Gordon Sr.	•	•		•	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	e
Patricia A. Gorham	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Karlise Y. Grier	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Thomas F. Gristina	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	•
John Kendall Gross		•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e
James E. Hardy	e	e	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Steven A. Hathorn	•		e		e	e	e	e	•		•	•	•	•
John G. Haubenreich	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrick H. Head	•	•	•	•	•	e	e		•	•	•	•		•
Lawton C. Heard, Jr.	n/a	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Render M. Heard Jr.		•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Thomas W. Herman		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
R. Javoyne Hicks White	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Donna Stanaland Hix	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Michael D. Hobbs		•	e	•	•	•	•	e	e	•		•	e	
Kenneth B. Hodges, III	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Phyllis J. Holmen	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Marcus E. Howard	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	e	e
Amy V. Howell	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Roy B. Huff Jr.	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL
James W. Hurt	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Chris Huskins	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
James T. Irvin	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Robert D. James Jr.	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•
William Dixon James	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
Curtis S. Jenkins	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lester B. Johnson, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dawn M. Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Michael R. Jones, Sr.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Elena Kaplan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Robert J. Kauffman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
John Flanders Kennedy	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
William J. Keogh, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Barry E. King	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Judy C. King	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Seth D. Kirschenbaum	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Catherine Koura	e	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	•
Edward B. Krugman	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jeffrey R. Kuester	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Allegra Lawrence-Hardy	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
J. Alvin Leaphart	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dawn Renee Levine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
David S. Lipscomb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyl	ATL
John Ryd Bush Long	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ronald A. Lowry	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
Samuel M. Matchett	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	•	•
William R. McCracken	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e
Brian A. McDaniel	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
Leticia A. McDonald	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Brad J. McFall	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•
A. Dionne McGee	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	e	•	•	e	•
Ashley McLaughlin	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Michael D. McRae	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
Terry L. Miller	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
W. Benjamin Mitcham, J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
G.B. Moore III	n/a	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Laura J. Murphree	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gwyn P. Newsom	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sam G. Nicholson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dennis C. O'Brien	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pat O'Connor	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Samuel S. Olens	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jonathan B. Pannell	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joy Renea Parks	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•
Carson Dane Perkins	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrise Perkins-Hooker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri)	6-12(Sat)	10-12	1-13	3-13	6-13(Fri)	6-13(Sat)	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15
	Sav	Sav	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	HH	HH	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL
R. Chris Phelps			•		•		•		•	•			•	•
Will H. Pickett, Jr.	e	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	e		e	•	•
Jill Pryor		e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	e	•	e	•
William M. Ragland, Jr.	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Robert V. Rodatus	e	e	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	e	e	•	•
Tina S. Roddenbery	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Brian D. Rogers	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Joseph Roseborough	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Charles L. Ruffin	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William C. Rumer	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Claudia Saari	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dennis C. Sanders			•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Rita A. Sheffey	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H. Burke Sherwood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
Robert H. Smalley, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Philip C. Smith	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
R. Rucker Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Daniel B. Snipes	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e
H. Craig Stafford	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•
Lawrence A. Stagg	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lawton E. Stephens	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
C. Deen Strickland	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Frank B. Strickland	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Board of Governors Attendance Record

	6-12(Fri) Sav	6-12(Sat) Sav	10-12 Jekyl	1-13 ATL	3-13 Oconee	6-13(Fri) HH	6-13(Sat) HH	10-13 Jekyl	1-14 ATL	3-14 Oconee	6-14(Fri) Amelia	6-14(Sat) Amelia	11-14 Jekyll	1-15 ATL
Darrell L. Sutton	n/a	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Michael B. Terry	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anita W. Thomas	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•		•
Dwight L. Thomas	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Edward D. Tolley														•
Clayton A. Tomlinson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•
Martin E. Valbuena	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carl R. Varnedoe			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Nicki N. Vaughan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carl A. Veline, Jr.			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Henry Walker	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
Janice M. Wallace	n/a		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jeffrey S. Ward	n/a	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Gwen Fortson Waring	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•
Harold B. Watts	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
John P. Webb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Nancy J. Whaley	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sandy Wisenbaker	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Kathleen M. Womack	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Katie Wood	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Doug Woodruff			•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gerald P. Word	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	•	•
Fred A. Zimmerman	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
• - Attended Meeting			e	Excused Absence	Excused Absence						n/a - Not on BOG			

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Pat O'Connor (pto@olivermaner.com)

Future Meetings Schedule

(3/26/2015)



Executive Committee

May 15, 2015	Atlanta Legal Aid Society
September 11-13, 2015	Barnsley Gardens, Adairsville, GA (Executive Committee Retreat)

Board of Governors

Annual 2015	June 18-21, 2015	Evergreen Conference Center, Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, GA
Fall 2015	October 23-25, 2015	Hyatt on River Street, Savannah, GA
Midyear 2016	January 7-9, 2016	Lake Lanier Island, Buford, GA
Annual 2016	June 16-19, 2016	Omni Amelia Island, Amelia Island, FL

Young Lawyers Division

Annual 2015	June 18-21, 2015	Evergreen Conference Center, Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, GA
Summer 2015	August 20-23, 2015	The Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, GA
Fall 2015	Nov. 5-8, 2015	The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV
Midyear 2016	January 7-9, 2016	Lake Lanier Island, Buford, GA
Annual 2016	June 16-19, 2016	Omni Amelia Island, Amelia Island, FL

American Bar Association Meetings

Annual 2015	July 30 – Aug. 4, 2015	Chicago, IL
Midyear 2016	February 3-9, 2016	San Diego, CA
Annual 2016	August 4-9, 2016	San Francisco, CA
Midyear 2017	February 1-7, 2017	Miami, FL
Annual 2017	August 10-15, 2017	New York, NY
Midyear 2018	January 31-Feb. 6, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia
Annual 2018	August 2-7, 2018	Chicago, IL
Midyear 2019	January 23-29, 2019	Las Vegas, NV
Annual 2019	August 8-13, 2019	San Francisco, CA
Midyear 2020	February 12-18, 2020	Austin, TX
Annual 2020	August 6-11, 2020	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Midyear 2021	February 10-16, 2021	Orlando, FL
Annual 2021	August 5-10, 2021	Chicago, IL

Southern Conference Meetings

2015	October 8-10, 2015	Alexandria, Virginia
2016	October 13-16, 2016	Big Cedar Lodge, Branson, MO
2017	October 2017	Tennessee
2018	October 2018	Georgia
2019	October 2019	Florida

D-R-A-F-T
STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MINUTES
January 10, 2015
Atlanta Marriott Marquis/Atlanta, GA

The 255th meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President, presided.

Special Recognition

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker recognized the members of the judiciary, the Past Presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance.

Roll Call

Secretary Pat O'Connor circulated the attached roll (Exhibit A) for signature.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker presented the following changes to the Board of Governors Meeting agenda: 1) item 6) b) Nominations of ABA Delegates that reflects "formerly held by" should be changed to "currently held by," and 2) the term for Post 6, held by the Immediate President, begins August 2015. There being no other requested changes, the Board of Governors adopted the revised Meeting Agenda by unanimous voice vote.

Future Meetings Schedule

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker referred the Board of Governors to the Future Meetings Schedule.

Consent Agenda

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker presented the following Consent Agenda. There being no objection or request for removal of the item, a motion was made and seconded to approve the following item:

1) Minutes of the 254th Meeting of the Board of Governors

The minutes of the Board of Governors meetings on November 1, 2014 at the Jekyll Island Club at Jekyll Island, GA.

The Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved the above item on the Consent Agenda.

General Session

Following a unanimous voice vote on a motion to adjourn the Board of Governors meeting and to convene a General Session, President Patrise Perkins-Hooker called to

order the General Session of the Midyear 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.

Amendment to Bylaws Article V, Officers

Following a report by Bill NeSmith, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved proposed amendments (Exhibit B) to Bylaws Article V, Officers.

Board of Governors Meeting

Following a unanimous voice vote, President Patrise Perkins-Hooker adjourned the General Session and reconvened the Board of Governors Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia.

Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee

Following a report by Bill NeSmith and John Haubenreich the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Supreme Court proposed amendments (Exhibit C) to the following disciplinary rules: 1) Rule 4-110 – Definitions, 2) Rule 4-204.1 – Notice of Investigation, 3) Rule 4-111 – Audit for Cause, 4) Rule 4-217 – Report of the Special Master to the Review Panel, 5) Rule 4-219 – Judgments and Protective Orders, 6) Rule 1.6 – Confidentiality of Information – 7) Rule 4-208.3 – Rejection of Notice of Discipline, 8) Rule 4-213 – Evidentiary Hearing, 9) Rule 12-107 – Confidentiality of Proceedings, 10) Rule 3.5 – Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal, 11) Rule 5.4 – Professional Independence of a Lawyer, 12) Rule 8.4(d) – Misconduct, 13) Rule 4-104 – Mental Incapacity and Substance Abuse, 14) Rule 4-204 – Preliminary Investigation by Investigative Panel-Generally, 15) Rule 4-221 – Procedures, 16) Rule 4-403(c) and (d) – Formal Advisory Opinions, 17) Rule 4-106(f)(2) – Conviction of a Crime; Suspension and Disbarment, 18) Rule 4-227 – Petitions for Voluntary Discipline, and 19) Rule 7.3 – Direct Contact with Prospective Clients.

Fulton County Business Court Proposed Rule Amendment

Following a report by Ken Hodges and Jody Rose, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved a proposed amendment (Exhibit D) to Atlanta Judicial Circuit Rule 1004 – Business Case Division pertaining to cases subject to the Georgia International Arbitration Code. The proposed amendment has already been approved by the Fulton County Superior Court Judges' Business Case Division Committee and will now be sent to the Supreme Court of Georgia for its consideration.

Legislation

Following a report by Dawn Jones, Thomas Worthy, and proponents of the proposals, the Board of Governors took the following action on proposed legislation.

<u>Legislative Proposal</u>	<u>Germane to Purposes Of the Bar</u>	<u>Support on Merits 2/3 Majority</u>
Council of Superior Court Judges		
1) Judicial Salary Increase	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
District Attorneys' Association of Georgia		
1) District Attorney Pay Parity	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
Indigent Defense Committee		
1) Public Defender Pay Parity	Passed by majority voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
General Practice and Trial Section		
1) Long Arm Statute Revision	Passed by majority voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
Real Property Law Section		
1) Water Lien Legislation	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
Fiduciary Law Section		
1) Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
Business Law Section		
1) Business Corporation Code Amendments	Passed by unanimous voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote
<p>Before the vote was taken above, Dawn Jones reported that Sections 830 and 842 of the proposal, which contained changes in liability standards for corporate directors, were deleted by the ACL Committee and are not included in the amendments being voted upon.</p>		
International Trade in Legal Services Comm.		
1) Proposal to Enact the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act of Georgia	Passed by majority voice vote	Passed by 2/3 rd 's voice vote

Access to Justice Committee	Passed by unanimous voice	Passed by 2/3 rd 's standing
1) Attorneys for Rural Area Assistant Act	vote	vote

Hon. Rucker Smith asked the State Bar to look into setting up an email discussion group to afford Board members the opportunity to discuss amongst themselves these and other issues.

2015 Legislative Session Preview

Thomas Worthy provided a preview of the 2015 Legislative Session. He announced that he and the Bar's legislative consultants, Rusty Sewell, Roy Robinson, and Meredith Weaver, are always available to answer any questions about the Bar's legislative proposals or process. He encouraged the Board of Governors members to register on line for the State Bar's Action Network, a new, web-based legislative program to inform and enhance the Bar's advocacy efforts. Thereafter, President Patrise Perkins-Hooker asked for a round of applause for the members of the Advisory Committee on Legislation.

Advisory Committee on Legislation (ACL) Minutes

The Board of Governors received a copy of the ACL Minutes of Meeting No. 2 held December 4, 2014.

Nomination of State Bar Officers

The Board of Governors received the following nominations for officers for the 2015-2016 Bar year, and there being no others, declared the nominations closed:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
Treasurer	Damon E. Elmore Susan W. Cox (Seconding)	Patrick T. O'Connor
Secretary	Hon. Lawton E. Stephens Robin Frazer Clark (Seconding)	Brian D. Rogers
President-elect	Allegra J. Lawrence-Hardy Gerald M. Edenfield (Seconding)	Rita A. Sheffey

Nomination 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:

<u>Post</u>	<u>Delegate</u>
2	Lester Tate (currently held by Lester Tate)
4	Donna Barwick (currently held by Donna Barwick)

6 Held by the Immediate Past President (Patrise Perkins-Hooker) as of July 2015

President's Report

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported on her program of activities for the 2014-15 Bar year and referred the Board to the President's Activity Report included in the agenda. She continues to travel around the state promoting the State Bar and encouraging members' participation, and she commended Jeff Davis and Thomas Worthy for traveling the state with her. She continues to work with and support the work of the YLD. The Midyear and future Board of Governors meeting are being videoed so members can view them on the Bar's website. Her meetings with county commissioners and economic development directors on her rural lawyers' initiative has underscored the need for access to justice in those underrepresented counties. The iCivics initiative has reached 20,000 students this year and generated 163 attorney volunteers that are available to pair up with teachers. In honor of the 800th Anniversary of the Magna Carta, the State Bar will host an exhibit of the Magna Carta at the State Bar Building from March 18-31 and a symposium on March 30.

The Board of Governors received a copy of the President's Activity Report.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rita Sheffey thanked the Board of Governors for its nomination of her as President-elect. She also recognized Robert Shapiro, Dean of Emory School of Law, with whom she will be working when she becomes the Assistant Dean of Public Affairs at Emory University later this month. After acknowledging CFO Steve Laine and his staff for their work, she reported on the Bar's finances and investments. She announced that the Bar has appointed an Investment Committee that will be looking at the Bar's investment policy.

The Board of Governors received copies of the combined Operations and Bar Center Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures Report for the Four Months Ended October 31, 2014; Operations Income Statement YTD for the Four Months Ended October 31, 2014; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Summary for the Four Months Ended October 31, 2014; State Bar Balance Sheet for October 31, 2014; and the Summary of Selected Payment Information for the May through November, 2012-2014.

The Board of Governors received a copy of the State Bar of Georgia 2015-2016 Budget Timetable.

YLD Report

YLD President Sharri Edenfield reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. The YLD continues to focus on its three initiatives: Service, Education and

Leadership. The Military Support Initiative is providing outreach to JAG officers who are young lawyers, volunteer pro bono services with the Military/Veterans Law Section's Legal Assistance Clinics around the state, and support to the Augusta Warrior Project, which is the recipient beneficiary of the 2015 Signature Fundraiser that will be held on February 28 at Terminal West. For the Long-Range Planning Initiative, the YLD is presenting a Succession Planning Program that will connect law students and young lawyers with older lawyers transitioning out of practicing law. A Georgia Law School Consortium is working with the YLD on this project. *The Next Step Institute* took place on January 8, which focused on media training, law practice management, web/social media, becoming a leader in your community and opening your own law firm. There will be a Solo-Small Firm Institute/Affiliates Conference in Macon on February 21 featuring practical tips to open your own law practice, and a Wills Clinic program will provide intensive training for lawyers to develop estate planning. On March 28 a Gwinnett County reintegration program for probationers called *GRIP* will take place in Lawrenceville. The High School Mock Trial State Finals Competition will take place on March 14. Thereafter, YLD President Edenfield thanked Patty Shewmaker, Norman Zoller, and the Military Legal Assistance Program for helping create opportunities for the Military Support Initiative.

The Board of Governors also received a written report on the YLD committees, programs and projects for the 2014-15 Bar year.

Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP)

Phyllis Holmen provided a report on the activities of the Georgia Legal Services Program, which reaches 154 Georgia counties. She referred the Board members to the written report on GLSP that also includes client stories and testimonials, and she presented a video by the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. She encouraged Board members to go on line and make a contribution and thanked them for their continued support of the GLSP.

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

Law Day 2014: ABA Outstanding Activity Award

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker and Treasurer Rita Sheffey reported on the 2014 Law Day Program, *American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters*, which has won a second consecutive ABA Law Day Activities Achievement Award. The program was a collaborative effort among the Atlanta Public Schools, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, and the following associations: Atlanta Bar, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, Fulton County Superior Court, Gate City Bar, Georgia Association for Women Lawyers, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar, Georgia Hispanic Bar, Multi-Bar Leadership Council, South Asian Bar, State Bar of Georgia, and the Stonewall Bar.

Activities in the Circuits

Scott Watts, Clayton Circuit Board of Governors representative, reported on the activities of the Clayton County Bar Association.

Judy King, Gwinnett Circuit Board of Governors representative, reported on the activities of the Gwinnett Bar Association.

Special Presentation - 2014 Marshall Tuttle Award

Eric Ballinger and John Camp presented the Military Legal Assistance Program's 2014 Marshall Tuttle Award to Patricia Dee Shewmaker for her spirit of pro bono public and sense of volunteerism, her legal expertise and knowledge of family law, military law and veterans law, and for her service to the state and nation through her unwavering support of the Military Legal Assistance Program.

Special Presentation - Memorial Tributes

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker provided a memorial tribute for State Bar Past President Kirk McAlpin and former Governor Carl Sanders honoring their many contributions on behalf of the State Bar and the legal profession.

Executive Committee Minutes

The Board of Governors received copies of the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held on September 6, 2014 and October 24, 2014.

Office of the General Counsel

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

Military Legal Assistance Program

The Board of Governors received a written annual report on the Status of the Military Legal Assistance Program.

Consumer Assistance Program

The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Consumer Assistance Program.

Law Practice Management Program

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

2014 South Georgia Office ((Tifton) Usage Report

The Board of Governors received a copy of the State Bar South Georgia Office Statistics - January 2013 to November 2014.

2014 Coastal Georgia Office (Savannah) Usage Report

The Board of Governors received a copy of the State Bar Coastal Georgia Office Statistics - January 2013 to November 2014.

Georgia Bar Exam – July 2014 General Statistics Summary

The Board of Governors received a copy of the July 2014 Georgia Bar Examination General Statistics Summary.

Communications Report

The Board of Governors received a copy of the 2014-15 Media Report.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Hon. Josh Bell encouraged members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors to work together collectively as the state moves forward with improving Georgia's probation system.

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker thanked the sponsors and exhibitors who participated in the Midyear Meeting.

Remarks, Questions/Answers, Comments/Suggestions

The President opened up the meeting for questions and comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President

STATE BAR LEGISLATION TRACKER

Proposal	Section/Committee	Bill Number	Status	Notes
Increase the salaries of appellate court judges, superior court judges, district attorneys and circuit public defenders	Judiciary, Criminal Law, Indigent Defense	HB 279	Crossed Over	Senate version includes 5% across the board pay raises for appellate court judges, superior court judges, district attorneys and circuit public defenders. It also includes per diem payments for appellate court judges residing more than 50 miles from Judicial Building and a \$6,000 yearly state supplement for superior court judges, district attorneys and circuit public defenders in circuits that have an accountability court.
Increase funding to AOC for grants to legal services providers for legal representation of victims of domestic violence	Access to Justice	HB 76	Crossed Over	Our full request is in the House version of budget. Working with Senate to keep it there.
Maintain funding for Georgia Appellate Resource Center	Access to Justice	HB 76	Crossed Over	Maintenance budget request is in House version of budget. Working with Senate to keep it there.
Private cause of action and damages for consumers harmed by UPL in residential real estate transactions	RPLS	HB 153	Crossed Over	Passed Senate on Friday, March 27.
Requiring municipal water authorities to file liens for outstanding water bills	RPLS	SB 206	Did Not Cross	Sen. Ligon wants to focus efforts on UPL bill this year. He is ready to push hard for this bill next year.
Change attestation requirements on antenuptial agreements	Family Law	HB 405	Did Not Cross	We have amended HB 52 to include the language from HB 405. HB 52 passed out of Senate Judiciary and is in Senate Rules.

Revision of long-arm statute to take it up to maximum allowable by <i>International Shoe Co. v. Washington</i>	General Practice and Trial Law	HB 531	Crossed Over	Passed out of Senate Judiciary and is in Senate Rules. We expect a Senate floor vote on Tuesday, March 30.
Business Corporation Code amendments	Business Law	SB 128	Crossed Over	Passed out of House Judiciary and is in House Rules. We expect a House floor vote on Tuesday, March 30.
Adoption of the Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act	Fiduciary Law	n/a	Did Not Cross	Per the Section's request, we are going to pull back on this topic this year. No other state has adopted this yet and companies that hold digital assets (ie Google, AT&T, Verizon, etc.) are working with the Uniform Law Commission to perfect the bill.
Adoption of the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act	International Trade in Legal Services	n/a	Did Not Cross	Working with the sponsor of the omnibus House Uniform Laws bill to receive permission to add this uniform law onto the bill in the Senate as an amendment.
Attorneys for Rural Areas Assistance Act	Access to Justice	HB 236	Did Not Cross	Chairman Atwood wants to focus appropriations efforts on judicial pay increases this year and has promised a hard push on this bill next year.
This year's installment of justice reform and reinvestment initiatives	Criminal Law	HB 310, HB 328 and HB 361	Crossed Over	Passed Senate on Friday, March 27.
Scrapping medical malpractice system for a workmen's-comp-like board to determine patient compensation (OPPOSE)	Executive Committee	SB 86	Did Not Cross	



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
STATE JUDICIAL BUILDING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

HUGH P. THOMPSON
CHIEF JUSTICE

(404) 656-3472

January 22, 2015

Patrise Perkins-Hooker
President
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: Incubator

Dear President Perkins-Hooker:

As you are aware, access to justice for all Georgians has been a particular concern of mine. Any project or program, of the State Bar or otherwise, that addresses the serious justice gap in Georgia, for both poor and modest means citizens, is worthy of our study and support if well designed.

Justice Hunstein has been working since 2013 to bring an incubator here to Georgia, and she has had my full support in this endeavor. I was very pleased to learn that progress has recently been made in developing and funding such a project. The fact that all five of our law schools are supporting and willing to contribute funding to its first year of operation is noteworthy and commendable. The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism has also supported the effort by making seed funding available for the planning of the project and incorporation of a non-profit to seek permanent funding for it.

I understand that the State Bar has been asked to provide space for the incubator in the headquarters building, and that you were very supportive of the idea when the Bar Center Committee took the matter under consideration. The result was an affirmative recommendation from that Committee that the project receive rent-abated space in the State Bar building for three years. Congratulations and thank you for that outcome. I am certain that this would not have been achieved without your full and articulate support.

Now that the Executive Committee will be taking the matter up, I wanted you to know that I personally support this new project and hope that the Executive Committee will accept the recommendation of its Bar Center Committee. It makes perfect sense to me that this innovative and noteworthy project should be located at the State Bar. The collaborative nature of this undertaking will not only help ensure its success but will be a national model for helping ease

the access to justice dilemma while addressing the transition into practice challenges facing young lawyers who wish to build sustainable practices while serving persons in need. Access to justice and supporting the newest members of the profession are important goals for the State Bar to pursue.

Thank you and please call upon me if I can be of assistance in this worthwhile undertaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HPT', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hugh P. Thompson

HPT: lt

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

College of Law
PO Box 4037
Atlanta, GA 30302-4037
Phone: 404/413-9035
Fax: 404/413-9227
E-mail: skaminshine@gsu.edu



September 4, 2014

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker

President, State Bar of Georgia
Atlanta Beltline, Inc.
86 Pryor Street, SW, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear President Perkins-Hooker:

We write jointly as four of Georgia's law school deans on behalf of our respective Schools -Emory, Georgia State, Georgia and Mercer - to confirm our support for the development of an "incubator" program here in Atlanta and to let you know of our commitment to this program. We greatly appreciate the interest of the Executive Committee in the incubator concept and the potential for developing one here in Georgia as a joint enterprise involving Georgia's law schools. We are now at a stage where I thought it would be useful to describe where the planning process stands.

An incubator is a post-graduate training program for recent law school graduates who are committed to starting a solo or small firm practice dedicated to serving communities in need, both pro bono and to clients of moderate income. There are currently approximately 25 incubators around the country but none in Georgia. Under the leadership of Justice Carol Hunstein, the five law school deans and other bar leaders met last October at Emory Law School to discuss whether the establishment of an incubator in Georgia would be useful and possible. At the end of that meeting, the group decided that the concept is exciting, all expressed interest in participating and the strong consensus was that a collaborative partnership among the law schools, the bar and the non-profit/public interest community was a preferred and innovative model. The ABA representative at the meeting stated that there is no such collaborative program in the U.S and this could be an intriguing model for other states and their bar associations. Bucky Askew was asked by the group to gather information about the operations of other incubators and help us put together a plan for one here in Georgia.

Since that meeting, there has been outreach to the legal aid programs, judges, the State and Atlanta Bars, solo practitioners and many other individuals and groups interested in the access to justice and transition to practice for new lawyers wishing to build a sustainable practice serving communities in need. Everyone approached, without exception, has said that there is definitely a need for such a program and that this appears to be a creative and workable

approach, assuming that funding can be generated to start and sustain the program. All five Georgia law school deans have continued to be supportive of the concept, as have the legal aid programs.

We are all committed to bringing the concept of a collaborative incubator to reality. We also understand that as the budget for such a project is developed, the law schools will be asked to contribute financially to its start-up and first few years of operation. All of us are willing to consider such a contribution and will, as our budgeting processes for 2015 proceed, be considering the appropriate level of support. We believe that law school participation is critical to making this the high quality program that we all intend for it to be.

We sincerely hope that the State Bar will be a partner with us in this effort. We all know that the State Bar is committed to seeking new approaches to solving the access to justice gap, and is also concerned about its newest members and whether they can build sustainable and rewarding practices in this difficult economic environment. The incubator is one approach, with a track record of success in other cities, to addressing these two State Bar priorities. I know Bucky and others are working to prepare a budget for the first three years of operation, with the idea that the incubator will be at least partially self-supporting after three years. Thus we are hopeful that the State Bar will consider providing annual funding for three years. Space for the office is the major budget item that will drive expenses, so we are hopeful that the State Bar will consider locating the incubator in the State Bar headquarters. We believe this not only could lead to cost savings, but will create the proper image for the program as a State Bar initiative joined in by the law schools, the public interest community and the judiciary- a real and productive collaboration benefiting needy clients, young lawyers, the court system and the profession.

I hope that you will call upon Bucky or any of the law school deans should you or other bar leaders need additional information. Those of us involved in the planning of the incubator believe it offers the opportunity for us to build upon existing constructive relationships to not only address compelling needs of clients and young lawyers, but to create a unique program that will be a model for other state bars and law schools to study and emulate.

Sincerely,

Steve Kaminshine
Dean
Georgia State College of Law

Rebecca White
Dean
University of Georgia School of Law

Daisy Floyd
Dean
Mercer University School of Law

Robert Shapiro
Dean
Emory University School of Law



September 5, 2014

Ms. Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker
President, State Bar of Georgia
Atlanta Beltline, Inc.
86 Pryor Street, SW – Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear President Perkins-Hooker :

I am writing this letter to support in principle the concept of creating an incubator program in the State of Georgia. Such an enterprise will not only benefit the women and men entering our profession in these challenging economic times, but also help people who find themselves unable to qualify for legal aid assistance yet financially incapable to pay for higher priced legal advice. Helping both of these groups is consistent with our ideals as lawyers.

I am writing separately because I am new to the Georgia legal community and have not been involved in the discussions leading up to this point in the program's development. As such, I am unable to address either the role Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and Savannah Law School will play or any financial support it would be able to supply. This, however, does not detract from my belief that such a program would be a valuable addition to the profession and the people it serves.

Thank you for considering my input, and I hope to get the opportunity to meet you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Malcolm L. Morris
Dean and Professor of Law
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School
and Savannah Law School

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines for managing the available excess operating cash of the State Bar of Georgia (the “State Bar”). The policy is designed to be utilized to preserve the assets of the State Bar while promoting the objectives in Section II. At all times the management of the State Bar, the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee are to be cognizant of their stewardship roles, with respect to monies under their supervision. While the investment information herein is believed to be appropriate, all investment decisions should be periodically reviewed (by the Finance and Executive Committees) according to market conditions.

II. Objectives

The overall investment strategy is to maintain a diversified, liquid portfolio as to quality, issuers and maturity. Flexibility will be maintained so those funds are available to meet unanticipated cash needs. The portfolio shall leverage the organization’s tax-exempt status through taxable investments.

Individual investments will be selected to achieve the following objectives in priority order:

- A. Safety of principal
- B. Diversification of risk
- C. Liquidity for operating needs
- D. Maximization of yield

III. Investment Guidelines

A. Maturity Horizons

Maturity horizons will be split between (1) Restricted Long-Term Reserves and (2) Unrestricted Surplus/Other Funds. Restricted

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

Long-Term Reserves are the State Bar's board-designated Operating, Bar Center, and Litigation Reserves. Unrestricted Surplus/Other represents all other surplus and donor-restricted funds.

B. Restricted Long-Term Reserves

No single security will have maturity in excess of ten years.

C. Unrestricted Surplus

No single security will have maturity in excess of five years.

D. Liquidity

The portfolio must maintain liquidity sufficient to meet four to six months of anticipated needs. As defined herein, liquidity shall represent cash and investments with a remaining maturity of ninety days or less (including mutual funds that qualify as Eligible Investments under section III, paragraphs F.6 and F.7, and that are redeemable within ninety days or less), including all funds available to the State Bar to meet current operational needs.

E. U.S. Currency

All investments will be held in U.S. Dollars.

F. Eligible Investments

1. Obligations of the U.S. Treasury, states and their political subdivisions and municipalities
2. Obligations of U.S. Federal Agencies, state agencies and their political subdivisions and municipalities
3. Corporate Bonds
4. Certificates of Deposit, banks with significant presence in Georgia preferred (under the FDIC limits for a single insured)
5. Commercial Paper
6. Money Market Mutual Funds

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

7. Bond Mutual Funds (i.e. mutual funds that invest exclusively in bonds, provided all underlying bonds meet the Credit Quality standards set forth in section III, paragraph I.)

G. Diversification of Portfolio

No single, investment security holding should comprise in excess of 5% of the overall investment portfolio, unless approved by the Finance Committee. In order to minimize risk, this 5% limitation will be based upon the estimated lowest value of the portfolio based upon anticipated cash flow. In addition, this limitation is not applicable for investment in money market funds. Amounts greater than 5% may be held in money market funds.

H. Eligible Banks

Investments shall be held in a diversified group of banks, including minority-controlled banks.

I. Credit Quality

All holdings will be of high credit quality. Non-U.S. Government holdings will be subject to the following limitations:

1. Long-term investments, when purchased, must carry at least an “AA” long-term rating by Moody's or Standard & Poor, or “A” by Fitch Ratings. Short-term investments must carry a short-term rating of P1 by Moody's, A1 by Standard & Poor, or F1 by Fitch Ratings.
2. If any investment is downgraded below the rating established in paragraph 1 above, the Treasurer of the State Bar, with the CFO and Executive Director, will review the investment and will ascertain whether it should be liquidated.

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

J. Marketability

Holdings will be of sufficient size to facilitate liquidation and investments must be able to be liquidated in the secondary market on a best efforts basis.

K. Trading

All purchases and sales will be executed at the best net price to the State Bar. All securities purchased will be held in the name of the State Bar.

L. Diversification

Adequate diversification is required to spread credit risk among various issuers.

M. Prohibited Investments

Subject to the provisions of section III, paragraphs F.6. and F.7., prohibited investments shall include the following:

1. Direct mortgages or real estate investment trusts
2. Commodities
3. Short sales and margin purchases
4. Oil, gas, mineral or other types of leases
5. Lettered, legend, unregistered or other restricted stock
6. Common stock
7. Preferred stock
8. Speculative use of futures and options
9. Derivatives securities
10. Mortgage Backed Securities
11. Equity-Based mutual funds (i.e. mutual funds that permit any investment in stock or similar equity instruments)
12. Hedge funds
13. Limited partnerships
14. Auction Rate Bonds
15. Asset-Backed Securities
16. Variable Rate Notes

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

17. Exchange-Traded Funds (ETF's)
18. Repurchase Agreements
19. Other investments (that do not meet the criteria contained in this Investment Policy)

IV. Investment Selections and Approvals

The State Bar will allocate the investment selection process amongst different investment advisors. The State Bar encourages the investment advisors to promote diversity with regard to handling the investments and to use personnel of ethnic diversity on the State Bar's account.

The investment advisors will make recommendations and advise the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of individual investments which comply with this investment policy. If the State Bar procures the services of any independent investment advisor, then the investment advisor shall submit any recommendation to the financial advisor for review prior to the submission of the recommendations to the Executive Director and CFO.

The purchase or sale of each investment (except for investment of money market funds on a daily basis and purchase of certificates of deposit meeting certain pre-approval criteria as mentioned below) must be approved by two of the following:

- Treasurer
- Secretary
- President
- Immediate Past President
- President-elect
- Executive Director
- General Counsel

Provided that:

The President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer shall be one of the required signatures.

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended 2/15)

A pre-approval list of minimum yields per maturity period may be maintained and used for purchases of fully-insured certificates of deposit. The list must be updated quarterly and approved by the Treasurer of the State Bar.

V. Review

- A. The Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee and Executive Committee on at least an annual basis in conjunction with the annual budget process will review this policy or whenever either a significant change is anticipated in the State Bar's cash requirements or there are changes in investment market conditions.

- B. The Chief Financial Officer will provide the Finance Committee and Executive Committee with monthly investment results containing all pertinent transaction details including:
 - 1. The name and quantity of each security purchased or sold, with the price and transaction date
 - 2. An analysis for each security of its description, percentage of total portfolio, purchase date, quantity, contractual maturity date, cost basis, market value, unrealized gain or loss, and indicated annual income and percentage yield at market

VI. Policy Amendments

Modifications to the Investment Policy may be proposed by the Executive Director, CFO, or Finance Committee for review and approval by the Executive Committee. The policy revision will be effective after Executive Committee approval and shall remain in effect unless and until modified prospectively by future action of the Executive Committee or the Board. Any such action taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Board at its next meeting.

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (~~Amended~~ ~~proposed~~ 2/15)

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines for managing the available excess operating cash of the State Bar of Georgia (the “State Bar”). The policy is designed to be utilized to preserve the assets of the State Bar while promoting the objectives in Section II. At all times the management of the State Bar, the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee are to be cognizant of their stewardship roles, with respect to monies under their supervision. While the investment information herein is believed to be appropriate, all investment decisions should be periodically reviewed (by the Finance and Executive Committees) according to market conditions.

II. Objectives

The overall investment strategy is to maintain a diversified, liquid portfolio as to quality, issuers and maturity. Flexibility will be maintained so those funds are available to meet unanticipated cash needs. The portfolio shall leverage the organization’s tax-exempt status through taxable investments.

Individual investments will be selected to achieve the following objectives in priority order:

- A. Safety of principal
- B. Diversification of risk
- C. Liquidity for operating needs
- D. Maximization of yield

III. Investment Guidelines

A. Maturity Horizons:

A: Maturity horizons will be split between (1) Restricted Long-Term Reserves and (2) Unrestricted Surplus/Other Funds.

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.75", No bullets or numbering

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (~~Amended~~ ~~proposed~~ 2/15)

Restricted Long-Term Reserves are the State Bar's board-designated Operating, Bar Center, and Litigation Reserves. Unrestricted Surplus/Other represents all other surplus and donor-restricted funds.

~~B.~~

~~=====~~

Restricted Long-Term Reserves ~~Final Maturity: N~~

~~B.~~ No single security will have maturity in excess of ten years.

~~C.~~ Unrestricted Surplus

~~C.~~ ~~∓~~ No single security will have maturity in excess of five years.

D. Liquidity:

The portfolio must maintain liquidity sufficient to meet four to six ~~x~~ months of anticipated needs. As defined herein, liquidity shall represent cash and investments with a remaining maturity of ninety days or less (including mutual funds that qualify as Eligible Investments under section III, paragraphs F.6 and F.7, and that are redeemable within ninety days or less), including all funds available to the State Bar to meet current operational needs.

E. U.S. Currency

~~∓~~ All investments will be held in U.S. Dollars.

F. Eligible Investments:

1. Obligations of the U.S. Treasury, states and their political subdivisions and municipalities
2. Obligations of U.S. Federal Agencies, state agencies and their political subdivisions and municipalities
3. Corporate Bonds

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0", First line: 0.5"

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", First line: 0"

State Bar of Georgia

Investment Policy (Amended proposed 2/15)

- 4. Certificates of Deposit, banks with significant presence in Georgia preferred (under the FDIC limits for a single insured)
- 5. Commercial Paper
- 6.- Money Market Mutual Funds
- 7. Bond Mutual Funds (i.e. mutual funds that invest exclusively in bonds, provided all underlying bonds meet the Credit Quality standards set forth in section III, paragraph I.)

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", Hanging: 0.5"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", Hanging: 0.5"

G. Diversification of Portfolio

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5"

No single, investment security holding should comprise in excess of 5% of the overall investment portfolio, unless approved by the Finance Committee. In order to minimize risk, this 5% limitation will be based upon the estimated lowest value of the portfolio based upon anticipated cash flow. In addition, this limitation is not applicable for investment in money market funds ~~(government or non-governmental)~~. Amounts greater than 5% may be held in money market funds.

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (~~Amended~~ ~~proposed~~ 2/15)

III. Investment Guidelines – (continued)

HG. Eligible Banks

Formatted: Underline

Investments shall be held in a diversified group of banks, including
-minority-~~controlled~~ banks.

I. Credit Quality:

Formatted: No underline

Formatted: Underline

All holdings will be of high credit quality. Non-U.S. Government
-holdings will be subject to the following limitations:

1. Long-term investments, when purchased, must carry at least an “AA” long-term rating by Moody's or Standard & Poor, or “A” by Fitch Ratings. Short-term investments must carry -a short-term rating of P1 by Moody's, A1 by Standard & Poor, or F1 by Fitch Ratings.
2. -If any investment is downgraded below the rating established in paragraph 1 above, the Treasurer of the State Bar, with the CFO and Executive Director, will review the investment and will ascertain whether it should be liquidated.

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (~~Amended proposed~~2/15)

J. Marketability

Holdings will be of sufficient size to facilitate liquidation and investments must be able to be liquidated in the secondary market on a best efforts basis.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", First line: 0"

K. Trading

All purchases and sales will be executed at the best net price to the State Bar. All securities purchased will be held in the name of the State Bar.

L. Diversification

Adequate diversification is required to spread credit risk among various issuers.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", First line: 0"

M. Prohibited Investments

Subject to the provisions of section III, paragraphs F.6. and F.7., E.5., prohibited investments shall include the following:

1. Direct mortgages or real estate investment trusts
2. Commodities
3. Short sales and margin purchases
4. Oil, gas, mineral or other types of leases
5. Lettered, legend, unregistered or other restricted stock
6. Common stock
7. Preferred stock
8. Speculative use of futures and options
9. Derivatives securities
10. Mortgage Backed Securities
11. Equity-Based mutual funds (i.e. mutual funds that permit any investment in stock or similar equity instruments)
12. Hedge funds
13. Limited partnerships
14. Auction Rate Bonds
15. Asset-Backed Securities
16. Variable Rate Notes

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", Hanging: 0.5"

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (Amended ~~proposed~~ 2/15)

17. Exchange-Traded Funds (ETF's)

18. Repurchase Agreements

19. Other investments (that do not meet the criteria contained in this Investment Policy)

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", Hanging: 0.5"

IV. Investment Selections and Approvals

The State Bar will allocate the investment selection process amongst different investment advisors. The State Bar encourages the investment advisors to promote diversity with regard to handling the investments and to use personnel of ethnic diversity on the State Bar's account.

The investment advisors will make recommendations and advise the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of individual investments which comply with this investment policy. If the State Bar procures the services of any independent investment~~financial~~ advisor, then the investment advisor shall submit any recommendation to the financial advisor for review prior to the submission of the recommendations to the Executive Director and CFO.

The purchase or sale of each investment (except for investment of money market funds on a daily basis and purchase of certificates of deposit meeting certain pre-approval criteria as mentioned below) must be approved by two of the following:

- ~~the~~ Treasurer
- ~~the S~~ Secretary
- ~~the~~ President
- ~~the H~~ Immediate Past President
- ~~the~~ President-elect
- ~~the~~ Executive Director
- ~~, and the~~ General Counsel

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.75" + Indent at: 1"

Provided that:

~~either~~ the President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer shall be one of the required signatures.

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Underline

State Bar of Georgia
Investment Policy (~~Amended~~ ~~proposed~~ 2/15)

A pre-approval list of minimum yields per maturity period may be maintained and used for purchases of fully-insured certificates of deposit. The list must be updated quarterly and approved by the ~~Bar~~-Treasurer of the State Bar:-

V. Review

Formatted: No underline

- A. The Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee and Executive Committee on at least an annual basis in conjunction with the annual budget process will review this policy or whenever either a significant change is anticipated in the State Bar's cash requirements or there are changes in investment market conditions.

- B. The Chief Financial Officer will provide the Finance Committee and Executive Committee with monthly investment results containing all pertinent transaction details including:
 - 1. The name and quantity of each security purchased or sold, with the price and transaction date
 - 2. An analysis for each security of its description, percentage of total portfolio, purchase date, quantity, contractual maturity date, cost basis, market value, unrealized gain or loss, and indicated annual income and percentage yield at market

VI. Policy Amendments

Modifications to the Investment Policy may be proposed by the Executive Director, CFO, or Finance Committee for review and approval by the Executive Committee. The policy revision will be effective after Executive Committee approval and shall remain in effect unless and until modified prospectively by future action of the Executive Committee or the Board. Any such action taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Board at its next meeting.



GENERAL COUNSEL

Paula J. Frederick

ATTORNEYS

William P. Smith III
Jenny K. Mittelman
John J. Shiptenko
Jonathan Hewett
Rebecca A. Hall
A.M. Christina Petrig
William J. Cobb
Wolanda Shelton
William D. Nesmith III

Memorandum to: Members, Board of Governors
From: Paula Frederick
Date: April 1, 2015
Re: Uniform Superior Court Rule 4.4/Pro Hac Vice Admission

By order of September 4, 2014 the Supreme Court of Georgia approved revisions to the rules governing *pro hac vice* admission of non-Georgia lawyers. The rule now provides:

3. Annual Fee. Any Domestic Lawyer or Foreign Lawyer who has been granted admission *pro hac vice* before any Court of this State shall pay an annual fee of \$200, regardless of the number of *pro hac vice* admissions, upon the first such admission, and on or before January 15 for each calendar year thereafter for so long as the Domestic Lawyer or Foreign Lawyer is admitted *pro hac vice* before any Court of this State. The annual fee shall be payable to the State Bar of Georgia.

The entire \$200 annual fee is paid to the Georgia Bar Foundation to support its work funding civil legal services programs throughout the State. The Office of the General Counsel is requesting that the rule be further amended to add \$75 to the annual fee to cover administrative costs related to billing, collecting and accounting to the Bar Foundation for the money collected. The proposed rule is attached.

2. Application Fee. An applicant for permission to appear as counsel pro hac vice under this rule shall pay a non-refundable fee of \$75 for each application for pro hac vice admission to any Superior Court payable to the State Bar of Georgia at the time of filing the application.

3. Annual Fee. Any Domestic Lawyer or Foreign Lawyer who has been granted admission pro hac vice before any court of this State shall each year thereafter pay an annual fee of ~~\$200,~~ \$275, regardless of the number of pro hac vice admissions, ~~upon the first such admission, and~~ on or before January 15 ~~for each calendar year thereafter for so~~ as long as the Domestic Lawyer or Foreign Lawyer is admitted pro hac vice before any court of this State. The annual fee shall be payable to the State Bar of Georgia.

REPORT OF THE CLIENT SECURITY FUND TASK FORCE

In September, the chairs of the Client Security Fund (CSF) Board of Trustees brought to the attention of the State Bar of Georgia Executive Committee several issues caused by the coinciding occurrence of

1. A sustained reduction in the amount of interest income generated by the CSF corpus and a resulting reduction in that corpus; and
2. The filing of several and substantial claims by clients of several Georgia attorneys; and

The primary issue caused by this combination of occurrences was an ongoing reduction in the Fund balance due to the absence of interest income, which would be exacerbated by the payment of the several and substantial claims pending before the CSF. Further complicating matters was a concern that the combination of these occurrences would cause the Fund balance to drop below \$1,000,000.00, which would trigger an automatic assessment from the members of the Bar pursuant to Bar Rule 10-103. A final complicating factor was that the current annual claims payment cap of \$350,000.00 would leave the Fund unable to adequately address all claims currently pending before it.

President Perkins-Hooker therefore appointed a task force to investigate these issues and make a recommendation to address them. After several telephonic meetings among the chairs of the CSF Board of Trustees, Vince Clanton and Paul Threlkeld, as well as Executive Committee members Rita Sheffey and Darrell Sutton (task force chair) and representatives of the State Bar of Georgia Office of General Counsel, including Bill Nesmith, the following recommendations were made by the CSF to the task force:

1. A change to Bar Rule 10-103 to increase the annual claims paid cap from \$350,000.00 to \$500,000.00. CSF Rule 7A limits at \$25,000.00 the amount that any one claimant can recover from the CSF. Even with this limit, claims pending before the CSF total more than \$421,000.00. This rule change is therefore necessary to permit the CSF to adequately compensate, at least within the confines of the CSF Rules, all of the claimants with claims before the CSF that would be addressed and paid this year.
2. A one-time assessment of \$8.00 to \$10.00 per State Bar of Georgia member. This was recommended in order to address the decrease in the CSF balance caused by the combined decrease in interest income over the past several years and the payment of claims this year.

After considering these recommendations and the results of the independent investigation into these issues, their causes, and the possible solutions to them, the following was recommended by the task force to the Executive Committee:

1. A change to Bar Rule 10-103 providing for an increase in the annual claims paid cap from \$350,000.00 to \$500,000.00. This rule change would not only permit the CSF to adequately compensate, at least within the confines of the CSF Rules, all of the claimants with claims currently before the CSF, but also address in the future all claims filed in any given year, especially in the event of any outlier occurrence.
2. A one-time contribution of \$500,000.00 from the State Bar of Georgia unrestricted surplus to the CSF. This would resolve two issues. First, it would compensate for the reduction in the CSF balance caused by several successive years of little to no interest income. Second, it would replenish the significant

reduction in the CSF balance caused by the payment this year of the claims currently pending before the CSF. Doing this would also prevent any proactive assessment to address the ongoing decrease in the CSF balance and, just as importantly, ensure that the CSF balance does not drop below \$1,000,000.00, thus triggering a mandatory assessment.

At its meeting on January 28, 2015, the Executive Committee unanimously adopted these recommendations of the task force. The Executive Committee also voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Governors that it pass and adopt these recommendations so that they can be implemented by the CSF.

The CSF has been very well managed, especially under the leadership of Mr. Clanton and Mr. Threlkeld. So much so that they anticipated and sought to address the issues outlined above before they became actual problems. The State Bar of Georgia prefers and needs leaders such as this, especially for funds, such as the CSF, that it houses and oversees. Just as Mr. Clanton and Mr. Threlkeld anticipated these issues before they became actual problems, so should the Board of Governors consider and address them now so that these anticipated problems never arise.

EXCESS COUNTY LAW LIBRARY FUNDS:**Availability for Civil Legal Services****Background**

The State Bar of Georgia Civil Legal Services Task Force was created in the summer of 2013 to explore and make recommendations to the State Bar's Executive Committee and Board of Governors for securing reliable and adequate funding for civil legal services to the poor in Georgia. One opportunity for funding identified by the Task Force is through excess county law library funds.

The Need

This section should have county/circuit specific information addressing the following:

- State of current legal aid provided to the area, including number of legal aid attorneys and their availability to work with clients in the area
- Number of cases handled by the office, types of cases
- Clerk data - beneficial to get the number of self-represented cases in counties without strong legal aid presence. Having the assistance of an attorney or other law-related staff, in person or by telephone/internet, or even easy to use forms can and often does make a tremendous difference in ensuring access to justice.

Sample information regarding ALAS (from letter sent to DeKalb County requesting Library Funds)**[Substitute similar information for GLSP for counties in its service area]:**

- Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS) has had an office in DeKalb County since the early 1970's, and in fact some of the most significant work in the program's history has come out of that office. Gary Leshaw represented the Mariel Cubans when he was there. Bill Brennan probably spent over 30 years there, and it has always housed the Home Defense Program, which to this day protects clients against predatory mortgage lending. And the landmark United States Supreme Court case, *Olmstead v. L.C. and EW*, establishing the rights of disabled people to community care, came out of Sue Jamieson's work in the DeKalb Office.
- In addition, the office handles over 4,500 cases a year for people with critical legal needs-- protecting them against domestic violence and stabilizing families, protecting them against loss of their homes through eviction and foreclosure, and getting them basic necessities of life like food and medical care.
- Atlanta Legal Aid only has 7 full time staff attorneys in the Decatur office to handle the huge legal demand for our services in the County. There many thousands of people under the poverty guidelines in DeKalb, all of whom are theoretically eligible for ALAS's representation. Of course ALAS narrows the cases they handle through a legal triage. If the cases are not critical (a divorce with no children or abuse for instance), ALAS does not handle it. Also, if the case can be handled by a private attorney or can be handled by the caller herself, ALA will not handle it. Even with that approach, ALA has too much demand for their services. **Statistics suggest that ALAS turns down one eligible client for every one they serve.**

The Law

Under OCGA §36-15-7, each county get funds for its county law library through a filing fee add on. Additionally, the statute provides how money in this fund can be used. It also says expressly that "In the event the board of trustees determines in its discretion that it has excess funds, such funds as may be designated by the board of trustees shall be granted to charitable tax exempt organizations which provide civil legal representation for low income people."

Examples/References

Some counties already donate law library funds to support civil legal services and we are assisting ALAS and GLSP in approaching other counties to encourage them to do the same. While it is difficult to predict the amount that may be available for civil legal services, we are aware of excess funds in a number of counties and believe this will be a good way to help strengthen local support for legal services.

In Gwinnett County, Atlanta Legal Aid has received funds from the Trustees of the County Law Library Fund, beginning in 2004, the year after they opened that office. The original grant allowed ALAS to add a lawyer to the office to make it viable. Since then, the amount of their support has varied from \$25,000 to \$100,000 a year, depending on the availability of funds. Their support has allowed ALAS to represent additional clients and to advise many pro se litigants how best to represent themselves, helping them and the courts as well.

Currently, we are aware that the following counties contribute and/or have contributed funds from their law library funds to civil legal services (to Atlanta Legal Aid in the 5 county metro Atlanta area and to Georgia Legal Services in counties beyond that): Clayton, Cobb, Glynn, Gwinnett, and several counties near Savannah. Discussions are underway with a number of other counties (including DeKalb and Houston, among others) and we are optimistic additional monies are available. As you can see, the statute expressly provides for this use for excess monies.

Call to Action

- We request that the _____ County Law Library Board of Trustees allocate any excess law library funds to support civil legal services in your community.
- The amount of money available will determine the level of assistance from a legal aid office to the court and community. This assistance could take many forms, from preparing for the court standard forms for use in domestic cases, to a part-time attorney or paralegal in the court-house, to telephone or internet access to an attorney located elsewhere, to greater presence of a legal aid attorney or other staff physically in the law library. **All of the funds donated will be completely dedicated to support our work for clients in your County.**
- I am sure there are many other options as well. I see our efforts in encouraging the use of excess funds for this purpose also to build and strengthen relationships between civil legal service staff, court personnel, and the community, a win for everyone.

- Many unrepresented individuals in many areas use the law library to seek assistance in how to proceed with their legal issues. Having the assistance of an attorney or other law-related staff, in person or by telephone/internet, or even easy to use forms can and often does make a tremendous difference in ensuring access to justice.
- I would love to talk with you to gain more information about the needs in _____ County and the likely amount of funds available, so that I can better advise [Phyllis Holmen, Executive Director of the Georgia Legal Services Program, which covers _____ County / Steve Gottlieb, Executive Director of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, which covers _____ County], regarding GLSP/ALAS making a specific proposal to the _____ County Law Library Board of Trustees.

Using the *Cy Pres* Doctrine to fund Local Legal Aid Organizations

I. Introduction

The *cy pres* doctrine allows courts to distribute unclaimed funds in class action lawsuits and funds in charitable gifts and trusts that cannot be applied to their intended purpose to their "next best use."¹ Unclaimed class action awards and other funds not otherwise capable of distribution are pooled and then referred to a *cy pres* fund for administration. Courts have discretion to name a substitute recipient,² and courts in Georgia and around the country, are naming local legal aid organizations as recipients for unclaimed funds.³ Plaintiffs, defendants, and judges are encouraged to proactively utilize the *cy pres* doctrine to assist local legal aid organizations. The proper distribution of *cy pres* awards will benefit the community and further the interests of a class.

II. Awarding *Cy Pres* funds to local legal aid organizations

Courts are authorized to use *cy pres* funds for public interest purposes, as well as for education and charitable use.⁴ Local legal aid organizations such as the Atlanta Legal Aid Society and the Georgia Legal Services Program are a prudent and effective choice for *cy pres* awards since they often represent the next best use of unclaimed funds to indirectly benefit members of a class. Awarding unclaimed *cy pres* funds to local legal aid organizations benefits those who are most likely to be unrepresented in the justice system, and it benefits broader society by ensuring that the justice system itself remains fair and equitable. Courts have found that the mission of legal aid organizations, to protect the legal rights of the less fortunate, are consistent with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and its underlying goal of protecting the rights of unnamed class members who are not able to vindicate their rights individually.⁵ In addition, legal aid organizations represent citizens in diverse legal disputes and take on important legal issues which have national scope and impact.

Many courts in Georgia have found that the broad scope and national impact of such local organizations lend themselves to be a fitting choice for *cy pres* awards.⁶ Local legal aid organizations tackle a broad spectrum of legal issues-- consumer protection, domestic violence, eviction or foreclosure, denial of unemployment benefits and inability to get critically needed health care or food aid. Such organizations serve the public good and promote direct access to the justice system. Through use of the *cy pres* doctrine, courts can help assure that all citizens have access to justice.

1 See O.C.G.A. 53-12-172; see also *Jones v. National Distillers*, 56 F. Supp. 2d 355, 358 (S.D. N.Y. 1999); see *West Virginia v. Chas. Pfister & Co.*, 314F. Supp. 710 (S.D. N.Y. 1970); see *Superior Beverage Co. v. Owens-Illinois*, 827 F. Supp. 477, 478-79 (N.D. Ill. 1993).

2 See *Six Mexican Workers v. Arizona Citrus Growers*, 904 F.2d 1301, 1307 (9th Cir. 1990); see *Nelson v. Greater Gadsden Housing Authority*, 802 F.2d 405, 409 (11th Cir. 1986).

3 See *In re Motorsports Merchandise Antitrust Litigation*, MDL Docket No. 1212 All Cases, CAFN 1:97-CV-2314-TWT (N.D. Ga. 2001) (residual class action funds in the amount of \$250,000 each for Atlanta Legal Aid Society and Georgia Legal Services Program were approved by the Northern District of Georgia.).

4 See *Superior Bev. Co.*, 827 F.Supp. 477 (N.D.Ill. 1993).

5 See *In re Domestic Air Transportation Antitrust Litigation*, 137 F.R.D. 677, 694- 95 (N.D. Ga. 1991).

6 See e.g. *id.*

III. Best Practices for distributing *Cy Pres* funds

Courts may order *cy pres* awards in a number of different ways. Some commentators have suggested that a best practice includes thoughtful consideration of the following duties of a court:

(1) Determine that a reasonably diligent effort has been made to locate class members who are the direct beneficiaries of the class action settlement; (2) assure that existing identified class members have been fully compensated; (3) have the attorneys who represented the parties in the class action that produced the settlement fund present recommended recipients of the leftover *cy pres* funds; (4) scrutinize the recommendations to reasonably assure that the recipients are legitimate and established organizations with a track record demonstrating that they can accomplish the purpose of the distribution; and (5) approve distributions that will, as closely as reasonably possible, accomplish the purposes of the class action that produced the settlement remainder fund.⁷

....

Step 3 reflects... the importance of using *cy pres* in a manner that conforms with the judicial code of conduct, which demands that judges avoid impropriety, and even the appearance of impropriety. It is important for judges and lawyers to understand that a *cy pres* award is not an individual donation by the lawyers or by a judge. As a result, the *cy pres* process must be transparent, and the court, as much as possible, should delegate to the parties the process of identifying and selecting recipients, as well as recommending the amount of money to be distributed to each recipient. To achieve this desired transparency, a party should submit a motion when it becomes apparent that there will be settlement funds remaining after all the class members are fully compensated. The motion should request that the equitable doctrine of *cy pres* be used to distribute the remaining funds and that a "Remainder Fund Committee" be created for the purpose of identifying qualified recipients, determining agreed upon distribution amounts, and jointly requesting the appropriate order of the court distributing the remainder fund via *cy pres*. The creation of a Remainder Fund Committee will provide efficiency in the identification and vetting process, as well as serve to insulate the court from any appearance of impropriety because the members of the committee, who will identify and select the *cy pres* recipients, will be comprised of the attorneys involved with the case.

....

After the pool of potential recipients is identified and agreed upon, the Committee will draft a motion identifying the recommended recipients. Such a motion will provide the court with: the name of the organization(s) recommended to receive the funds; why the organization qualifies under the qualifications set out by the court; the amount to be given and why; and the contact person to be communicated with from each recommended recipient organization.

....

Under Steps 4 and 5, ... [i]f the court is satisfied with the Committee's recommendations of recipient(s) and amounts, the court then issues its order identifying the recipient organizations and the amount they are to receive. In the

⁷ *Perkins v. Am. Nar. Ins. Co.*, No. 3:05-CV-100, 2012 WL 2839788 *2 (M.D. Ga., July 10, 2012).

order identifying recipients and amounts, the court can fully adopt the Committee's recommendations or modify the selections and/ or amounts. In either scenario, the court should provide a written explanation of why each recipient is approved and the particular amount awarded. Such reasoning should already have been provided by the Remainder Fund Committee in its motion. . . . The order identifying recipients and amounts should be styled as a consent order signed by each party representative and the members of the Remainder Fund Committee.

Once the consent order identifying recipients and amounts is entered, that consent order, along with an explanatory letter, the content of which should be agreed upon by the members of the Remainder Fund Committee and approved by the court, should be sent by the Remainder Fund Committee to each *cy pres* recipient.

. . . .

After the Remainder Fund Committee is satisfied that a recipient has taken all necessary steps to effectuate the purpose of the award, the Remainder Fund Committee shall notify the court of such. The court will then enter a consent order, which will direct the clerk of the court to draw a check payable for a sum certain of the *cy pres* funds to the approved recipient. The clerk should deliver the check, instanter, to the trial judge, who will in turn deliver it to the Remainder Fund Committee. . . [to be] delivered by the Remainder Fund Committee to the recipient.⁸

IV. Conclusion

Awarding unclaimed *cy pres* funds to local legal aid organizations is appropriate and recommended because these organizations often represent the next best use of unclaimed funds to indirectly benefit members of a class-- it benefits those who are most likely to be unrepresented in the justice system, and it benefits broader society by ensuring that the justice system itself remains fair and equitable.

The Civil Legal Services Task Force was created by the State Bar of Georgia to increase the awareness of judges, attorneys, and clerks of the ability to direct *cy pres* awards to Georgia's civil legal aid organizations. Going forward, please join the judicial trend in Georgia, and that of the many states who have passed legislation or amended rules of civil procedure, by allowing *cy pres* awards for civil legal service organizations.⁹

⁸ William Hill, Ken Hodges & Alex Bartko, *A Thoughtful Use of 'Cy Pres' Awards in Class Action Lawsuits*, Verdict Spring, 2013.

⁹ See *Legislation and Court Rules Providing for Legal Services to Receive Cy Pres Residuals*, ABA Resource Center for Access to Justice Initiatives (prepared 2007, updated 2013) (California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Washington are among the states which have legislation or rules of civil procedure that have facilitated the award of tens of millions of dollars to indigent civil legal services programs).

IN THE _____ COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

JOHN DOE,
Individually and on Behalf of a Class of
Persons Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

_____,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

FILE NO. _____

CONSENT ORDER CREATING A REMAINDER FUND COMMITTEE

1.

This court finds that this class action was settled by the parties with a total of \$ _____ to be distributed to all identified class members. The Court, having overseen the parties' diligent search for all members of the settlement class, has determined that \$ _____ remains in the settlement fund after all known class members have been fully compensated. Therefore, this Court grants the parties' joint request to create a Remainder Fund Committee that will recommend qualified recipients to receive the remaining funds through the equitable doctrine of *cy pres*, and recommend the amount that will be distributed to each recipient.

2.

In recommending qualified recipients, the Remainder Fund Committee shall select recipients whose interests reasonably approximate those of the class. To do so, the Remainder Fund Committee shall consider: (1) the underlying purposes of the law that provides the duty on which the cause of action is based; (2) the nature of the inquiry to the class members; (3) the

characteristics and interest of the class members; (4) the geographical scope of the class; (5) the reasons why settlement funds have gone unclaimed, and (6) the closeness of the fit between the class and the recommended *cy pres* recipient.

3.

If no recipient whose interests reasonably approximate those of the class can be found, the Remainder Fund Committee may then consider the other qualified recipients.

4.

Each recipient selected by the Remainder Fund Committee shall have a reputation and track record for administering in a professional and ethical manner grants for charitable purposes similar to those that will be administered in this action.

5.

The following persons shall comprise the Remainder Fund Committee:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6.

The Remainder Fund Committee shall submit its recommendations, and reasoning in support of those recommendations to the Court on or before _____, 2015.

The same is hereby ORDERED and accomplished.

This ___ day of _____.

Judge

CONSENTED TO BY:

Counsel for Plaintiff

Counsel for Defendant

IN THE _____ COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

JOHN DOE,
Individually and on Behalf of a Class of
Persons Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

_____,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

FILE NO. _____

CONSENT ORDER IDENTIFYING RECIPIENTS

1.

This class action was settled by the Parties with a total of \$ _____, to be distributed to all identified class members. The Court certified a settlement class and approved the class settlement via Order(s) dated _____.

The class is defined as _____.

Pursuant to the settlement, the Parties were required to conduct a search for all members of the settlement class.

This Court finds that a reasonably diligent search for all class members in this action having been made and demonstrated to the Court's satisfaction, and the payment of full compensation to those class members who were able to be identified having been accomplished, \$ _____ remains in settlement funds to be distributed through the equitable doctrine of *cy pres*.

2.

In this Court's _____ Order, a Remainder Fund Committee was created, the members of which are: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.

The Remainder Fund Committee has recommended distributions from the remainder funds to the following recipients that further interests that reasonably approximate those being pursued by the Class. This Order adopts such recommendations to the extent provided herein, and for the reasons and the conditions described in the remainder of this Order, the Court finds that the following organizations shall share in the *cy pres* remainder fund as follows:

1. \$ _____ to (name of organization), for the purpose of _____.
2. \$ _____ to (name of organization), for the purpose of _____.
3. \$ _____ to (name of organization), for the purpose of _____.

3.

This Court first finds that all reasonably identifiable class members have been fully compensated for their losses. Therefore, the *cy pres* funds should not be redistributed to the existing identifiable class members who have already been fully compensated.

4.

This court has determined that each of the foregoing recipients reasonably approximate the interests of the Class based on the underlying purposes of the law that provides the duty on which the cause of action is based; the nature of the injury to the class members; the characteristics and interests of the class members; the geographical scope of the class; the reasons why settlement funds have gone unclaimed; and/or the closeness of the fit between the class and the *cy pres* recipient as more fully described below:

The gravament of the underlying class action was _____. In as much as the identifiable class members have been fully compensated, the next best recipients of the

settlement funds would be (1) organizations that _____; (2) organizations that _____; and (3) organizations that _____.

Further, this Court finds that each recommended recipient has a reputation and track record for administering in a professional and ethical manner grants for charitable purposes similar to those that will be administered pursuant to this award.

5.

The Court finds and concludes that the Remainder Fund Committee's recommendations meet all of the necessary qualifications in that:

(1) Organization one describe function, why it meets qualifications, and how award is to be used.

(2) Organization two describe function, why it meets qualifications, and how award is to be used.

(3) Organization three describe function, why it meets qualifications, and how award is to be used.

6.

Within ten (10) days of entry of this Order, the Remainder Fund Committee shall notify the recipients of these awards. The language of such notification shall be first approved by this Court and the notification shall include a copy of this Order.

7.

The recipients shall then, within thirty (30) days of receiving notification of the awards, notify the Remainder Fund Committee in writing of their intention to accept the award and affirm that they understand the conditions of the award. The recipients shall also notify the Remainder Fund Committee of any documentation that they customarily use to memorialize such awards/grants to ensure that the award/grant is used for the purposes specified in this Order.

8.

At such time as the Remainder Fund Committee is satisfied that all necessary steps have been accomplished by the recipient to effectuate the purposes of the awards and meet the requirements of the Court's Orders, the Remainder Fund Committee shall notify the Court and this Court shall direct the Clerk to disburse the funds from the registry of the Court.

The same is hereby ORDERED and accomplished.

This ____ day of _____.

Judge

CONSENTED TO BY:

Counsel for Plaintiff

Counsel for Defendant

Members of the Remainder Fund Committee

IN THE _____ COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

JOHN DOE,
Individually and on Behalf of a Class of
Persons Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

FILE NO. _____

CONSENT ORDER FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF CY PRES FUNDS

The Remainder Fund Committee has notified the Court that (name of recipient organization) has satisfied all conditions necessary for disbursement to it of a portion of the remainder funds from the Court's registry.

1.

Accordingly, the Clerk is directed to make the following check:

1. \$ _____, payable to (name of recipient organization).

2.

The check shall reflect on its memo line "2015 CV 121212 Cy Pres distribution," and be delivered insatnter to the undersigned who will forward the check to the Remainder Fund Committee for delivery for the payee recipient organization.

The same is hereby ORDERED and accomplished.

This ____ day of _____.

Judge

CONSENTED TO BY:

Counsel for Plaintiff

Counsel for Defendant

Members of the Remainder Fund Committee

State Bar of Georgia
Summary of Committee Recommendations
Fiscal 2015-16 Budget

Item	Budget Impact	Contact/Committee
------	---------------	-------------------

Program Committee Recommendations

(To be ratified by Finance Committee at Time of Budget Approval)

1.	iCivics Pilot Funding	(COF)	\$ 25,000	Programs Committee
2.	Law-Related Education Virtual Law Museum	(COF)	\$ 142,000	Programs Committee
3.	Committee to Promote Inclusion		\$ 5,000	Programs Committee
4.	Expand Fee Arbitration Award Enforcement		\$ 40,000	Programs Committee
5.	YLD Committees Line Item Increase		\$ 15,000	Programs Committee
6.	YLD Meetings Line Item Increase		\$ 7,500	Programs Committee

Personnel Committee Recommendations

(To be ratified by Finance Committee at Time of Budget Approval)

1.	Law-Related Education Administrative Assistant		\$ 66,718	Personnel Committee
2.	LRE, TILPP, and OGC Position Adjustments		\$ 13,974	Personnel Committee
3.	TILPP/Mentoring Part-Time Support Assistant		\$ 17,093	Personnel Committee
4.	Convert PT Paralegal to FT (General Counsel)		\$ 43,499	Personnel Committee
5.	Staff COLA/Merit Raise		\$ 249,028	Personnel Committee

To the Board of Governors
State Bar of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

We have audited the combined financial statements of State Bar of Georgia and related entity (collectively the "State Bar") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and have issued our report thereon dated December 17, 2014. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated November 11, 2014. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT FINDINGS

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the State Bar are described in Note 1 to the combined financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2014. We noted no transactions entered into by the State Bar during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the combined financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the combined financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the combined financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the combined financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the useful lives of fixed assets which is based on management's historical experience of similar assets.
- Management's estimate of the fair value of investments.

For all estimates above, we evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the combined financial statements taken as a whole.

The combined financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. No misstatements were detected as a result of our audit procedures.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the combined financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 17, 2014.

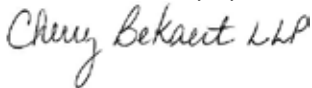
Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the State Bar's combined financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the State Bar's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship, and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Governors of State Bar and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Atlanta, Georgia
December 17, 2014

State Bar of Georgia

Audit Committee Meeting

January 22, 2015



Cherry Bekaert, LLP
12th & Midtown, 1075 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2200, Atlanta, Georgia 30309
Phone 404.209.0954

AGENDA

- ▶ 2014 Client Service Team
- ▶ Summary of Professional Services
- ▶ Audit Approach and Scope
- ▶ Audit Focus and Risk Areas
- ▶ Required Communications

2014 Client Service Team

Patricia Pryor
Lead Engagement Partner

Paul Chancey
Second Partner

Janice Ratica
Tax Director

Neil Vitro
Audit Manager

Dobrinka Daniels
Tax Manager

Jessica Everage
Senior

Summary of Professional Services Provided

- ▶ Audit of the combined financial statements of the State Bar of Georgia and related notes as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- ▶ Audit of the financial statements of the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency and related notes as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Audit Approach and Scope

Our audit approach focuses on those areas and issues having greater potential to significantly impact the State Bar's financial statements in today's accounting and reporting environment and management's response to those risks.



- Accounting Judgments and Estimates**
 - Fair Value of Investments
- Significant Accounts and Transactions**
 - Revenue



- Cash
- Receivables
- Fixed Assets
- Other Assets
- Accounts Payable
- Accrued Liabilities
- Net Asset Classification
- Expenses

Audit Focus and Risk Areas

Significant account / issue	Description of work performed, findings, assessment of accounting policies
<p>Revenue</p>	<p>Work performed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We reviewed the revenue recognition policies. •We designed procedures to substantively test revenue by category. <p>Finding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •None noted

Audit Focus and Risk Areas

Significant account / issue	Description of work performed, findings, assessment of accounting policies
<p>Investments</p>	<p>Work performed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We confirmed the investment transactions for the year with Merrill Lynch and the Georgia banks. •We compared the investment roll forward prepared by management to the third-party independent confirmations received. <p>Finding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •None noted

Required Communications

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>
<p>Our Responsibility under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards in the United States of America</p>	<p>As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.</p>
<p>Critical Accounting Policies and Practices</p>	<p>Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The critical accounting policies used by the State Bar are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the State Bar during the year that were both critical and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.</p>

Required Communications

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>
Quality of the State Bar's Accounting Principles	<p>Management is responsible not only for the appropriateness of the accounting policies and practices but also for the quality of such policies and practices. The quality includes the consistency of the accounting policies and their application and the clarity and completeness of the financial statements and includes items that have a significant impact on the representational faithfulness, verifiability, and neutrality of the accounting information included in the financial statements. As a result of our audit procedures, we did not identify any circumstances where the accounting policies and practices of the State Bar were inappropriately applied.</p>
Disagreements with Management	<p>None noted</p>
Consultations with Other Independent Accountants	<p>We are not aware of any consultations with other accountants.</p>
Difficulties Encountered While Performing the Audit	<p>None noted</p>

Required Communications

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>
Fraud Identified by Management	None noted
Communications with Management	We have requested and received certain representations from management that are included in the signed management representation letter dated December 15, 2014. A copy of the signed management's representation letter has also been provided to the audit committee chair.
Unrecorded Audit Adjustments	None noted
Recorded Audit Adjustments	None noted
Independence	No issues identified



STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

(With Report of Independent Auditor Thereon)



STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR 1

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

 Combined Statements of Financial Position 2

 Combined Statements of Activities 3-4

 Combined Statements of Cash Flows 5

 Notes to the Combined Financial Statements 6-12

Report of Independent Auditor

The Board of Governors
State Bar of Georgia

Report on the Combined Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of the State Bar of Georgia and related entity (collectively the "State Bar"), which comprise the combined statements of financial position as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the related combined statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Combined Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these combined financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of combined financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these combined financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the combined financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the combined financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the State Bar's preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the State Bar's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the combined financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the combined financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of State Bar as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



Atlanta, Georgia
December 17, 2014

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,164,478	\$ 18,460,801
Accounts receivable	56,262	84,334
Receivable from related parties	99,120	78,748
Receivable from employees	36,827	39,904
Accrued interest receivable	10,210	11,778
Prepaid and other assets	284,524	353,105
Investments, at fair value	8,456,201	7,573,305
Bar Center building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	14,178,852	15,178,539
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	780,744	916,510
Total assets	<u>\$ 43,067,218</u>	<u>\$ 42,697,024</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,092,409	\$ 1,172,389
Employee benefits payable	748,287	667,557
Payable to Client Security Fund	2,141,983	2,321,351
Payable to Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency	138,097	40,125
Accrued vacation	444,656	450,954
Deferred income - dues and sections	7,947,356	7,804,919
Other deferred income	148,039	162,172
Total liabilities	<u>12,660,827</u>	<u>12,619,467</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	4,051,602	4,372,327
Board-designated (See Note 8)	24,619,220	24,219,620
Total unrestricted	<u>28,670,822</u>	<u>28,591,947</u>
Temporarily restricted	<u>1,735,569</u>	<u>1,485,610</u>
Total net assets	<u>30,406,391</u>	<u>30,077,557</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 43,067,218</u>	<u>\$ 42,697,024</u>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

2

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	Unrestricted			Total
	Undesignated	Board-Designated	Temporarily Restricted	
Revenue and other support:				
Fees:				
License	\$ 10,224,120	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,224,120
Advertising	126,104	-	-	126,104
Membership	249,965	-	-	249,965
Total fees	<u>10,600,189</u>			<u>10,600,189</u>
Contributions	-	1,424,915	1,366,270	2,791,185
Section dues	-	659,306	-	659,306
Convention and meeting fees	-	404,064	-	404,064
Law Practice Management fees	16,802	-	-	16,802
Younger Lawyers Division fees	21,018	-	-	21,018
High School Mock Trial fees	66,962	-	-	66,962
Assessment income	-	291,518	-	291,518
Investment income	51,044	19,265	7,312	77,621
Rental income	-	1,200,408	-	1,200,408
Other	78,704	629,246	-	707,950
Total other revenue	<u>234,530</u>	<u>4,628,722</u>	<u>1,373,582</u>	<u>6,236,834</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	-	1,123,623	(1,123,623)	-
Total revenue and other support	<u>10,834,719</u>	<u>5,752,345</u>	<u>249,959</u>	<u>16,837,023</u>
Expenses:				
Program expenses:				
Counsel	3,311,937	-	-	3,311,937
Communications	1,103,972	-	-	1,103,972
Section	-	615,500	-	615,500
Conventions and meetings	-	428,124	-	428,124
Membership	527,850	-	-	527,850
Consumer Assistance Program	522,085	-	-	522,085
Unauthorized Practice of Law	701,483	-	-	701,483
Younger Lawyers	457,706	108,527	-	566,233
Fee Arbitration	386,176	-	-	386,176
Legislative	-	599,072	-	599,072
Law Practice Management	411,133	-	-	411,133
Mock Trial	171,004	28,098	-	199,102
Meetings	252,123	-	-	252,123
SBG Foundation	-	125,623	-	125,623
Law-Related Education	227,046	-	-	227,046
Pro Bono	207,321	-	-	207,321
Board of Governors	146,089	-	-	146,089
Lawyers' Assistance Program	55,000	-	-	55,000
Georgia Diversity Program	-	63,550	-	63,550
Standards of the Profession	178,729	-	-	178,729
Basics Program	140,000	140,000	-	280,000
Resource Center	108,701	-	-	108,701
Military/Veterans Pro Bono	94,510	-	-	94,510
Other	39,253	58,753	-	98,006
Total program expenses	<u>9,042,118</u>	<u>2,167,247</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,209,365</u>
Management and general	<u>2,113,326</u>	<u>3,185,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,298,824</u>
Total expenses	<u>11,155,444</u>	<u>5,352,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,508,189</u>
Change in net assets	(320,725)	399,600	249,959	328,834
Net assets, beginning of year	4,372,327	24,219,620	1,485,610	30,077,557
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 4,051,602</u>	<u>\$ 24,619,220</u>	<u>\$ 1,735,569</u>	<u>\$ 30,406,391</u>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

3

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	Unrestricted			Total
	Undesignated	Board-Designated	Temporarily Restricted	
Revenue and other support:				
Fees:				
License	\$ 9,772,239	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,772,239
Advertising	130,841	-	-	130,841
Membership	252,275	-	-	252,275
Total fees	10,155,355	-	-	10,155,355
Contributions	-	1,302,181	1,032,449	2,334,630
Section dues	-	643,177	-	643,177
Convention and meeting fees	-	325,796	-	325,796
Law Practice Management fees	22,228	-	-	22,228
Younger Lawyers Division fees	13,458	-	-	13,458
High School Mock Trial fees	57,513	-	-	57,513
Assessment income	-	282,466	-	282,466
Investment income	52,005	14,448	6,941	73,394
Rental income	-	1,111,316	-	1,111,316
Other	76,426	314,347	-	390,773
Total other revenue	221,630	3,993,731	1,039,390	5,254,751
Net assets released from restrictions	-	891,006	(891,006)	-
Total revenue and other support	10,376,985	4,884,737	148,384	15,410,106
Expenses:				
Program expenses:				
Counsel	3,168,594	-	-	3,168,594
Communications	770,449	-	-	770,449
Section	-	633,601	-	633,601
Conventions and meetings	-	355,571	-	355,571
Membership	467,484	-	-	467,484
Consumer Assistance Program	497,392	-	-	497,392
Unauthorized Practice of Law	710,358	-	-	710,358
Younger Lawyers	400,424	80,547	-	480,971
Fee Arbitration	325,647	-	-	325,647
Legislative	-	531,995	-	531,995
Law Practice Management	396,203	-	-	396,203
Mock Trial	166,591	143	-	166,734
Meetings	227,907	-	-	227,907
SBG Foundation	-	19,985	-	19,985
Law-Related Education	220,633	34,693	-	255,326
Pro Bono	205,787	-	-	205,787
Board of Governors	130,388	-	-	130,388
Lawyers' Assistance Program	38,850	-	-	38,850
Georgia Diversity Program	-	65,261	-	65,261
Standards of the Profession	183,037	-	-	183,037
Basics Program	140,000	141,618	-	281,618
Resource Center	106,989	-	-	106,989
Military/Veterans Pro Bono	92,686	-	-	92,686
Other	26,297	16,765	-	43,062
Total program expenses	8,275,716	1,880,179	-	10,155,895
Management and general	2,043,938	3,199,770	-	5,243,708
Total expenses	10,319,654	5,079,949	-	15,399,603
Other Changes in Net Assets - Transfer	(750,000)	750,000	-	-
Change in net assets	(692,669)	554,788	148,384	10,503
Net assets, beginning of year	5,064,996	23,664,832	1,337,226	30,067,054
Net assets, end of year	\$ 4,372,327	\$ 24,219,620	\$ 1,485,610	\$ 30,077,557

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

4

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
COMBINED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 328,834	\$ 10,503
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	1,446,351	1,467,628
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(19,896)	13,576
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,156	918
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	28,071	(60,244)
Increase in receivables from related parties	(20,372)	(28,473)
Decrease in receivables from employees	3,078	1,773
Decrease in accrued interest receivable	1,568	9,268
Decrease (increase) in prepaid and other assets	68,581	(32,463)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable	(79,980)	277,708
Increase (decrease) in employee benefits payable	80,730	(5,086)
Increase (decrease) in payables to related parties	97,972	(43,548)
(Decrease) increase in accrued vacation	(6,298)	58,074
Increase in deferred income - dues and sections	142,437	1,164,522
(Decrease) increase in other deferred income	(14,133)	42,579
Decrease in payable to Client Security Fund	(179,368)	(59,871)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>1,879,731</u>	<u>2,816,864</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of building improvements, furniture, fixtures, and equipment	(313,054)	(748,229)
Purchase of investments	(6,390,000)	(7,915,000)
Proceeds from sale and maturity of investments	5,527,000	9,332,000
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	<u>(1,176,054)</u>	<u>668,771</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	703,677	3,485,635
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>18,460,801</u>	<u>14,975,166</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 19,164,478</u>	<u>\$ 18,460,801</u>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

5

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies

Description of Business – The State Bar of Georgia is a membership organization of attorneys in the state of Georgia that performs as a society and regulatory agency for its membership. The State Bar of Georgia Foundation, Inc. is a foundation that supports the charitable and educational activities of the State Bar of Georgia. The combined financial statements include the State Bar of Georgia and the State Bar of Georgia Foundation, Inc., hereinafter collectively referred to as the “State Bar.”

Accrual Basis – The combined financial statements of the State Bar have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Basis of Presentation – The State Bar’s net assets and revenue, expenses, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the State Bar and changes therein are classified and reported as unrestricted and temporarily restricted.

Unrestricted net assets include amounts that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations that are used to account for resources available to carry out the purposes of the State Bar in accordance with its charter and bylaws. The principal sources of unrestricted funds are membership fees and dues. The State Bar’s governing board has designated certain unrestricted net assets to be held for specific purposes as indicated in the combined statements of financial position.

Temporarily restricted net assets are those resources currently available for use but expendable only for purposes specified by the donor or grantor and may or will be met by the action of the State Bar and/or the passage of time. Such resources originate from grants and contributions restricted for specific purposes or a specific future time frame. When a donor or grantor restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the combined statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Revenue is reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Gains and losses on investments and other assets or liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulation or by law. Expirations of temporary restrictions on net assets (i.e., the donor-stipulated purpose has been fulfilled and/or the stipulated time period has elapsed) are reported as reclassifications between the applicable classes of net assets.

Cash and Cash Equivalents – For purposes of the combined statements of cash flows, the State Bar considers all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents were \$16,504,671 and \$15,618,804 at June 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively, consisting of money market funds. These funds are not insured.

At June 30, 2014 and 2013, in addition to the money market deposits above, the State Bar maintained bank deposits in excess of federally insured limits of \$2,494,835 and \$2,369,011, respectively.

Investments – All investments are reported in the combined statements of financial position at fair market value. In addition, both realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in the combined statements of activities. The State Bar has adopted an investment policy.

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Fair Value of Financial Instruments – The State Bar has estimated the fair values of its financial instruments using available market information and other valuation methodologies in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“generally accepted accounting principles”). Accordingly, the estimates presented are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that the State Bar could realize in a current market exchange. Determinations of fair value are based on subjective data and significant judgment related to timing of payments and collection of the amounts to be realized. Different market assumptions and/or estimation methodologies might have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts.

The carrying value of financial instruments such as cash and cash equivalents, other receivables, due to/from related organizations, accounts payable, and accruals approximate fair value because of the terms and relative short maturity of the financial instruments. The State Bar believes the carrying values of its financial instruments are reasonable estimates of their values, unless otherwise noted.

The fair value hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the State Bar. Unobservable inputs reflect the State Bar’s assumption about the inputs market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances.

The fair value hierarchy is classified in one of the following three levels based on the inputs:

Level 1: Financial instruments with unadjusted, quoted prices listed on active market exchanges.

Level 2: Financial instruments valued using inputs that include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, and inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.

Level 3: Financial instruments that are not actively traded on a market exchange and require using significant unobservable inputs in determining fair value.

Building, Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment – Additions to building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment in excess of \$1,000 are capitalized. Building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment are carried at cost. Depreciation expense is computed based on the estimated useful lives of the respective assets using the straight-line method of depreciation. The estimated useful lives range from three to twenty-seven and a half years.

Accounts Receivables – Accounts receivables are presented at face value with no allowance for doubtful accounts. An allowance for doubtful accounts is not considered necessary since all receivables are considered collectible by management.

Revenue Recognition – Membership dues, annual license fees and Bar Center assessments are recorded as revenue in the applicable year. Any amounts collected prior to and including June 30 applicable to the subsequent year’s membership dues and assessments are recorded as deferred income in the statements of financial position. Annual license fee and Bar Center assessment notices for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014 and 2013 were sent out in April 2014 and April 2013, respectively.

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Functional Allocation of Expenses – The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the combined statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Use of Estimates by Management – The preparation of the combined financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the combined financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Income Taxes – The State Bar was established as an instrumentality of the state of Georgia, and its income is therefore exempt from income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 115, per the Internal Revenue Service determination letter dated May 11, 1965. Under Section 115, net income from an activity other than an essential governmental function can be subject to taxation. In management’s opinion, the State Bar did not have any such net income during the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013.

The State Bar has evaluated the effect of generally accepted accounting principles guidance for Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes. Management believes that the State Bar continues to satisfy the requirements of a tax-exempt organization and therefore had no uncertain income tax positions at June 30, 2014 and 2013.

Note 2—Membership

Membership in the State Bar totaled 46,716 and 45,532 at June 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Note 3—Investments

Investments are carried at fair market value. At both June 30, 2014 and 2013, the State Bar’s portfolio consisted of fully-insured brokered bank certificates of deposit (“CDs”). Brokered CDs were valued by Merrill Lynch using a model that incorporates credit risk and current market interest rates on the yield curve. Therefore, the valuation is considered a Level 2 valuation (see Note 1 above). In addition, at June 30, 2014, the State Bar’s portfolio included direct CD deposits with banks. Direct CD deposits totaled \$1,250,000 at June 30, 2014 and were recorded at cost, which approximates fair market value at June 30, 2014.

Proceeds from the sale of investments may be used in the operations of the State Bar.

Investments and total investment income are summarized as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Certificates of deposit	\$ 8,456,201	\$ 7,573,305
Total investments	<u>\$ 8,456,201</u>	<u>\$ 7,573,305</u>
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ 59,868	\$ 85,274
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	17,753	(11,880)
Total investment income	<u>\$ 77,621</u>	<u>\$ 73,394</u>

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 4—Building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment

The Bar Center building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment are summarized as follows:

	2014	2013
Building and improvements	\$ 26,568,177	\$ 26,517,198
Furniture and office equipment	2,283,929	2,169,136
Computer and electronic equipment	709,855	700,688
	29,561,961	29,387,022
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(15,383,109)</u>	<u>(14,208,483)</u>
	<u>\$ 14,178,852</u>	<u>\$ 15,178,539</u>

Furniture, fixtures, and equipment other than the Bar Center's consist of the following:

	2014	2013
Furniture and office equipment	\$ 355,448	\$ 320,484
Computer and electronic equipment	492,471	490,839
Leasehold improvements	334,488	319,845
Computer software	953,867	943,360
	2,136,274	2,074,528
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,355,530)</u>	<u>(1,158,018)</u>
	<u>\$ 780,744</u>	<u>\$ 916,510</u>

Note 5—Retirement plan

The State Bar has a money purchase pension plan that covers substantially all employees. State Bar contributions to this plan for the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013 were \$393,290 and \$355,968, respectively.

Note 6—Leases

Lessor – The State Bar leases office space to both related and non-related parties. Rental income totaled \$1,200,408 and \$1,111,316 in 2014 and 2013, respectively. These amounts included receipts of \$53,954 and \$57,708, respectively, from related parties. Certain of the leases have expiration dates through June 2019 and certain of the leases are renewable annually or cancelable at the request of the lessee. As of June 30, 2014, approximate future minimum annual lease payments for the leases that are not renewable annually or cancelable are as follows:

Fiscal year ending June 30,	2015	\$ 88,900
	2016	90,700
	2017	92,492
	2018	84,899
	Thereafter	<u>34,139</u>
	Total	<u>\$ 391,130</u>

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 6—Leases (continued)

Lessee – The State Bar has entered into various non-cancelable operating lease agreements for the rental of photocopiers and mailing equipment. These lease agreements expire on various dates through May 2019.

In addition, the State Bar entered into a lease on November 1, 2008 for its Coastal Georgia office space in Savannah. The lease expired on October 31, 2013 with two five-year options available to renew through 2023. The State Bar renewed the lease under its first option on November 1, 2013, with expiration on October 31, 2018.

The State Bar also renewed its lease at a satellite office in Tifton, Georgia and executed a lease agreement for expanded conference room space which expires on September 30, 2015.

As of June 30, 2014, approximate future minimum annual lease payments for these leases are as follows:

Fiscal year ending June 30,	2015	\$	103,593
	2016		87,697
	2017		88,937
	2018		90,214
	Thereafter		<u>55,393</u>
	Total	\$	<u>425,834</u>

Rental expense charged to operations amounted to approximately \$130,842 and \$126,330 for the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Note 7—Related-party transactions

The Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency contributed \$1,524,915 and \$1,302,181 to the State Bar in 2014 and 2013, respectively. These amounts represent approximately 9% and 8% of the total amount of State Bar's revenue and other support in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The State Bar was also reimbursed by related organizations for their share of salary and operating expenses during 2014 and 2013 as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency	\$ 646,416	\$ 605,068
Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism	187,974	238,816
Georgia Bar Foundation, Inc.	84,648	70,710
	<u>\$ 919,038</u>	<u>\$ 914,594</u>

The following represents a summary of amounts due from related parties at June 30:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism	\$ 58,902	\$ 54,776
Georgia Bar Foundation, Inc.	36,014	23,972
Georgia Legal Services - Pro Bono Program	4,204	-
	<u>\$ 99,120</u>	<u>\$ 78,748</u>

The State Bar had a payable of \$138,097 and \$40,125 to the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency at June 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 8—Board-designated net assets

The State Bar has Board-designated net assets available for the following purposes at June 30, 2014 and 2013:

	2014	2013
Bar Center	\$ 17,788,392	\$ 17,562,254
General operations	4,750,000	4,750,000
Litigation	250,000	250,000
Sections	1,820,726	1,623,204
Conventions	10,102	34,162
	<u>\$ 24,619,220</u>	<u>\$ 24,219,620</u>

Bar Center net assets primarily consist of the net depreciated cost of the Bar Center building, building improvements, and related furniture and equipment.

Note 9—Temporarily restricted net assets

Net assets were released from donor restrictions in 2014 and 2013 by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by occurrence of other events specified by donors as follows:

Purpose Restrictions Accomplished	2014	2013
Legislative	\$ 599,072	\$ 531,995
Basics Program	140,000	141,618
Younger Lawyers	108,527	80,547
Georgia Diversity Program	63,550	65,261
Law-Related Education	-	34,693
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	125,623	19,985
iCivics Program	30,106	-
Access to Justice	5,712	13,607
Promote Inclusion	338	1,188
Bar Media Conference	1,206	1,698
Law Day	21,391	271
High School Mock Trial	28,098	143
	<u>\$ 1,123,623</u>	<u>\$ 891,006</u>

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 9—Temporarily restricted net assets (continued)

Temporarily restricted net assets at June 30, 2014 and 2013 were available for the following purposes:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Legislative	\$ 1,069,757	\$ 972,111
Law-Related Education / Marshall Fund	299,664	295,266
High School Mock Trial	67,087	73,229
Basics Program	36,776	35,976
Younger Lawyers	187,687	27,549
Lawyers Assistance	20,683	20,603
Georgia Diversity Program	18,386	18,855
Bar Media Conference	17,858	16,496
Evidence Study	7,492	7,463
Law Day	3,394	6,346
Access to Justice	-	5,719
iCivics Program	2,145	-
Promote Inclusion	4,040	4,362
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	600	1,635
	<u>\$ 1,735,569</u>	<u>\$ 1,485,610</u>

Note 10—Contingencies

The State Bar is subject to various suits and proceedings arising in the ordinary conduct of its affairs and has been named as a defendant in several lawsuits. In the opinion of the Office of the General Counsel, all suits and actions now pending or likely to be filed will be resolved without material adverse effect on the financial position of the State Bar.

Note 11—Subsequent events

Management of the State Bar has evaluated subsequent events through December 17, 2014, in connection with the preparation of these combined financial statements, which is the date the combined financial statements were available to be issued.

The State Bar executed a Letter of Intent with LAZ/LA III Atlanta, LLC ("LAZ") on June 2, 2014 for the purchase of a parking deck, in a combination of fee simple title and leasehold estate, at 100 and 104 Luckie Street and 101-107 Cone Street, Atlanta, Georgia. The State Bar executed a Purchase and Sale Agreement with LAZ on August 4, 2014. The transaction was subject to a 60-day due diligence period and approval by the State Bar's Board of Governors in November 2014. The State Bar deposited earnest money of \$200,000 with escrow agent, Calloway Title & Escrow, LLC, on August 4, 2014. Due diligence was conducted at a cost of \$77,113. During the due diligence period, the State Bar opted to terminate the Agreement. The escrow agent returned \$199,950 to the State Bar on September 10, 2014.



**COMMISSION ON CONTINUING
LAWYER COMPETENCY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

(With Report of Independent Auditor Thereon)



COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY
TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR 1-2

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

 Statements of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis 3

 Statements of Support, Revenues, and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis 4

 Statements of Cash Flows – Modified Cash Basis 5

 Notes to the Financial Statements 6-7

Report of Independent Auditor

The Members of the Commission
Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency (the "Commission"), which comprise the statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis as of June 30, 2014 and 2013 and the statements of support, revenues, and expenses – modified cash basis and cash flows – modified cash basis for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Commission's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and net assets of the Commission as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and its support, revenues, and expenses and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

Cherry Bekart LLP

Atlanta, Georgia
December 17, 2014

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY
STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,897,288	\$ 3,631,104
Receivable from the State Bar of Georgia	138,097	40,125
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment, net	28,812	40,816
Other receivables	938	-
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>	<u>\$ 3,712,045</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>	<u>\$ 3,712,045</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>	<u>\$ 3,712,045</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

3

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY
STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT, REVENUES, AND EXPENSES – MODIFIED CASH BASIS

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Changes in unrestricted net assets:		
Revenue and other support:		
Sponsor fees	\$ 1,550,075	\$ 1,595,834
Attorney fees	364,661	351,805
Late penalties	540,140	494,146
Interest income	1,819	1,405
Total revenue and other support	<u>2,456,695</u>	<u>2,443,190</u>
Expenses:		
Program:		
Contributions to State Bar	1,524,915	1,302,181
Personnel expenses	298,888	351,389
Allocated office expenses	83,358	82,007
Recruitment expense	43,138	-
Data processing	9,266	8,800
Postage	8,819	10,057
Depreciation	12,004	12,030
Credit card and banking fees	11,784	12,784
Audit	3,000	3,000
Other miscellaneous expenses	4,742	3,329
Total program	<u>1,999,914</u>	<u>1,785,577</u>
Management and general	103,691	129,976
Total expenses	<u>2,103,605</u>	<u>1,915,553</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	353,090	527,637
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>3,712,045</u>	<u>3,184,408</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>	<u>\$ 3,712,045</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

4

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 353,090	\$ 527,637
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	12,004	12,030
(Increase) decrease in receivable from the State Bar of Georgia	(97,972)	43,548
Increase in other receivables	(938)	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>266,184</u>	<u>583,215</u>
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment	-	(2,360)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,360)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	266,184	580,855
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>3,631,104</u>	<u>3,050,249</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 3,897,288</u>	<u>\$ 3,631,104</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

5

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies

Organization – The Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency (the “Commission”) was established by rule of the Supreme Court of Georgia as a permanent commission of the State Bar of Georgia (the “State Bar”). Its purpose is to administer the minimum continuing legal education requirements of attorneys and to otherwise assist the public by helping attorneys to maintain their professional competence throughout their active practice of law.

Basis of Presentation – The financial statements of the Commission have been prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. Consequently, with certain exceptions, revenue is recognized when received, and expenses are recorded when paid. The Commission has elected to modify the cash basis of accounting to report the capitalization and depreciation of furniture, fixtures, and equipment and to recognize expenses paid or revenues collected by the State Bar on behalf of the Commission as a net payable or receivable. The Commission’s largest revenue source, which is sponsor fees, is recorded when received.

Net assets and revenue, expenses, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Commission and changes therein are classified and reported as unrestricted. Unrestricted net assets are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions.

Cash and Cash Equivalents – For purposes of the statements of cash flows – modified cash basis, the Commission considers all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents of \$1,853,536 and \$1,931,931 at June 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively, consist of money market funds.

At June 30, 2014 and 2013, in addition to money market funds above, the Commission maintained bank deposits of \$2,043,753 and \$1,699,173 in excess of federally insured limits. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) covers \$250,000 for substantially all deposit accounts. Cash balances may at times exceed federally insured limits.

Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment – Additions to furniture, fixtures, and equipment in excess of \$1,000 are capitalized. Furniture, fixtures, and equipment are carried at cost. Depreciation expense is computed based on the estimated useful lives of the respective assets using the straight-line method of depreciation. The estimated useful lives range from three to ten years.

Income Taxes – The Commission is exempt from income taxes under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code as a commission of the State Bar.

Functional Allocation of Expenses – The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of support, revenue, and expenses – modified cash basis. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Use of Estimates – Management of the Commission has made certain estimates and assumptions to prepare the financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Subsequent Events – Management of the Commission has evaluated subsequent events through December 17, 2014, in connection with the preparation of these financial statements, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 2—Furniture, fixtures, and equipment

Furniture, fixtures, and equipment are summarized as follows at June 30, 2014 and 2013:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Furniture and equipment	\$ 8,211	\$ 8,211
Computers and electronics	6,589	6,589
Computer software	<u>86,343</u>	<u>86,343</u>
	101,143	101,143
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(72,331)</u>	<u>(60,327)</u>
	<u>\$ 28,812</u>	<u>\$ 40,816</u>

Note 3—Related-party transactions

The Commission reimburses the State Bar for its share of expenses paid by the State Bar, which were \$646,416 in 2014 and \$605,068 in 2013. At June 30, 2014 and 2013, \$138,097 and \$40,125 were receivable from the State Bar, respectively. The Commission contributed \$1,524,915 and \$1,302,181 to the State Bar in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The Executive Director of the Commission is also the Executive Director of the State Bar.

Note 4—Retirement plan

The employees of the Commission participate in the State Bar's money purchase pension plan. The contributions to this plan on behalf of the employees of the Commission for the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013 were \$11,430 and \$21,210, respectively.

PRESIDENT’S ACTIVITY REPORT
for April 18, 2015 Board of Governors’ Meeting

I have worked throughout the year on activities associated with my major projects including *iCivics*, providing access to lawyers in six counties, and promoting initiatives of the State Bar throughout Georgia. In addition, I have worked on and completed many projects designed to improve the operations of the Bar and service to our members, including upgrading the teleconferencing and video conferencing capabilities, expansion of the depth and extent of our communications on behalf of our members and local bar associations. I have met with school officials, teachers, students, justices, the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, the State School Superintendent, legislators, members of the Governor’s staff, economic development officers, and employees at the State Bar. I have also traveled extensively throughout the state to speak to local bar associations; throughout the country to represent the State Bar at meetings with other state bar associations, and at meetings of the American Bar Association. I have also had the privilege of interacting with leaders of international bar associations in South America.

Below, please find highlights of what I have been involved with since June 7th:

JUNE 2014

- 11th Spoke to high school students in the Justice Robert Benham Summer Law Camp at Georgia State Law School about what it means to be a lawyer
- 11th Attended 2014 E. Randolph Williams Pro Bono Awards Ceremony at Hunton & Williams
- 11th Attended Women in the Law Awards event at the Commerce Club
- 12th Held initial meeting with Kyle Williams, Lamont Burwell, and Sharon Bryant on technology enhancements and upgrades needed at the headquarters and remote office facilities to improve connectivity
- 12th Represented the State Bar at the Legal Frenzy Awards Ceremony sponsored by Attorney General Sam Olens, the State Bar, and YLD officers
- 12th Served as speaker for American Constitutional Law Society’s Pro Bono Service Reception for Summer Interns
- 13th Spent time at the State Bar Center, interviewing with a reporter and participating in a group tour of the potential purchase sites; coordinating project updates and participating in various meetings
- 16th Participated in bi-weekly *iCivics* Implementation Committee telephone conferences
- 17th Served as luncheon speaker at Augusta Bar Association’s monthly meeting
- 17th Participated on conference call regarding AOC audit request from DOR

- 19th Met with Stacey Abrams on NOW accounts for State Bar members
- 20th Traveled to Wilmington, NC for North Carolina Bar Association Annual Meeting and the Installation of the new Bar President Catharine Biggs Arrowood;
- 20th Dined with NC Past Presidents at their Annual Meeting; and attended the Inauguration dinner at the North Carolina Bar Association
- 22nd Attended VIP Reception for the opening of the Center for Civil and Human Rights- State Bar has 2 annual passes. Gave one pass to Sharon Bryant for the staff.
- 23rd Spoke at the closing ceremonies for Justice Robert Benham Summer Law Camp at King & Spalding.
- 26th Spoke at the Swearing in Ceremony for New Lawyers in Fulton County
- 27th Spent the day at the State Bar Center working on projects and in meetings
- 28th Attended GABWA Glitter Gala where the State Bar sponsored a table
- 30th Participated in an *iCivics* Implementation Committee telephone conference

JULY 2014

- 3rd Participated in an *iCivics* Implementation Committee telephone conferences
- 3rd Interviewed by WSB-TV's Jocelyn Dorsey, Editorial Director for People to People television program at the State Bar Center
- 3rd Met with staff about pending stationery, technology and other projects
- 7th Hosted a luncheon meeting with all State Bar staff to introduce Jeff Davis on his 1st official day of work
- 8th Held lunch meeting with the Social Studies Coordinator for the Atlanta Public Schools (APS) to discuss logistics for APS' participation in the *iCivics* program
- 9th Met with Laz Parking working group to review title work for sites
- 10th Attended Women in the Profession Section of the Atlanta Bar Achievement Award at the Capital City Club
- 10th Met with Steve Gotlieb at Atlanta Legal Aid to discuss ALA programs and support for the same
- 10th Met with Shaun Owens, Social Studies Coordinator for Georgia Department of Education re *iCivics*
- 14th interviewed with Fulton County Television (FGTV) at the State Bar Center
- 15th Participated in an *iCivics* Implementation Committee Telephone conference
- 15th Met with Governor Deal and key staff members about the unmet need for legal services in 6 counties
- 16th Met to discuss Georgia Appleseed initiative at State Bar Center
- 17th Participated in Georgia Bar Foundation Grant Awards Committee Meeting
- 17th Interviewed by Rolling Out magazine

- 18th Spent time the State Bar Center working on various projects and in meetings with Paula Frederick on Office of General Counsel issues and Thomas Worthy on legislative issues
- 18th Had dinner with Justice Harris and Helen Hines
- 22nd Conducted Committee and Section Chair Orientation over lunch at the State Bar Center
- 23rd Had breakfast with Economic Development attorneys re: project to secure lawyers in six counties project
- 25th Spent the day at the State Bar Center. Met with GLSP on 2014 Campaign.
- Spoke at YLD Committee Chair Orientation
- 25th Interviewed with a reporter from the Atlanta Business Chronicle
- 25th Hosted a reception for the National Bar Association's Board of Governors at the State Bar Center
- 26-30th Attended various events, luncheons and award ceremonies at the NBA Annual Meeting at the Marriott Marquis
- 28th Participated in an *iCivics* Implementation Committee Telephone conference
- 29th Attended APS *iCivics* Training Session for APS teachers
- 29th Had lunch with Justice Melton and Ryan Teague for introductions and a discussion on State Bar projects

AUGUST 2014

- 4th Attended Cobb County Chamber of Commerce Breakfast as a guest of Justice and Helen Hines to hear the Executive Director of ARC speak
- 6th Met with City Hall officials about our request for a U-Turn and traffic related issues on Marietta Street
- 7 – 10th Attended National Council of Bar Presidents at the Annual Meeting of the ABA in Boston, MA
- 12th Attended Law Related Education Committee meeting to update the committee on the new *iCivics* pilot program
- 12th Met with Fulton County Daily Reporter Kate Brumback
- 14th Attended a reception for Emory University's new law students at Miller Ward House to give greetings
- 15th Served as keynote speaker at Emory University New Law Student Orientation on Professionalism
- 15th Held meetings with Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell on legislative issues.
- Met with technology enhancement team about the status of the upgrade proposals and to finalize recommendations for the Executive Committee.
- 16th Attended Luncheon for Dr. Valarie Montgomery Rice, New President of Morehouse School of Medicine

- 17th Attended interment services for Harvey Weitz in Savannah
- 19th Attended Gate City and Multibar Judicial Reception at King & Spalding.
- 20th Attended UPL Briefing and meeting with State Bar Staff
- 22nd Chaired Executive Committee at State Bar Headquarters
- 23rd Keynote Speaker for GABWA-Columbus Chapter, Columbus and Fountain City Bar Associations' Leadership Program in Columbus, GA
- 26th Attended Civil Legal Services Task Force Meeting to discuss Rural Lawyer Program
- 28th Lunch meeting with Chief Justice Thompson to update him on State Bar's activities

SEPTEMBER 2014

- 3rd Breakfast meeting with Fulton County Superior Court Judges to discuss a court project
- 5th and 6th Presided over Executive Committee Planning Retreat in Tifton, GA. Held a reception with the Tift County Bar Association and one with the President of ABAC
- 8th *iCivics* training held in Columbus, GA for Muscogee and Harris County School Systems
- 9th Attended Diversity Awards Presentation of the Multi-bar Leadership Council at Hall, Sullivan & Booth law firm
- 11th Attended reception sponsored by GABWA-Savannah Chapter and the Port City Bar Associations. Luncheon Speaker for Savannah Bar Association
- 12th Met with Chair of International Law Committee; attended Bar Center Committee meeting; worked in President's office for the rest of the day.
- 15th Attended Communications and Cornerstone of Freedom Committee meeting.
- 16th Attended Advisory Committee on Legislation meeting and Access to Justice Committee Meeting.
- 18th Luncheon speaker at monthly meeting of the Columbus Bar Association; visited Chattahoochee County re: rural lawyers project; co-hosted GABWA meeting at State Bar Center
- 19th Luncheon speaker at the monthly meeting of the Macon Bar Association
- 22nd Chatham County School System *iCivics* training
- 24th Addressed attendees at the Georgia Diversity Luncheon held at the State Bar Center
- 25th Attended Cook-out at Bill Smith's house in Unicoi, GA
- 26th Met with Bucky Askew about the Incubator Program; attended Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism meeting; worked in the President's office for the rest of the day.

- 30th Attended Law and Ethics luncheon at Ga Tech; participated in conference call about SEC regulations impacting State Bar investment accounts; attended Atlanta Business League's Breakfast and Luncheon Awards programs.

OCTOBER 2014

- 3rd Worked in the President's office; attended a luncheon meeting with General Counsel
- 7th Georgia Legal Services Program Champions Justice Recognition
- 9th Speaker at the Boy Scout's Whitney Young Banquet
- 10th -13th Attended Southern Conference of Bar Presidents Meeting in USVI
- 17th Worked in the President's office.
- 22nd Speaker at the GAWBA Leadership Academy Graduation
- 24th Executive Committee meeting; worked in the President's office.
- 25th Speaker at NewRoc Elementary, Rockdale County, GA
- 30th- Nov. 1st Presided over Board of Governors' Fall Meeting and attended related committee meetings.
-

NOVEMBER 2014

- 1st Board of Governors meeting in Jekyll Island, Georgia
- 3rd Attended Henry County Bar Association to support the presentation on the History of the Bar by Linton Johnson
- 3rd Hosted dinner for Commander Pede at the request of the Military and Veterans Committee
- 7th Career Day Speaker at Whitefoord Elementary School; Spoke to John Marshall Law School's 1st year Ethics Seminar and worked the remaining portion of the day in the President's office at the State Bar.
- 8th Spoke at the Georgia Defense Lawyer's CLE Conference in Brasstown Valley
- 14th Traveled to meet with Commission Chair in Glascock County, GA; Spoke to Women's Business Forum sponsored by Greenberg Traurig
- 18th Attended meeting on Incubator Project
- 19th Met with Milton Little about the State Bar of Georgia's participation in the United Way Campaign throughout the state
- 20th Attended Special Macon Bar Association Meeting to present awards to distinguished lawyers

- 21st Drove to and attended meeting with Webster County Commission Chair on Rural Lawyer Assistance Program; Provided Keynote address for BASICS graduation ceremonies
- 25th Attended Visitation for Kirk McAlpin at his daughter's home in Atlanta on behalf of the State Bar of Georgia.

DECEMBER 2014

- 3rd Attended Georgia Land Title Luncheon
- 4th Attended State Bar Advisory Committee on Legislation
- 5th Met with Attorney General Sam Olens on Legal Food Frenzy Kickoff
- 5th Participated in Mass Swearing In Activities for Fulton County; Attended YLD Leadership Academy Alumni Luncheon; Worked in the President's office for the remainder of the day
- 6th Attended Urban League of Greater Atlanta Women of Empowerment Award Banquet
- 7th Guest Speaker for League of Women Voter's Holiday Party
- 10th Drove to Baker County to meet with County Commission Chair regarding Rural Lawyer Assistance Program
- 11th Spoke at YLD Women in the Profession Luncheon program at the Swan House
- 12th Flew to Valdosta to be the speaker for their monthly luncheon
- 17th Lunch with Wayne Curtis of the Fulton County Daily Report, Met with members of the Cobb County Delegation in Marietta
- 18th Speaker at Counsel on Call CLE
- 19th Worked in President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters
- 20 to January 5th Holiday and Vacation

JANUARY 2015

- 5th Briefing meeting with Atlanta BOG Delegates
- 6th Briefing meeting with Savannah Bar Association
- 8th-10th Presided over Midyear Meeting of the Board of Governors
- 13th Attended Civil Legal Services Task Force meeting
- 14th Dinner with the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Legislation to review the State Bar's legislative package
- 15th Attended Swearing In of Judge Lem Ming at the Supreme Court. Attended GABWA Officer Installation at the State Bar Center
- 16th Worked in President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters. Attended the Programs Committee meeting

- 20th Participated in a conference planning call for Globalization of the Law Seminar at the National Conference of Bar Presidents. Attended Gate City Bar Association's Officer Installation ceremonies
- 28th Presided over Executive Committee meeting at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. Attended the annual dinner with the judges of the Court of Appeals. Taped presentation for Transition into the Practice class
- 29th Visited the State Capitol for a picture with the attorney state legislators
- 30th Worked in the President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters. Attended Program Committee meeting. Attended Commission on Professionalism meeting. Participated in *iCivics* committee conference call.

FEBRUARY 2015

- 2nd Attended Law Related Education Committee meeting
- 3rd Met with Bucky Askew regarding the Incubator project. Attended the Emory Public Interest Law Committee (EPIC) Awards program.
- 4th Attended the Chief Justice's State of the Judiciary speech and the luncheon with state legislators afterward
- 5th -7th Attended the ABA Midyear meeting in Houston, TX
- 10th Attended the State Bar Investment Committee meeting
- 12th Attended the Finance Committee meeting which determined the recommendation for a dues increase
- 13th Worked in the President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters
- 17th Met with Commissioner Knowles at DCA. Attended Justice Benham Community Service Awards program to greet attendees
- 19h Spoke at Georgia Public Broadcast about the Rural Lawyers Program. Served as the speaker for the Dekalb Lawyers Association's 30th Anniversary Dinner.
- 20th Worked at the President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters. Spoke at the Gwinnett County Bar Association's luncheon meeting. Interviewed candidates for Strategic Plan Consultant
- 21th Attended NACA Chinese New Year Celebration
- 24th – 28th Traveled to Brazil and Argentina with State Bar Optional Trip

MARCH 2015

- 1st -5th Continuation of State Bar Optional Trip
- 6th Worked on South American Trip post follow up
- 12th Attended Atlanta Superwoman Awards Reception
- 13th Worked in the President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters. Spoke at Cecil B, Day Ethics program.at Georgia Tech. Attended swearing in for Judge Holmes in Cobb County

- 17th Meeting with Chief Justice Thompson to discuss plans for the Supreme Court-State Bar Retreat
- 18th Met with State School Superintendent to discuss the *iCivics* program. Dinner with members of the Senate Judiciary Committees
- 19th Dinner with members of the House Judiciary Committees
- 20th Worked at the President's Office at the State Bar Headquarters. Met with Executive Director
- 26th Speaker for North Fulton County Bar Association Diner
- 27th- 28th Attended Supreme Court-State Bar Retreat in Asheville, NC
- 30th Attended Symposium on the Magna Carta to give greetings

Major Milestones and Accomplishments:

- Represented the State Bar at numerous bar association meetings.
- Held a successful orientation for new committee and section leaders.
- Hosted the NBA Board of Governors at a reception held in the State Bar Center.
- Successfully kicked off the *iCivics* program pilot in five school systems and completed training for the Atlanta Public Schools System, Chatham, Muscogee and Harris County School Systems.
- Worked to improve and update the technology used by the State Bar for conferencing with remote offices.
- Initiated demolition of the 5th floor and reviewed plans to make the 5th floor rentable.
- Worked with the Communications Department to increase its public outreach and publication success with newspaper articles placed around the state.
- Published an RFP for a Communications Consultant to help develop PSAs for use with mobile and social media outlets
- Helped orient and support the new Executive Director.
- Responded to all inquiries from members and encouraged adoption of a customer service mentality when addressing the inquiries of members and citizens.
- Responded to invitations from bar associations to speak.
- Paid respect to long term Board of Governors' member Harvey Weitz at his funeral and attended the visitation for Past President Kirk McAlpin.
- Helped coordinate due diligence efforts on potential purchase site and executed Purchase and Sale Agreement for the same to obtain additional parking.
- Worked to support Incubator Project at the State Bar Center as a bar program in combination with the 5 law schools throughout the state.

- Met with local county officials in Chattahoochee, Glascock, Webster and Baker Counties about Rural Lawyer's Program. Drafted legislation to establish the Rural Lawyer Assistance Program.
- Submitted congratulatory articles and letters to the editors about good works of attorneys throughout the state.
- Worked to promote international affiliations with Spain, Brazil and Argentina.
- Initiated the idea to develop a Strategic Plan for the State Bar of Georgia based upon the work of the Long Range Planning Committee and published an RFP to solicit the services of a consultant to facilitate the process.

3/26/15

**State Bar of Georgia Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures as of February 28, 2015
Operations and Bar Center**

Activity	2014-15 Net Dues	Actual YTD 2014-15			Budget 2014-15	
		# Memb.	Amount	% of Bud	# Memb.	Amount
Active	\$248	37,309	\$9,119,077	98.6%	37,300	\$9,250,400
Inactive	\$124	8,691	\$1,095,188	102.4%	8,625	\$1,069,500
Associates	\$100	20	\$2,100	105.0%	20	\$2,000
Foreign Legal Cnslt	\$248	7	\$1,736	140.0%	5	\$1,240
Students	\$0	148	\$0	0.0%	100	\$0
Emeritus	\$0	1,645	\$0	0.0%	1,450	\$0
Late Fees			\$277,985	126.4%		\$220,000
Prior Years Dues			\$7,302	121.7%		\$6,000
Total License & Dues		46,175	\$10,503,388	99.6%	46,050	\$10,549,140
Bar Center Revenue			\$1,666,004	47.2%		\$3,529,175
Alloc. Section Fees			\$111,795	99.4%		\$112,482
CSF Expense Reimb.			\$48,667	66.7%		\$73,000
Advertising & Sales			\$66,886	54.7%		\$122,200
Membership Income			\$110,879	45.7%		\$242,500
Interest Income			\$51,892	103.8%		\$50,000
Miscellaneous			\$1,336	44.5%		\$3,000
Total Revenue			\$12,560,847	85.6%		\$14,681,497
Total Expenses			\$10,147,042	66.7%		\$15,223,212
Net Gain (Loss)			\$2,413,805			(\$541,715)

Board Designated Amounts (Excluding Sections, and Restricted Funds)

Operating Reserve	\$2,750,000
Bar Center Reserve	2,000,000
Litigation Reserve	250,000
Total	\$5,000,000
Surplus (Cash Basis) 6/30/14	
Operations	\$528,431
Bar Center	\$7,305,701
Total Reserves and Surplus	\$12,834,132

March 26, 2015

State Bar of Georgia
Income Statement YTD - Operations Only
For the Eight Months Ending February 28, 2015

	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Ytd % of Bud
Revenues			
Dues - Active	\$ 9,120,813	\$ 9,250,400	98.60
Dues - Inactive	1,095,188	1,069,500	102.40
Dues - Misc. Types	2,100	3,240	64.81
Dues - Late Fees	285,287	226,000	126.23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total Dues & Licenses	10,503,388	10,549,140	99.57
Section Expense Reimb.	111,795	111,795	100.00
CSF Expense Reimb.	48,667	73,000	66.67
Advertising and Sales	66,886	122,200	54.73
Membership Income	58,854	92,500	63.63
Pro Hac Vice Admissions	204,900	150,000	136.60
Pro Hac Vice GBF Contra Acct	(152,875)	0	0.00
Savannah Misc Income	950	0	0.00
Interest Income	51,892	50,000	103.78
Miscellaneous Revenues	386	3,000	12.87
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total Revenues	10,894,843	11,151,635	97.70
Expenses			
Administration	1,277,199	2,008,782	63.58
Management Info Systems	307,232	481,076	63.86
General Counsel	2,321,856	3,633,474	63.90
Consumer Assistance Pgm.	361,714	551,242	65.62
Communications	645,304	1,399,461	46.11
Fee Arbitration	291,680	494,683	58.96
Law Related Education	157,813	247,206	63.84
Law Practice Management	270,960	426,202	63.58
Coastal Georgia Office	152,220	197,264	77.17
South Georgia Office	126,129	169,035	74.62
Younger Lawyers Division	288,637	432,333	66.76
Unauthorized Practice of Law	489,445	757,145	64.64
Standards of the Profession	132,612	192,646	68.84
High School Mock Trial	67,883	123,108	55.14
Sections	68,843	111,795	61.58
Lawyer's Assistance Pgm	36,667	55,000	66.67
Pro Bono	141,477	212,216	66.67
Fastcase	92,046	190,000	48.45
Officers' Expenses	72,760	148,786	48.90
BASICS Program Contribution	140,000	140,000	100.00
Resource Center Contribution	110,332	110,332	100.00
Military/Vets Pro Bono	68,005	102,008	66.67
Other Expenses	171,496	512,206	33.48
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total Expenses	7,792,310	12,696,000	61.38
Net Income	\$ 3,102,533	\$ (1,544,365)	(200.89)

3/26/15

State Bar of Georgia - Bar Center
Revenues and Expenditures - Executive Summary
For the Eight Months Ended February 28, 2015

Activity	YTD 2/28/15		Budget FY 14
	Actual	% Budget	
Income and Cash Receipts			
CCLC Contribution	\$0	0.0%	\$1,200,000
Interest Income	\$9,274	92.7%	\$10,000
Member Assessment	\$292,616	100.9%	\$290,000
Room Rentals and Various Charges	\$16,400	59.0%	\$27,800
Parking Revenues	\$167,333	68.9%	\$242,753
Rental Income	\$795,910	67.3%	\$1,181,915
Operating Budget Transfer	\$384,471	66.7%	\$576,707
Total Income and Cash Receipts	\$1,666,004	47.2%	\$3,529,175
Expenses and Cash Disbursements			
Building Rehabilitation	\$597,600	2390.4%	\$25,000
Conference Floor Renovations	\$0	0.0%	\$20,000
Tenant Improvements	\$96,132	192.3%	\$50,000
Furniture and Equipment	\$6,123	52.1%	\$11,750
Median and Landscaping	\$0	0.0%	\$5,000
Woodrow Wilson Exhibit and Law Museum	\$1,904	38.1%	\$5,000
President's Conference Room	\$0	0.0%	\$7,500
Law Related Education	\$35,000	66.0%	\$53,000
Conference Center Operating Expenses	\$428,766	103.3%	\$415,124
Third Floor Contingency	\$21,017	84.1%	\$25,000
Building Operating Expenses	\$944,370	55.4%	\$1,703,416
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	\$148,402	63.6%	\$233,281
Legal, Due Diligence and Closing Fees	\$75,418	0.0%	\$0
Total Expenses and Cash Disbursements	\$2,354,732	92.2%	\$2,554,071
Net Cash Flow	(\$688,728)		\$975,104

State Bar of Georgia
Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions

Total Number of Members at
 Apr 30 of prev Bar year (active and inactive) 45,133 44,044 42,858

Dues	Dues Season May Through February 2015	Dues Season May Through February 2014	Dues Season May Through February 2013
Active - Number Paid	37,316	36,604	35,648
Inactive - Number Paid	<u>8,691</u>	<u>8,420</u>	<u>8,269</u>
Total Number Paid	<u>46,007</u>	<u>45,024</u>	<u>43,917</u>
Percent Paid	<u>101.94%</u>	<u>102.23%</u>	<u>102.47%</u>
Total Amount Paid - Active and Inactive	<u>10,234,571</u>	<u>9,926,653</u>	<u>9,527,192</u>

Georgia Legal Services

Number Paid	<u>2,304</u>	<u>2,221</u>	<u>2,329</u>
Percent of Total Members Paid as of February 28	<u>5.01%</u>	<u>4.93%</u>	<u>5.30%</u>
Amount Paid	<u>255,595</u>	<u>241,262</u>	<u>244,192</u>
Average Amount Paid	<u>\$ 111</u>	<u>\$ 109</u>	<u>\$ 105</u>

Legislative

Number Paid	<u>6,720</u>	<u>7,325</u>	<u>7,410</u>
Percent of Total Members Paid as of February 28	<u>14.61%</u>	<u>16.27%</u>	<u>16.87%</u>
Amount Paid	<u>636,006</u>	<u>690,936</u>	<u>684,583</u>
Average Amount Paid	<u>\$ 95</u>	<u>\$ 94</u>	<u>\$ 92</u>

Projected 2014-15 Dues Year Totals Based Upon The Current Participation Percentages (Note: Participation Usually Decreases For Members Who Pay Later):

Georgia Legal Services \$ 257,000

Legislative \$ 640,000

**Contribution Amounts by Dues Year
(May 1 - April 30)**

	GLSP	Legislative	
2013 - 2014	<u>\$ 241,362</u>	<u>\$ 691,736</u>	\$100 Contribution
2012 - 2013	<u>\$ 244,707</u>	<u>\$ 685,283</u>	\$100 Contribution
2011 - 2012	<u>\$ 240,678</u>	<u>\$ 656,254</u>	\$100 Contribution
2010 - 2011	<u>\$ 241,772</u>	<u>\$ 657,526</u>	\$100 Contribution
2009 - 2010	<u>\$ 235,276</u>	<u>\$ 650,806</u>	\$100 Contribution
2008 - 2009	<u>\$ 249,480</u>	<u>\$ 660,570</u>	\$100 Contribution
2007 - 2008	<u>\$ 264,255</u>	<u>\$ 1,235,022</u>	\$100 Contribution
2006 - 2007	<u>\$ 295,646</u>	<u>\$ 802,482</u>	\$100 Contribution
2005 - 2006	<u>\$ 751,762</u>	<u>\$ 159,480</u>	\$25 Contribution
2004 - 2005	<u>\$ 170,210</u>	<u>\$ 273,613</u>	\$20 Contribution

**State Bar of Georgia
Balance Sheet
February 28, 2015**

ASSETS - Current Assets

Total Cash & Short-Term Investments	16,705,219
Investment - Merrill Lynch	4,146,900
Investment - Fidelity	9
Investment - Georgia Banks	1,252,234
Total Long-Term Investments	5,399,143
Accounts Receivable	147,263
Accrued Interest Receivable	12,784
Due from Related Orgs/Emp	(256,686)
Prepaid Expenses	404,399
Bar Center Prepaid Expenses	16,816
Total Other Assets	324,576
Total Current Assets	22,428,938

Fixed Assets

Furniture & Equipment	5,130,057
Bar Center	26,568,177
Accum. Depreciation	(16,738,639)
Total Fixed Assets	14,959,595

Total Assets	\$ 37,388,533
--------------	---------------

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Accounts Payable	\$ 234,109
Other Current Liabilities	752,026
Vacation & Pers Day Accrual	423,255
Due to Client Security Fund	2,254,080
Deferred Income	12,350
C&W - Cushman Accounts Payable	40,321
BC-Accrued Expenses	15,494
C&W - Deferred Rent Income	22,619
Total Current Liabilities	3,754,254

Total Long Term Liabilities	0
-----------------------------	---

Fund Balances - Beg. of Year

Total Fund Balances - Beg. of Year	30,405,791
------------------------------------	------------

YTD Activity	3,228,503
--------------	-----------

Total Liabilities & Capital	\$ 37,388,548
-----------------------------	---------------



**Report to the
Board of Governors
of the State Bar of Georgia**

April 18, 2015
Young Harris, GA

Committees, Programs and Projects

Advocates for Students with Disabilities

Co-Chairs: Emma Hetherington & Laurice Rutledge

The YLD Advocates for Students with Disabilities Committee held two well-attended lunch meetings at the Bar Center on Jan. 22 at 12 p.m. and another on Feb. 12 at 12 p.m. Both included guest speakers and lively discussions. On March 24, they held a successful CLE from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Bar Center titled “Education Advocacy for Children with Special Needs,” presented by the Atlanta Bar CLE, Georgia State University College of Law and HeLP. On April 16 they held a well-attended lunch meeting at the Bar Center, with a guest speaker and lively debate.

Affiliate Outreach & Solo/Small Firm

Co-Chairs: Rachel Wilson, Zack Tumlin, Amy Walters, Ashley Browning, Soo Hong & Carrie Trotter

On Feb. 21, the Affiliate Outreach Committee along with the Solo/Small Firm Committee held a joint Solo/Small Firm Conference and Affiliates Conference in Macon. The day began at Mercer University School of Law with breakfast and a CLE consisting of topics on small/solo practice to include start up and formation, accounting and insurance concerns, practice management, profitability, best practices, professionalism and ethics. Attendees were treated to lunch from Satterfield’s BBQ before continuing with a YLD Roundtable with affiliate leaders from all over the state. Later in the day, a trolley took attendees around Macon for a tour on the way to dinner at The Downtown Grill. Over 30 participants attended activities throughout the day making this the most attended Affiliates Conference to date.



Speakers and Co-chairs of the YLD Solo/Small Firm Conference and Affiliates Conference. (L-R) Rustin Smith, Ashley Browning, Carrie Trotter, Natalie Kelly, Rachel Wilson and Zack Tumlin.

Business Law

Co-Chairs: Steven Moulds & Emily Newton

On February 4, 2015, the YLD Business Law Committee hosted a CLE titled – Drafting Arbitration Clauses: Tips and Tricks for the International Lawyer. The CLE was presented by Shelby Grubbs, Esq. (Executive Director, Atlanta Center for International Arbitration and Mediation) and Elizabeth Silbert, (Senior Associate, King & Spalding LLP). The Business Law Committee also partnered with the Community Service Projects Committee on March 14, 2015 to volunteer at the Crossroads Community Ministries to prepare sandwiches for homeless men, women and children.

Community Service Projects

Co-Chairs: Kimberly Bourroughs & Jessica Nix

The YLD Community Service Projects Committee started the New Year with their Annual Suit & Cell Phone Drive, which was a huge success and benefited the Atlanta Mission and My Sister's House to assist low income individuals with their transition into the workforce. The committee collected and donated over an estimated \$10,000 worth of gently worn clothing, shoes and accessories to My Sister's House and the Atlanta Mission. A special thanks goes to Ichechi Nkesi Alikor of The Alikor Law Firm, Kevin Patrick of Goodman McGuffey, Jennifer Cornelius of Katz Stepp Wright & Flemming LLC, Deepa Subramanian of Ogletree Deakins, Bre' Anna Brown of King & Spalding, Shalamar Parham of Parham Law Firm, Lindsay Verity of Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Erin Graham Watstein of Troutman Sanders, and Danielle Buteau and Mary McAfee of the State Bar of Georgia for their efforts in making the drive a city-wide event and helping to collect hundreds of clothing items across Atlanta. They held a well-attended committee meeting on Jan. 22 at the Bar Center. On Jan. 24 they volunteered at Project Open Hand, with 10-15 YLD members present that divided up into teams to deliver meals around Atlanta. On March 14 they participated in a Sandwich Making Party at Crossroads Community Ministries, which was well-attended. On April 2 they hosted a lively Easter Egg Hunt on for the children at Nicolas House.



Suits and cell phones were donated to the Atlanta Union Mission by Community Service Co-Chair Kimberly Bourroughs.

Ethics & Professionalism

Co-Chairs: Ami Koldhekar & Neal Weinrich

The YLD Ethics & Professionalism Committee held two well-attended committee lunch meetings on Jan. 15 and Feb. 12 at the offices of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard Smith. They hosted their annual ethics CLE on March 5, 2015. The CLE was an hour-long panel format, and the topic of the CLE was "The Age-Old Question: Who is the Client?" The committee secured an excellent panel: Jenny Mittelman with the State Bar of Georgia; Douglas Chandler, who is in private practice and focuses in the area of legal malpractice; and Claudia Saari, the Chief Public Defender for DeKalb County. Nicole Iannarone, a professor at Georgia State University School of Law, moderated the panel. The CLE was broadcast in Savannah, and twenty-five attorneys in total attended the event. The attendees were very engaged, and the panel gave excellent advice, particularly for young lawyers. The CLE was followed by a social networking event at Hudson Grille. The event as a whole was a success, in large part to the topic and the enthusiasm of the panel. On April 16 we held a well-attended lunch meeting where our sponsor, Xact Data Discovery, presented on ethical issues in e-discovery.

Family Law

Co-Chairs: Katie Kiihnl, Jamie Perez & Kelly Reese

The YLD Family Law Committee held a well-attended committee meeting on Jan. 22 at 6 p.m. at Stern & Edlin Family Law, P.C. On Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. they held a community service project for Youth Connections, Inc.'s Street Outreach Program at the Youth Connections Drop-In Center where they assembled and later passed out "survival kits" for young boys living on the street. On March 19, they held a well-attended committee meeting at Boyd Collar Nolen & Tuggle.

Intellectual Property

Co-Chairs: Sonia Lakhany & Tiffany Logan

The YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee held a well-attended Spring Social on Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. at Tin Lizzy's in Midtown, where they enjoyed drinks, appetizers and King Cake in celebration of Mardi Gras. They have a Lunch & Learn CLE scheduled for April 23 from 12-2

p.m. called “War Stories of the IP Associate.” It will be at the Center Bar, will feature a panel of guest speakers and include 1 hour of general credit and lunch.

Judicial Law Clerk

Co-Chairs: Matt Gass & Emaly Standridge

The YLD Judicial Law Clerk Committee held a well-attended social on Feb. 10 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Ormsby’s, which included appetizers and beverages.

Juvenile Law

Co-Chairs: Araceli Jacobs & Deidre Merriman

The YLD Juvenile Law Committee held two well-attended lunch meetings on Feb. 17 at 12:30 p.m. and on March 13 at 12 p.m. at the Bar Center, featuring guest speakers and lively discussions. They also plan to host another lunch meeting on May 19 at 12 p.m. at the Bar Center.

Labor & Employment

Co-Chairs: Alison Ballard, Stan Hill, Abby Larimer

The YLD Labor & Employment Committee held a well-attended committee meeting on Jan. 28 at 12 p.m. where Klein Dispute Resolution’s Dan Klein presented “Employment Arbitration: Pitfalls and Possibilities.”

Law School Fellows

Chair: Sean Ditzel

The Law School Fellows Committee, comprised of young lawyers and two YLD Fellows from each of the law schools in Georgia, had their first interaction at the YLD Fall Meeting in Jekyll Island. The law school fellows got their first exposure to the inter-workings of a YLD General Session and met and mingled with members of the YLD throughout the weekend. For the Midyear Meeting, the Law School Fellows Committee held a committee meeting prior to the General Session in order to plan on-campus activities for the Spring of 2015, as well as to discuss possible on-campus philanthropy initiatives.

Legal Food Frenzy

Co-Chairs: Katie Dod, Mandy Moyer, Justin Oliverio & Lisa Robinson,

Approximately 60% of Georgia’s public school children are eligible to receive free or reduced price lunch, but the problem remains on how to help these children when school is not in session. Since 2012, Attorney General Sam Olens and the YLD have worked together to help combat hunger by raising more than two million pounds of food over the past three years of the Legal Food Frenzy, a friendly statewide competition between lawyers, law firms, law schools and legal departments. All money and food raised stays in the community where it originates from because it will be sent directly to one of eight regional food banks for distribution. While food is welcomed, money is preferred because each food bank can stretch each \$1 donated into \$8 of food. Prizes are awarded based on the number of pounds raised (each \$1 raised counts as four pounds of food.) Online registration is now open and if you register by April 1, you’ll receive an additional 100 bonus pounds to your total. The contest begins April 20 and ends May 1.

Legislative Affairs Committee & Leadership Academy

Co-Chairs: Will Fagan, Leslie Powell, Rachel Fields, Anne Kaufold-Wiggins & Sarah Kjellin

The YLD hosted its 27th Annual Capitol Leadership Luncheon featuring guest speaker Rep. Wendell Willard on Tues., Feb. 24 at 12 p.m., which was well attended by special guests from the legislative and judicial branches of Georgia's government, the 2015 Leadership Academy Class and Leadership Academy Alumni.



27th Annual Capitol Leadership Luncheon. (L-R) Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick, Rep. Wendell Willard and YLD President Sharri Edenfield

Litigation

Co-Chairs: Kevin Patrick & Ryals Stone

The YLD Litigation Committee is thrilled to announce its annual "War Stories" Speaker Series. Each year they are honored to have distinguished members of the legal profession speak about their experiences. The committee has been fortunate to have members of the judiciary, government officials and trial attorneys from both the plaintiff and defense bars share their insights and knowledge. In keeping with our goal of involving litigators throughout the state, they had the first installment at the University of Georgia on March 18 from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. We had the pleasure of welcoming the Hon. Ronnie Joe Lane. He received his undergraduate degree from the United States Military Academy and earned his law degree from the University of Georgia. Judge Lane served with distinction in the Pataula Judicial Circuit from 2001 until 2014, and now he is the director of the Judicial Qualifications Commission. The second part of this series was held at Emory University Law School on April 2. Mr. Lloyd Bell of the Bell Law Firm spoke. Mr. Bell is an exceptional trial attorney. He has tried numerous cases in both state and federal court, argued cases before the Georgia Supreme Court and Court of Appeals for Georgia and recovered multi-million dollar verdicts for his clients. Third, the committee will be going to Mercer Law School on May 7 and are in the process of arranging a distinguished speaker. Many thanks to our sub-committee co-chairpersons, Jake Evans and James Stone for all of their hard work in organizing the series this year!

Long Range Planning Committee

Co-Chairs: Josh Bosin & Brantley Rowlen

The YLD Long Range Planning Committee spent last summer and fall hard at work primarily on two different projects: 1) the legislative initiative for student loan repayment to encourage rural

lawyers to practice in an underserved county; and 2) the succession planning program. A great deal of research and planning has been put into both projects culminating in the committee's presentation of the legislative initiative on December 4 to the State Bar's Advisory Committee on Legislation and the agreement with the Georgia Law Schools on jointly promoting the Succession Planning program in Spring 2015.

Minorities in the Profession

Co-Chairs: Alex Barnett & Morgan Clemons

The YLD Minorities in the Profession Committee hosted an extremely successful event called "MIPC at the Movies" on Jan. 16 at 6 p.m., which included a complimentary social at Arnall Golden Gregory LLP and a movie ticket to see SELMA at Atlantic Station. Then on Feb. 5, at Brio Tuscan Grille, they hosted a successful event at 6 p.m. titled "Young Lawyers on a Budget: Making the Most out of Your Money by Making More and Spending Less," featuring distinguished guest speakers, free food and drinks. This event was co-sponsored by the Emory Alumni Association. On March 20, the committee coordinated the YLD Leadership Academy and CLE for the YLD Spring Meeting in New Orleans. The CLE explored the *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision in historical and contemporary contexts. Originating in Louisiana and decided by the Supreme Court in 1896, the decision established that states can constitutionally enact legislation requiring persons of different races to use "separate but equal" segregated facilities. As a part of the professional credit, the CLE considered the professional obligations of lawyers to promote equal application of the laws, the role of lawyers in championing access to justice and the rights of citizens and lawyers' professional interactions with opposing parties and their counsel, the courts and their colleagues.

Public Interest Internship Program

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Fleeman & Kerry Nicholson

The YLD Public Interest Internship Program Committee accepted applications for the 2015 class until March 30. Any law student or new lawyer who already secured an unpaid summer internship for at least 10 weeks and 400 hours of service at a public interest legal organization in Georgia could apply for a PIP \$5,000 stipend. The committee is grading the applications and will notify the top three grant recipients of their award by May 1.

Signature Fundraiser

Co-Chairs: Ashley Akins & Jessica Fagan

The YLD 2015 Signature Fundraiser was held on Saturday, February 28, 2015, at Terminal West in midtown. Now in its ninth year, the Signature Fundraiser was a black-tie evening celebration hosted by the YLD and attended by influential and up-and-coming leaders in the community. Each year the event raises money and support for a nonprofit organization chosen by the YLD Board of Directors. Proceeds from the 2015 event benefitted the Augusta Warrior Project, an organization that provides assistance to men and women who have served our country. The event featured live music from local party band Bogey & the Viceroy, a DJ, dancing, open bar, snacks and dessert bar, silent auction and more, including both general admission and VIP admission tickets.



YLD Officers attend the 9th Annual Signature Fundraiser (L-R) Darrell Sutton, Sharri Edenfield, Jack Long, Nicole Leet and Rizza O'Connor.

Meetings & Important Upcoming Dates

Fall Meeting

The YLD Fall Meeting was held Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2014 in Jekyll Island, GA at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel. The meeting kicked-off with a joint reception with the Glynn County YLD on Thursday evening at the King and Prince Hotel on St. Simons Island, where President Sharri Edenfield gave a short summary of the progress on her initiatives and encouraged Glynn County YLD members to get involved with the State Bar YLD. Friday morning, President Edenfield held an Executive Committee Meeting with the officers and directors before the General Session was held to discuss issues related to the legislative initiative. Over 80 YLD members and guests attended the General Session, where a vote was held on the legislative initiative and amending the bylaws. Ms. Kim Elle, the CEO for the Augusta Warrior Project, the 2015 Signature Fundraiser Beneficiary, gave brief remarks regarding the charity and its appreciation for being selected.

After the General Session was concluded, Alumni Leadership Council member and former YLD President, Damon Elmore, moderated a seminar on running for YLD office that included as panelists former YLD Presidents Judge Josh Bell, Stephanie Kirijan, Bill Barwick and Darrell Sutton as well as former State Bar President Lester Tate. Additionally, a CLE on Military Support opportunities through the State Bar was coordinated by YLD co-Director of Military Support, Ed Piasta, and led by leaders from the State Bar's Military/Veterans Law Section and Military Legal Assistance Program, Norman Zoller, Drew Early, Cary King, Eric Ballinger, and Jeff Arnold. YLD members were fortunate to see Immediate Past President for the State Bar, Buck Ruffin, be recognized by the Military/Veterans Law Section and Military Legal Assistance Program for his support. Finally, Ms. Avarita Hanson, Executive Director for the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, led an interactive professionalism CLE entitled "Professionalism in the Digital Age."

The YLD enjoyed a group dinner on Friday evening at Bennie's Red Barn on St. Simons Island and then were hosted for festive Halloween cocktail/dessert reception by YLD Northern District Representative, Sutton Connelly, his grandfather and State Bar member, Bobby Lee Cook, and

their firm, Cook & Connelly, at Mr. Cook's Sea Island Home. YLD members enjoyed attending the Board of Governors meeting on Saturday morning and enjoyed a Bloody Mary reception hosted by the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association immediately following the meeting. YLD members also joined Board of Governors members for tailgating and watching the GA/FL game down in Jacksonville and at the hotel.



Board of Governors Member Eric Ballinger presents YLD President Sharri Edenfield and Military Support Co-chairs Ed Piasta and Kristie Piasta with a Challenge Coin in recognition of their work to support Military Veterans this year.

Midyear Meeting:

The Midyear Meeting was held in Atlanta, January 8-10. In addition to the General Session held on Friday, January 9, 2015, the YLD hosted some exciting new programming. On Thursday, January 8, the Alumni Leadership Council and Leadership Academy Alumni Committee hosted the first ever "Next Step Institute," which focused on advanced leadership development topics for Leadership Academy alumni, including how to build a law practice, develop a client base and run for political office. On Friday, January 9, 2015, prior to the General Session, the YLD Military Support Team, along with leaders from the Military/Veterans Law Section and Military Legal Assistance Program, hosted a VA Accreditation CLE so that members could become certified to help veterans with VA benefits appeals.



VA Accreditation CLE Presenters (L-R) Normal Zoller, Drew Early, YLD President Sharri Edenfield and Cary King.



YLD Next Step Institute Panelists (L-R) Derric Crowther , Moderator Damon Elmore, Michael Geoffroy and Frank Burns.

Spring Meeting

The YLD held its Spring Meeting in New Orleans, La., March 19-22. On Thursday evening, a Welcome Reception was held for attendees to get acquainted with other young lawyers. On Friday, YLD members were treated to a CLE on the famous U.S. Supreme Court case that arose from New Orleans, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, led by Professors Powell and Westley from Tulane University and coordinated by the Minorities in the Profession Committee. Avarita Hanson, Executive Director for the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, joined the panel to provide insight from the professionalism perspective. Also in attendance were Keith Plessy and Phoebe Ferguson, descendants of Plessy and Ferguson who run the Plessy & Ferguson Foundation for Education. The CLE was attended by over 90 young lawyers who had the opportunity to speak with the panelists after the CLE. The YLD Leadership Academy was also in attendance as this made up their fourth session.

On Friday afternoon, attendees participated in a Scavenger Hunt that led them around the French Quarter. Participants took in the sights, sounds, and delicious foods from the Crescent City. On behalf of the winning team, the YLD made a donation to a local non-profit, Tipitina's Foundation (which was also the beneficiary of the first YLD Signature Fundraiser in 2007). Friday evening, attendees shared pictures from the Scavenger Hunt over a buffet dinner at Pat O'Brien's.

On Saturday, all members attended a General Session where business of the YLD was discussed. This being the last business meeting of the YLD for the 2014-15 Bar year, YLD President Sharri Edenfield took the opportunity to tell attendees how and why she got involved in the YLD years ago and how her journey has brought her full circle. Edenfield also recapped her initiatives and recognized the people who have provided her support and friendship throughout the year. After the General Session, a limited number attended an intimate luncheon at Red Fish Grill where Past YLD President and Board of Governor's Member Joe Dent along with YLD President Edenfield discussed Bar Leadership and fielded questions from the group. That evening, attendees concluded the meeting with dinner at Broussard's, which was recently voted as having the best Courtyard in the French Quarter.

The 2015 Spring Meeting boasts the highest attendance of any non-joint YLD Meeting at over 100 meeting attendees.



YLD Spring Meeting CLE Panelists (L-R) Prof. Lawrence Powell, Moderator Morgan Clemons, Avarita Hanson, Prof. Robert Westley, Phoebe Ferguson, Keith Plessy and YLD President Sharri Edenfield.



YLD Spring Meeting Attendees get ready for an afternoon Scavenger Hunt through the French Quarter.

Annual Meeting
Evergreen Conference Center
Stone Mountain, GA
June 18-21, 2015

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

November 20, 2014

Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law/Macon, GA

Members Present:

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President; Robert J. Kauffman, President-elect; Rita A. Sheffey, Treasurer; Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President (by phone); John R.B. Long, YLD President-elect; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD Immediate Past President (by phone); Elizabeth Louise Fite (by phone); Kenneth B. Hodges, III; Phyllis Holmen; David S. Lipscomb; Brian D. Rogers; and Nicki Vaughan.

Members Absent:

Charles L. Ruffin, Immediate Past President.

Staff Present:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; and Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Following a report by President Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, and a request to add a discussion under New Business on the use of consent agendas at Executive Committee and Board of Governors meetings, the Executive Committee approved the meeting agenda, as revised, by unanimous voice vote.

Future Meetings Schedule

The Executive Committee received a copy of the Future Meetings Schedule.

Consent Agenda

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker presented the Consent Agenda. Following a request to remove items a) (Minutes of the October 24, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting) and c) (Approval of Members' Requests), and there being no request for removal of any other item, a motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda:

- a) Minutes of the October 24, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting
- b) Members Requesting Resignation (approve): Eduardo Garcia-Otero-283998, Clarence F. Duchac III-445565, Patricia Guilday Lynch-315113, Joyce Ann Keller-411850, David A. Wansley-736525, Laurie Martin-473398, Jann Shevin-642636, J. William Veatch III-726575, Lauren Pregmon-586755, Robert H. Cable Jr.-171901, Robyn Ice-667237, Michael R. Parodi-564475, Mark E. Henderson-

346330, Letitia Utley Alfonsi-723142, Terry Currie Banta-202287, Yoong-Neung Kee-410052

- c) Approval of Member's Requests (staff recommendations in parenthesis):
1) Portia Seals (deny extension of time to complete the Fitness requirement)

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the remaining item b) (Members Requesting Resignation) on the Consent Agenda by unanimous voice vote.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes of the October 24, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting

Following a discussion on the Minutes of the October 24, 2014 Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the minutes, as revised, by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Members' Requests

Following a discussion on a request by Portia Seals for an extension of time to complete the Fitness requirement, the Executive Committee approved the request by unanimous voice vote.

Law School Outreach Committee Budget Request - \$5,000

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a \$5,000 budget request from the Law School Outreach Committee for its upcoming presentations at the five Georgia law schools. The cost will be paid from the Committees line item.

Speakers Travel Budget Request for the Magna Carta Symposium - \$5,000

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a \$5,000 budget request for speakers travel for the 2015 Magna Carta Symposium. The cost will be paid from the Cornerstones of Freedom line item. The Executive Committee asked that the Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Commemoration Committee submit a proposed budget for all of the costs associated with the upcoming symposium and exhibit.

Thurgood Marshall CLE (\$5,000)

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, approved underwriting by up to \$5,000 the cost of the *Thurgood Marshall's Coming* 3-hour CLE on January 9, 2015 in conjunction with the Midyear Meeting. The cost will be paid from the Cornerstones of Freedom line item.

Sponsorship Request – Urban League of Greater Atlanta - \$3,500

Following a report by Ken Hodges the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a \$3,500 Bronze Sponsorship for the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's 53rd Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner on December 6, 2014. The cost will be paid out of the Conference Sponsorship line item.

Approval of Recommendation from Finance Committee

Following a report by Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the Finance Committee's recommendation that the Cornerstones of Freedom (COF) program be funded via a restricted reserve fund of \$600,000. The fund will be established using the residual of the 2014-15 COF operating budget line items as of June 30, 2015, plus an allocation of Bar surplus funds to total the \$600,000. The COF operating budget line item for the Bar Year 2016-17 and beyond will be the necessary amount to replenish the reserve fund to \$600,000.

Executive Session

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss the Bar's communications efforts. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee moved out of Executive Session.

Communications Department Operations and Policy on Consultants

The Executive Committee withdrew this item.

Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee

Following a report by Paula Frederick the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors proposed amendments (Exhibit A) to the following rules: 1) Rules 4-104, 4-204 and 4-221(g), 2) Rule 4-403(c) and (d), 3) Rule 4-106 (f)(2), and 4) Rule 4-227.

Business Court and International Arbitration Rules Change

Following a report by Ken Hodges the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors proposed amendments (Exhibit B) to Atlanta Judicial Circuit Rule 1004 regarding the Superior Court of Fulton County Business Court Division. The proposed rule will allow cases subject to the Georgia International Arbitration Code to be transferred to the Business Case Division.

President's Report

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported that she and Jeff Davis recently met with the County Commissioners in Glascock County, and will be meeting tomorrow with representatives of Webster County regarding the rural lawyers' initiative. She is trying to get resolutions from each county to submit with the Bar's legislative proposal and funding request. The iCivics program has been very well received in those school

systems in which it has been implemented, reaching 20,000 students to date. She is meeting next month with the Georgia Department of Education to request a statewide rollout of the program. She announced that the 2014 Law Day program is an ABA Law Day 2014 Outstanding Activity Award winner and she and Rita Sheffey were given a round of applause for their efforts as the 2014 cochairs. Lastly, she reported that the videoconferencing upgrades have been completed and commended the staff for their help in its implementation.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rita Sheffey provided a report on the Bar's finances and investments. The Executive Committee received copies of the Operations and Bar Center Consolidated and Individual Revenue and Expenditures Reports for the three months ended September 30, 2014, the Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2014, and the Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions for May-October 2012-2014.

The Executive Committee received a copy of the 2015-2016 Budget Timetable.

YLD Report

YLD President Sharri Edenfield reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. She stated that the Solo, Small Firm Affiliate Conference has been combined with a Solo, Small Firm Program at Mercer's School of Law that will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2015. Natalie Kelly, Director of the Law Practice Management Program, has been an invaluable resource in putting together the program. The annual Signature Fundraiser will take place on February 28, 2015 at Terminal West and the proceeds will benefit the Augusta Warriors Project. She encouraged the Executive Committee members to attend the YLD Holiday Party on December 5 at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Executive Director's Report

Jeff Davis reported that the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia (PAC) will be vacating the office space it leases in the State Bar Building in early February 2015. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council plans to expand and lease approximately half of the space being vacated by PAC. That will leave approximately 10,000 square feet of rentable space available on the 4th Floor. He recently attended the unveiling of the *Courthouses of Georgia* book by the Georgia Association of County Commissioners.

Georgia Legal Services Corporation (GLSP)

Phyllis Holmen provided an update on the activities of the GLSP. The program has been doing well this year with additional funding due to Georgia's poverty population and funding from the State of Georgia for victims of domestic violence, which has allowed it to hire 5 new lawyers and fill some other existing spots. However, with the recent election and change in Congress the budget for next year is very uncertain and very

important. The best thinking is that no federal budget will be passed until January when the new members are sworn in, which could mean a decrease in funding for the Legal Services Corporation. She thanked everyone for their continued support of the GLSP. President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported that she will encourage Bar members to actively support giving to civil legal services providers this holiday season.

Board of Governors Minutes

The Executive Committee received a copy of the Minutes of the November 2, 2014 Board of Governors Meeting.

Communications Report of Published Articles 2014-15

The Executive Committee received a copy of the 2014-15 Media Report.

Law Day Outstanding Activity Award Winners

The Executive Committee received a copy of a notice from the ABA Division for Public Education – Programs and Initiatives, announcing that Georgia’s Law Day 2014 program is an Outstanding Activities Award Winner. The program was a collaboration of the following 14 legal and civil rights organizations: Atlanta Bar Association, Atlanta Public Schools, Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, Fulton County Superior Court, Gate City Bar Association, Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Georgia Association for Women Lawyers, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Georgia Hispanic Bar Association, Multi-Bar Leadership Council, National Center for Civil & Human Rights, South Asian Bar Association of Georgia, State Bar of Georgia, and Stonewall Bar Association.

Avvo Launches Service Providing On-Demand Legal Advice for a Fixed Fee

The Executive Committee received a copy of an *ABA Journal Business of Law* article about Avvo launching a new on-demand service that provides legal advice at a fixed rate.

Legal Zoom Products To Be Sold at a Discount Through Sam’s Club

The Executive Committee received a copy of an *ABA Journal Business of Law* article announcing that LegalZoom products will be sold at a discount through Sam’s Club. The products are a suite of estate planning products priced at \$299, and a discount of up to 25% on other LegalZoom products.

UPL Suit Against Legal Zoom Must Go to Arbitration

The Executive Committee received a copy of an *ABA Journal Legal Technology* article wherein the Arkansas Supreme Court ruled that a mandatory arbitration clause in LegalZoom’s customer agreement must be enforced. The ruling reverses a judge’s decision that arbitration would encroach on “the exclusive jurisdiction of the state courts to determine whether or not something constitutes unauthorized practice of law.”

Atlanta Legal Aid Society Receives \$212,837 Pro Bono Innovation Grant

The Executive Committee received a copy of a press release announcing that the Atlanta Legal Aid Society will receive a 24-month \$212,837 Pro Bono Innovation Fund grant to deliver free legal follow-up services to low-income clients.

Courthouses of Georgia Photography Book

The Executive Committee received a copy of a press release from the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) announcing that the new *Courthouses of Georgia* photography book is now available for purchase through the University of Georgia Press, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

David Lipscomb commended President Patrise Perkins-Hooker on today's luncheon with the Macon Bar Association at which she recognized the distinguished careers of Past Presidents Cubbedge Snow, Jr. and Rudolph N. Patterson, and Board of Governors member Virgil Louis Adams.

David Lipscomb asked that the Consent Agenda be done away with as it continues to create problems for the meeting chair, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Governors. If an item is important enough to go on an agenda, it is important enough to be discussed and voted on individually. Patrise Perkins-Hooker thanked David for his comments and noted that the decision to use a Consent Agenda is up to each meeting chair that sets the agenda. She also noted that the General Counsel's office is looking into the Executive Committee's authority to grant or deny members' waiver requests.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned.



Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Approved:



Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

January 28, 2015

National Center for Civil and Human Rights/Atlanta, GA

Members Present:

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President; Robert J. Kauffman, President-elect; Rita A. Sheffey, Treasurer; Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary; Charles L. Ruffin, Immediate Past President; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President; John R.B. Long, YLD President-elect; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD Immediate Past President; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Kenneth B. Hodges, III; Phyllis Holmen, David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Brian D. Rogers.

Staff Present:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer; and Thomas Worthy, Director of Governmental Affairs.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Following a report by President Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee adopted the meeting agenda by unanimous voice vote.

Future Meetings Schedule

The Executive Committee received a copy of the Future Meetings Schedule.

Consent Agenda

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker presented the Consent Agenda. There being no request for removal of any of the items, a motion was made and seconded to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a) Minutes of the November 20, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting
- b) Members Requesting Resignation (approve): Dmitry Savransky-627840, Dale Alton-257660, Brian P. Duncan-233395, Deborah Archie-021215, Hugh Meredith Flick Jr.-256476, Michael J. Gerhardt-291489
- c) Members Requesting Disabled Status (approve): Mary Louise Skene-650375, J. Daniel Butler-099750

- d) Approval of Member's Requests (staff recommendations in parenthesis):
- 1) Christine Bryce (deny late fee appeal)
 - 2) Marianne Takas (approve appeal to change status from terminated to resigned/dues deficient)
 - 3) John Benneth Iwu (deny appeal to waive fitness for reinstatement from suspension)

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the above items on the Consent Agenda.

Welcome - National Center for Civil and Human Rights

Deborah J. Richardson, Executive Vice President, National Center for Civil and Human Rights, welcomed the members of the Executive Committee to the Center and provided an overview of the Center's various exhibits.

Law School Incubator Program

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported that at its January 8 meeting, the Bar Center Committee approved recommending to the Executive Committee that office space be provided for the proposed incubator program rent-free for a three-year period, with the location of the space to be determined by the State Bar. She also reported that she had just received a letter from Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson in support of the program. Since the formation of documents outlining the actual day-to-day operations, the Bylaws and governance of the incubator program are still being fleshed out, the action for the Executive Committee's consideration today is only the issue of rent abatement. Bucky Askew was present to answer questions on the incubator program. The Executive Committee took the following action:

- 1) A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of the Bar Center Committee and to enter into a lease with the incubator program for the space identified by State Bar staff on the 4th floor of the State Bar Building for a three-year period rent-free;
- 2) A motion and second to table the issue and to place it on the agenda of the Spring Board of Governors Meeting failed by majority voice vote;
- 3) A motion and second to amend the original motion to state that approval by the Executive Committee of the Bar Center Committee's recommendation is a recommendation to the Board of Governors passed by a hand vote of 7 in favor to 6 opposed; and
- 4) The amended motion to accept the recommendation of the Bar Center Committee and to enter into a lease with the incubator program for the space identified by

State Bar staff on the 4th floor of the State Bar Building for a three-year period rent-free, and to present the recommendation to the Board of Governors for its consideration and approval, passed by majority voice vote, with Treasurer Rita Sheffey abstaining.

The Executive Committee received a copy of the January 8 Bar Center Committee Meeting Minutes.

Civil Legal Services Task Force (CLSTF)

Treasurer Rita A. Sheffey, Chair of the CLSTF, provided an update on the activities of the Task Force. Since OCGA §36-15-7 provides for the granting of excess county law library funds to charitable tax exempt organizations that provide civil representation for low income people, the Task Force created an educational piece that can be used when judges are being asked to consider using some of their excess funds for indigent civil legal services. The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors the Task Force's educational piece on Excess County Law Library Funds.

Institute for Advancement of the American Legal System

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the State Bar's participation in a membership survey on behalf of the national Foundations for Practice (FFO) project of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at the University of Denver. The survey is part of an effort to determine what law graduates need to launch successful careers in the legal profession, create models of legal education to better fulfill those needs, and identify tools legal employers can use to make better hiring decisions.

Clients' Security Fund (CSF) Task Force

David Lipscomb reported that he has a conflict of interest in this matter and excused himself from the room. YLD Immediate Past President Darrell Sutton, and chair of the Client Security Fund Task Force, reported on the reduction in the Fund balance due to a sustained reduction in the amount of interest income generated by the CSF corpus, the filing of several substantial claims by former clients of Miles Gammage, and the existence of several other substantial claims by former clients of other attorneys. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors the following Task Force proposals:

- 1) A one-time contribution of \$500,000 from the State Bar's unrestricted surplus to help offset the size of the claims and reductions in the fund balance, and
- 2) A change to Bar Rule 10-103 providing for an increase in the annual claims paid cap from \$350,000 to \$500,000.

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker commended the work of the Task Force.

Pro Hac Vice – Year 2 Fees and Beyond

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors an amendment to the pro hac vice rules to allow that a \$75 administrative fee be collected for any pro hac vice application renewal so that State Bar gets adequately compensated for the processing of those applications.

Georgia Bar Journal In Memoriam Announcement and Ad

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved including an In Memoriam announcement and an ad soliciting contributions to the Georgia Bar Foundation in future *Georgia Bar Journals*, and a list of lawyers who have made contributions to the Georgia Bar Foundation.

Resolutions

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved presenting State Bar resolutions (Exhibit A) to attorney Jeffrey R. Banish and compensation analyst Susan P. Logan, both with Troutman Sanders, in appreciation of their outstanding pro bono service to the State Bar in the administration of its employee pension plan.

Sponsorship Requests

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the following sponsorship requests:

- 1) A \$3,000 sponsorship for the GABWA 2015 Glitter Gala and Auction on July 25, 2015,
- 2) A \$5,000 sponsorship for the 2015 Law Day Program *Magna Carta: A Symbol of Freedom Under Law*, and
- 3) A \$5,000 Ambassador Level sponsorship for the YLD 2015 Signature Fundraiser *Stars and Stripes*.

Harvey Weitz Conference Room – Coastal Georgia Office

The Executive Committee discussed various ways in which to recognize the late Harvey Weitz at the Coastal Georgia Office.

Burton Fletcher Membership Database Request

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, denied a request by Bar member Burton Fletcher to modify the list of attorneys on the web site to include all names that an attorney has used in his or her law practice.

Funding for a Celebration of Civil Rights Milestones

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker presented a proposal for a joint collaboration between the State Bar and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights for a Voting Rights Act 50th Anniversary Celebration in the amount of \$79,000. The funds, which would be paid from the Cornerstones of Freedom budget, would support the following activities: SNCC Reunion (\$35,000), Women's Empowerment Summit (\$10,000), NCCHR Anniversary Programming (\$6,000), International Youth Day (\$3,000), and Administrative & Programming Coordination (\$25,000). The events would take place beginning March and run through early August. Treasurer Rita Sheffey reported that the contract needs to be thoroughly vetted to ensure that the State Bar has control over all aspects of the programs. The Executive Committee also discussed the need for a CLE component, active control over the events, a written contract, and the appointment of a committee for oversight. The Executive Committee took the following action:

- 1) A motion and second to approve providing up to \$79,000 to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights for a Voting Rights Act 50th Anniversary Celebration from the Cornerstones of Freedom budget was amended by a majority hand vote, and
- 2) The amended motion stating that the \$79,000 to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights for a Voting Rights Act 50th Anniversary Celebration from the Cornerstones of Freedom budget is contingent upon 1) all programming meeting the requirements of Keller, 2) the Bar exercising appropriate control over the programs, 3) the inclusion of a CLE component approved by ICLE, and 4) the President appointing an oversight committee, was approved by majority hand vote.

Note: This item was discussed further, followed with a motion, later in the meeting.

Funding for a Table at the Atlanta Bar Luncheon Honoring Linda Klein

Following a report by President Patrise Perkins-Hooker the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved reserving a table for \$600 for an Atlanta Bar Luncheon honoring Past President Linda A. Klein on February 24.

President's Report

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker provided an update on her continued efforts regarding the rural lawyers initiative. Resolutions in support of the initiative are moving through various county commissions and the funding proposal is moving through the legislative process. The next step will be the development of suggested guidelines for the initiative, which will ultimately be administered by the Department of Community Affairs. She reported that the iCivics Committee is in the process of analyzing this year's efforts to determine how iCivics can be more efficiently administered in the various school systems and to determine how best to move forward with this initiative. iCivics will require the need for the Bar to provide someone, through the auspices of the Bar's Law-Related Program, to coordinate and train teachers, while the YLD will continue to solicit and coordinate the volunteer component. She announced that the State Bar, through the Cornerstones of Freedom budget, paid the airfare for a representative from the International Law Section to travel to Spain to sign the Barcelona Friendship Agreement. She continues her media outreach efforts.

RFP for PSA: Public Education Online Media Campaign

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported on the Communications Committee's Request for Proposals for a Public Education Online Media Campaign. The campaign will include Georgia lawyers and the good they do for the public and the state, the good work of lawyers specific to their pro bono efforts, and the importance of the Rule of Law. She encouraged the Executive Committee to forward the RFP to any qualified individuals or companies they know. The Executive Committee received a copy of the RFP.

Legislative Update

Thomas Worthy provided an update on the activities of the General Assembly and the Bar's legislative agenda. He announced that the State of the Judiciary Address will take place on February 4. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a \$10,000 Gold Scholars Package sponsorship request from the Board of Regents for the 2015 Regents' Scholarship Gala. The Gala raises money for needs-based scholarships, particularly for law and medical education. The funds will be paid from the Legislative and Public Advocacy Fund.

Strategic Planning Committee

President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported that an RFP has been sent out regarding the Bar's Strategic Planning. President-elect Bob Kauffman reported that this will be a very involved process with involvement by many segments of the Bar and its leadership. YLD President-elect Jack Long was added as a member on the Strategic Planning Committee. The Executive Committee received a copy of the RFP.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rita Sheffey provided a report on the Bar's finances and investments. She reported that she is considering modifications to the State Bar's procedures for requests for reimbursements that are not accompanied with any detailed backup or sufficient documentation. Currently, she is sending those requests back for more information. The Executive Committee received copies of the Operations and Bar Center Consolidated and Individual Revenue and Expenditures Reports for the five months ended November 30, 2014, the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2014, and the Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions for May-December 2012-2014.

The Executive Committee received a copy of the 2015-2016 Budget Timetable.

YLD Report

YLD President Sharri Edenfield reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. She provided an update on the annual Signature Fundraiser that will take place on February 28 at Terminal West and encouraged everyone to attend. She reported that interest in the Long-Range Planning Committee's Succession Planning Program is high. The Solo-Small Firm Institute/Affiliates Conference featuring practical tips to open your own law practice will take place at Mercer Law School on February 21. The YLD Spring Meeting will be held in New Orleans on March 19-21 and will include a program on *Plessy v. Ferguson* and a meeting of the Leadership Academy.

Executive Director's Report

Jeff Davis reported that State Bar members are contacting the Bar for more information about the rural lawyers initiative. The Prosecuting Attorneys Council (PAC) is moving out on February 27-28, and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) will be expanding into 10,000 square feet of PAC's vacated space. The Judicial Qualifications Commission is still interested in moving into the State Bar Building, but will wait to see what space becomes available on the 6th floor once CJCC consolidates all of its office space. He reported on building maintenance and parking upgrades. The Bar has conducted a major audit of all issued parking cards and implemented an approval process for additional card requests. Upgrades to the current payment equipment and gate and ticket dispensing equipment in the parking deck are being discussed, and Haas Parking Engineers has presented a proposal to modify existing ingress and egress lanes to Spring and Marietta Streets to improve traffic flow. He is in the process of getting bids for these improvements. He has met with staff to prepare the proposed 2015-16 budget and personnel requests and the Bar is in the process of obtaining various quotes for health insurance. Responses to the Strategic Planning RFP are coming in and interviews will be conducted by the Strategic Planning Committee in late February.

Office of General Counsel Report

Paula Frederick reported on the activities of the Office of General Counsel. She announced that the Supreme Court just adopted a rule on provision of legal services after a major disaster based on an ABA Model Rule that was created after Hurricane Katrina. It allow out-of-state lawyers to come into Georgia either to provide pro bono legal services to Georgia citizens after a major disaster in this state, or to move their practice here on a temporary basis after a major disaster in their own home state. The rule goes into effect on February 5, 2015 and requires the out-of-state lawyer to register with the State Bar. The Office of General Counsel will probably handle the attorney's approval process similar to that of the pro hac vice approval process since it will need to verify the lawyer's disciplinary history. Although the rule will only take effect when there is a "major disaster" as declared by the Court, she reported that she is requesting \$3,000 in the 2015-16 OGC budget to help cover the expense of administering the rule.

Programs Committee Report

President-elect Bob Kauffman, Chair of the Programs Committee, reported on the actions of the Programs Committee at its January 16 meeting. Recommendations made by the Programs Committee included 1) the continuation of the iCivics initiative in the same fashion as this year with the caveat that the President-elect will continue to look at the viability of iCivics as a future State Bar program, 2) funding the LRE Program's Virtual Law Museum as a pilot project for year one (\$124,000-\$139,000) out of the Cornerstones of Freedom budget, after which its value will be assessed before proceeding to fund any future years, 3) providing \$5,000 to the Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession to allocate among its programs, but asking it to seek other funding sources such as sponsorships and registration fees and to seek collaboration with the law schools and the State Bar's Law School Outreach Committee with its Bar Exam and Judicial Clerkship Workshops, and the Georgia on My Mind Reception, 4) denied a request for funding by the International Law Section for a "Bar-to-Bar" Program that would develop collaborative relationships with leading foreign bar associations over the next three to five years, 5) approved a \$40,000 budget request by the Fee Arbitration Program Committee for contract attorneys to handle the enforcement of Fee Arbitration awards, and 6) approved an increase of \$15,000 for the YLD Committees line item and an increase of \$7,500 for the YLD Meetings line item.

The Executive Committee received a copy of the January 16 Programs Committee Meeting Minutes.

Executive Committee Session

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee moved out of Executive Session.

Insurance Committee Update

Treasurer Rita Sheffey, Chair of the Insurance Committee, provided an update on the activities of the Insurance Committee. It has undertaken a review of all the Bar's insurance policies and will be making some recommendations that will benefit and enhance the State Bar's insurance coverage.

Board of Governors Minutes

The Executive Committee received a copy of the Minutes of the January 10, 2015 Board of Governors Meeting.

Communications Report of Published Articles 2014-15

The Executive Committee received a copy of the 2014-15 Media Report.

LegalZoom Gets OK to Operate in UK

The Executive Committee received a copy of an *ABA Journal Business of Law* LegalZoom has gotten the green light to operate in the United Kingdom as an alternative business structure.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Following a motion made and second that all contracts entered into by the State Bar be reviewed and approved by the Office of General Counsel prior to them being signed, and that the Executive Director, or his designee, be the only authorized signatory of contracts, a motion and second to table was approved by majority voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

Immediately following adjournment, there was a motion and second to reconvene the Executive Committee Meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a motion that prior to any expenditure of funds for the Voting Rights Act 50th Anniversary Celebration there must be a contract in place, executed by the Executive Director, that includes the oversight elements as outlined in the previous motion approved under the Funding for a Celebration of Civil Rights Milestones agenda item. Those elements are 1) that all programming meets the requirements of Keller, 2) the Bar exercising appropriate control over the programs, 3) the inclusion of a CLE component approved by ICLE, and 4) the President appointing a committee to oversee the planning and programming for the Celebration.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote.



Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Approved:



Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 16, 2015
Conference Call**

Members Participating

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President; Robert J. Kauffman, President-elect; Rita A. Sheffey, Treasurer; Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD Immediate Past President; Kenneth B. Hodges, III; David S. Lipscomb; Brian D. Rogers and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Charles L. Ruffin, Immediate Past President; John R.B. Long, YLD President-elect; Elizabeth Louise Fite; and Phyllis Holmen.

Guest Participating:

Rusty Sewell.

Staff Participating

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; and Thomas Worthy, Director of Governmental Affairs.

Proposed Legislation

The Executive Committee took the following action on proposed legislation after obtaining more than a 2/3rd vote of the members by email approving the specially called Executive Committee meeting since the Board of Governors will not be meeting until March 28, 2015:

1. By unanimous voice vote, found the subject matters of HB 310, HB 328, and HB 171 to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice vote supported HB 310 (criminal justice reform bill that includes transparency and fairness provisions for misdemeanor probation); and
3. By unanimous voice vote supported HB 328 (criminal justice reform bill that includes adult sentencing reform); and
4. By unanimous voice vote took no action on HB 171 (enforcement of foreign law bill), and requested that the Bar's lobbyists monitor any progress and report it back to the Executive Committee; and

5. By unanimous voice vote opposed SB 86 (Patient Compensation Act).


Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned.



Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Approved:



Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 2, 2015
Conference Call**

Members Participating

Robert J. Kauffman, President-elect; Rita A. Sheffey, Treasurer; Charles L. Ruffin, Immediate Past President; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD Immediate Past President; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Kenneth B. Hodges, III; Phyllis Holmen; David S. Lipscomb; Brian D. Rogers and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President; Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President; and John R.B. Long, YLD President-elect.

Guest Participating:

Rusty Sewell.

Staff Participating

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; and Thomas Worthy, Director of Governmental Affairs.

Proposed Legislation

The Executive Committee took the following action on proposed legislation after obtaining the required 2/3rd vote of the members by email approving the specially called Executive Committee meeting since the Board of Governors will not be meeting until March 28, 2015:

1. By unanimous voice vote, found the subject matters of HB 361 and HB 328 to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice vote supported HB 361 (juvenile justice reform reviser bill); and
3. By unanimous voice vote opposed the following amendments in substitute HB 328 (changes to the Public Defenders Standards Council):
 - 1) The elimination of O.C.G.A. 17-12-23(b) (requiring a public defender's office to provide services to a criminal defendant within 3 business days of the person being jailed); and
 - 2) The elimination of O.C.G.A. 17-12-23(c) (requiring each Circuit Public Defender (CPD) to establish a juvenile division to specialize in the defense

of juveniles); and

- 3) The elimination of O.C.G.A. 17-12-5(c) (2) (permitting the GPDSC director the ability to "enforce" or "require compliance with" rules, procedures, minimum standards, etc.); and
- 4) The elimination O.C.G.A. 17-12-24(c) (requiring CPDs to keep certain caseload records and stats); and
- 5) The elimination of the current statutory requirement that a governing authority shall tell the PD "within one business day of [a criminal defendant's] application for [indigent defense] services" O.C.G.A. 17-12-80(c).

Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned.



Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Approved:



Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President

2015 State Bar Board of Governors Election Information

Listed below are the members of the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors whose terms will expire in June 2015. The highlighted circuits/posts listed below are positions for which no petition was received by the published deadline from the incumbent or the race is contested. If you are interested in running for any of the posts listed below, please [download](#) the pdf version of the election packet. The deadline for receipt of nominating petitions for non-incumbents is **Feb. 27, 2015**, at 11:59 p.m.

Circuit/Post	Incumbent	Non-incumbent petition received
Alapaha Circuit, Post 1	Carson Dane Perkins, Nashville	
Alcovy Circuit, Post 1	Steven A. Hathorn, Covington <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	Eric Charles Crawford, Monroe Michael G. Geoffroy, Covington William Gregory Pope, Covington
Appalachian Circuit	Will H. Pickett Jr., Jasper	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 1	Diane E. Bessen, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 3	Kathleen M. Womack, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 5	Catherine Koura, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 7	William M. Ragland Jr., Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 9	Damon Erik Elmore, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 11	Jill Pryor, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 13	Emily S. Bair, Atlanta <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	Amy Tidwell Andrews, Atlanta Bisa Furaha Ajanaku, Atlanta Matthew Blackwell Crowder, Atlanta Zahra S. Karinshak, Atlanta R. Gary Spencer, Atlanta

Atlanta Circuit, Post 15	Letitia A. McDonald, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 17	James Randolph Evans, Atlanta <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	Kent Edward Altom, Roswell JaDawnya Cintelle Butler, Atlanta
Atlanta Circuit, Post 19	Elizabeth Louise Fite, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 21	Patricia Anne Gorham, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 23	Donna G. Barwick, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 25	Phyllis J. Holmen, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 27	Nancy Jean Whaley, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 29	Tina Shadix Roddenbery, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 30	Karlise Yvette Grier, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 32	Seth David Kirschenbaum, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 34	Allegra J. Lawrence, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 36	J. Marcus "Marc" Edward Howard, Atlanta	
Atlanta Circuit, Post 39	Anita Wallace Thomas, Atlanta	
Atlantic Circuit, Post 2	Carl Robert Varnedoe, Hinesville	
Augusta Circuit, Post 1	Sam G. Nicholson, Augusta	
Augusta Circuit, Post 3	Thomas Reuben Burnside III, Augusta	
Blue Ridge Circuit, Post 2	Eric Alvin Ballinger, Canton	
Brunswick Circuit, Post 1	J. Alvin Leaphart, Jesup	
Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 2	William C. Rumer, Columbus	
Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 4	Donna Stanaland Hix, Columbus	
Cherokee Circuit, Post 2	Thomas Neal Brunt, Cartersville	
Clayton Circuit, Post 1	Fred A. Zimmerman, Jonesboro	
Clayton Circuit, Post 3	Martin L. Cowen III, Jonesboro	
Cobb Circuit, Post 2	Ronald Arthur Lowry, Marietta	
Cobb Circuit, Post 4	Patrick H. Head, Marietta	
Cobb Circuit, Post 6	Laura Joan Murphree, Marietta	

Conasauga Circuit, Post 2	Robert Harris Smalley III, Dalton	
Cordele Circuit	James W. Hurt, Cordele	
Coweta Circuit, Post 2	Sandra Nadeau Wisenbaker, Newnan	
Dougherty Circuit, Post 2	Thomas V. Duck III, Albany	
Dublin Circuit	Donald W. Gillis, Dublin <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	
Eastern Circuit, Post 2	Lester B. Johnson III, Savannah	
Eastern Circuit, Post 4	Gwendolyn S. Fortson Waring, Savannah	John Bell Manly, Savannah
Flint Circuit, Post 1	Gregory A. Futch, McDonough	
Griffin Circuit, Post 2	Roy B. Huff Jr., Peachtree City	
Gwinnett Circuit, Post 1	David S. Lipscomb, Lawrenceville	
Gwinnett Circuit, Post 3	Robert V. Rodatus, Lawrenceville	
Lookout Mountain Circuit, Post 2	Douglas Ray Woodruff, Ringgold	
Macon Circuit, Post 1	John Flanders Kennedy, Macon	
Macon Circuit, Post 3	John Christopher "Chris" Clark, Macon	
Middle Circuit, Post 2	John Alexander "Tripp" Fitzner III, Swainsboro	
Mountain Circuit	James T. Irvin, Toccoa	
Northeastern Circuit, Post 2	Nicki Noel Vaughan, Gainesville	
Northern Circuit, Post 1	Walter James Gordon Sr., Hartwell	
Ocmulgee Circuit, Post 2	Wilson B. Mitcham Jr., Gray	
Oconee Circuit, Post 2	Stephanie Diane Burton, Eastman	
Ogeechee Circuit, Post 2	Susan Warren Cox, Statesboro	
Out-of-State, Post 1	Jeb Tolliver Branham, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.	
Pataula Circuit	Edward R. Collier, Dawson	

Piedmont Circuit	Barry E. King, Jefferson	
Rome Circuit, Post 1	Paul T. Carroll III, Rome	
South Georgia Circuit, Post 2	Joshua Clark Bell, Whigham	
Southern Circuit, Post 2	Brian Allen McDaniel, Moultrie <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	Laverne Lewis Gaskins, Valdosta
Southwestern Circuit	R. Rucker Smith, Americus	
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 2	William Dixon James, Decatur	
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 4	Robert D. James Jr., Decatur	Gary S. Freed, Atlanta
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 6	Claudia Susan Saari, Decatur	
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 8	R. Javoyne Hicks White, Stone Mountain	
Stone Mountain Circuit, Post 10	Andrea Dionne McGee, Decatur <i>(incumbent not running)</i>	Dax Eric Lopez, Decatur
Tallapoosa Circuit, Post 1	Michael Douglas McRae, Cedartown	
Toombs Circuit	Dennis C. Sanders, Thomson	
Towaliga Circuit	Curtis Stephen Jenkins, Forsyth	
Waycross Circuit, Post 2	C. Deen Strickland, Waycross	
Western Circuit, Post 1	Lawton E. Stephens, Athens	

**State Bar of Georgia
2016 Election Schedule (proposed)**

2015

August 14 Deadline for submission of election schedule for publication in October issue
Georgia Bar Journal

October Official Election Notice, October Issue *Georgia Bar Journal*

December 1 Nominating petition package mailed to incumbent Board of Governors
Members and other members who request a package

2016

January Nomination of Officers at Midyear Board Meeting (date to be announced)

January 29 Deadline for receipt of nominating petitions for incumbent Board Members
including incumbent nonresident (out of state) members

Feb 26 Deadline for receipt of nominating petitions for new Board Members
including new nonresident (out of state) members

March 11 Deadline for write-in candidates for Officer to file a written statement (not less
than 10 days prior to mailing of ballots (Article VII, Section 1 (c))

March 11 Deadline for write-in candidates for Board of Governors to file a written
statement (not less than 10 days prior to mailing of ballots (Article VII, Section
2 (c))

March 28 Ballots mailed

April 29 11:59 p.m. Deadline for ballots to be cast in order to be valid

May 5 Election service submits results to the Elections Committee

May 12 Election results reported and made available



GENERAL COUNSEL
Paula J. Frederick

ATTORNEYS
William P. Smith III
Jenny K. Mittelman
John J. Shiptenko
Jonathan Hewett
Rebecca A. Hall
A.M. Christina Petrig
William J. Cobb
Wolanda Shelton
William D. Nesmith III

Memorandum to: Members, Board of Governors
From: Paula Frederick, General Counsel
Date: March 30, 2015
Re: Report of the Office of the General Counsel

I am pleased to report on recent activity of the Office of the General Counsel.

Discipline: During February 2015 the OGC sent 218 Grievance forms to members of the public and received 143 filed Grievances. The Supreme Court of Georgia entered orders in eight disciplinary cases. The Year-to-Date Report on Lawyer Regulation (covering the period May 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015) appears at page 4 of this memorandum.

Rules Changes:

The following rules changes are pending or recently approved:

- Proposed revisions to the rules governing trust accounts, 1.15(I), (II), and (III), are pending at the Supreme Court. The proposal would require lawyers to have their IOLTA accounts in banks that have agreed to pay interest rates as high as the rates they pay on comparable non-IOLTA accounts.
- The Board approved a package of proposed rules changes at the Midyear meeting. They will be published for comment in the April issue of the *Georgia Bar Journal* and any member who wishes to do so may object to the proposals through the process outlined at Bar Rule 5-102. The proposals include housekeeping amendments to Rules 4-110, 4-204.1, 4-111, 12-107, 4-104, 4-204, 4-221(g), and 4-227; revisions to standardize the time requirements for the Review Panel's consideration of a disciplinary matter (Rules 4-217 and 4-219); provisions that clarify the meaning of Rules 1.6, 8.4, 4-106(f)(2) and 4-208.3; and four substantive changes:
 - A proposed revision to Rule 4-213 would require the Bar to pay for the hearing transcript in a disciplinary matter and clarifies when the Bar must purchase a copy of the transcript for a respondent who is unable to pay;
 - A proposed revision to Rule 3.5 would add a new Section (c) and Comment 7 to prohibit communication with a juror or prospective juror;

- A new Rule 5.4(e) would allow Georgia lawyers to work with lawyers who are organized under alternative business structures.
- Changes to Rule 4-403(c) and (d) would allow the Formal Advisory Opinion Board to publish proposed opinions on the Bar's website as an alternative to the *Georgia Bar Journal*.

Formal Advisory Opinion Board: Two requests are pending:

- FAO Request No. 13-R2 – The Board has accepted the following question for drafting an opinion: May a lawyer contact and interview former employees of an organization represented by counsel when the former employees are bound by separation agreements governing non-disclosure and/or nondisparagement?
- FAO Request No. 14-R3 – The Board has received a request to draft an opinion dealing with the ethical propriety of an attorney employed as a part-time prosecutor serving as counsel in other criminal and/or civil matters. It appointed a subcommittee to make a recommendation whether to accept the request for drafting an opinion.

Pro Hac Vice Admission: The Supreme Court approved revisions to Uniform Superior Court Rule 4.4 by order of September 18, 2014. As amended the rule requires lawyers who seek admission *pro hac vice* to pay an application fee for each case plus an annual fee during each year that the case remains open. The money generated by the annual fee goes to the Georgia Bar Foundation for its use in funding pro bono efforts. Between January 1 and March 15, 2015 the Office received 136 new applications and 536 renewals, resulting in a payment of \$128,000 to the Georgia Bar Foundation thus far this calendar year.

Lawsuits:

- The federal district court granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss in a piece of litigation involving a pro se litigant who is unhappy with the outcome of his custody case. The Plaintiff appealed to the 11th Circuit and on March 17, 2015 the Court certified the record. The lawsuit names past president Buck Ruffin but does not name the Bar itself as a defendant.
- In October the Bar filed an amicus brief in a fee arbitration matter pending at the Court of Appeals. The purpose of the amicus was to respond to a challenge to the Bar Rules. The Court entered an order March 25 2015 upholding the fee arbitration process and affirming its award.
- The Bar was sued in late March by a woman who is unhappy with the Bar's dismissal of several lawyer grievances and fee arbitration petitions that she has filed.

CLE presentations: OGC staff attorneys have done the following CLE presentations since my last report:

- *Attorney's First Aid Kit—Balancing Work & Life*, Lawyers Assistance Program;
- *Ethics for Immigration Lawyers*, AILA/Georgia/Alabama Chapters;
- *How to Avoid the Grievance Process*, Cobb County Younger Lawyers;
- *Special Master Training*, ICLE
- *Ethics for Guardians ad Litem*, Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation;
- “Who is the Client?” State Bar of Georgia YLD;
- *Ethics for Corporate Counsel*, Association of Corporate Counsel;
- *The Dekalb Bar*, Georgia Legal History Foundation;
- *Ethical Dilemmas in Litigation*, ICLE;
- *Ethical Dilemmas for Defense Counsel*; Georgia Defense Lawyers Association;
- *Blogging for Lawyers*; Emory Law School;
- *Ethics Update*, Columbus Bar Association;
- *Ethics Update*, North Fulton Bar Association;
- *Ethics for Students in the Pro Bono Clinic*, Emory Law School;
- *Ethics for Child Protection Cases*; ICLE;
- *Ethics for Public Sector & Government Lawyers*, ABA Government/Public Sector Lawyers Division;
- *Transition into Practice*; National Conference of Bar Presidents/Metro Caucus;
- *Ethics for Litigation*, Atlanta Bar Litigation Section;
- *How to Avoid the Grievance Process*, Port City Bar Association (Savannah);
- *Bridge the Gap*, ICLE;
- *Flying Solo, Ethically*, Savannah Law School;
- *The Future of Lawyer Regulation*, ABA Bar Leadership Institute;
- *Ethics for Bar Leaders*, GABWA Professional Development Academy;
- *Leadership Academy*, GAWL;
- *Ethics for Guardians ad Litem in the Juvenile Court*, ICLE.

**Year-to-Date Report on Lawyer Regulation
 May 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015**

Grievance forms requested and sent to public	2,527
Grievance forms sent back to Office of General Counsel for screening	1,647
Grievances pending as of 4/30/2014.....	<u>403</u>
TOTAL.....	2,050
Grievances referred to State Disciplinary Board members.....	166
Grievances being screened by Grievance Counsel (GC)	399
Grievances closed by Grievance Counsel.....	1,451
Grievances moved to moot status by GC after attorney was disbarred	<u>34</u>
TOTAL.....	2,050

Regulatory Action May 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015

	<u>Attorneys</u>	<u>Cases</u>
Letters of Admonition Accepted	11	12
Investigative Panel Reprimands Administered	14	17
Review Panel Reprimands	8	10
Public Reprimand	2	2
Suspensions	22	26
Disbarments/Voluntary Surrenders	<u>20</u>	<u>30</u>
	77	97
Reinstatements Granted	4	
Reinstatements Denied	0	

**Quarterly Report of the Executive Director, Jeff Davis
March 30, 2015**

State Bar Center

a. Leased office space

The Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia (PACGA) notified the State Bar of their intent to not renew the lease at the end of the term. PACGA vacated the 4th floor space on February 28, 2015. Prior to this move, another 4th floor tenant, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), notified the State Bar of its need for additional space. CJCC plans to occupy approximately 10,000 sq. ft. of additional space on the 4th floor.

Last month, we were contacted by another existing tenant expressing an interest in a portion of the space vacated by PACGA. We are currently in negotiations with that tenant to lease up to 6,000 sq. ft. of the vacated space, leaving approximately 7,000 sq. feet of available space on the 4th floor.

b. Building maintenance update

The following routine maintenance items have been completed on the Bar Center:

- a. Chiller (cooling) replacement
- b. Boiler (heating) replacement
- c. Roof replacement

c. Technology upgrades

We have made significant technology and videoconferencing upgrades to the Bar Center conference space on the 3rd floor and similar upgrades in the Tifton and Savannah satellite offices. These technology upgrades will facilitate more opportunities for members to connect virtually through our state-of-the-art videoconferencing equipment. This has increased member participation in meetings originating from the State Bar headquarters in Atlanta with connectivity across the State.

d. Parking upgrades

The DOT reports that the construction of the Spring Street viaduct continues on schedule.

During the DOT construction we will be making slight modifications to the State Bar parking deck to improve existing ingress and egress lanes to Spring Street and Marietta Street to improve traffic flow.

We continue to work with ICLE on parking to ensure that seminars are released before 3:30 pm to reduce congestion associated with the Spring Street exit closure. Early CLE release ensures CLE participants can exit the garage before most building employees depart for work. This has eased congestion considerably. We have also added a police officer during the afternoons to assist members as they exit the deck and merge onto Marietta Street.

Strategic Plan Request for Proposal

The Executive Committee approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Strategic Plan. We distributed and published the RFP and received five competitive proposals. A Strategic Plan Committee interviewed the candidates and made its recommendation to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has approved a contract with the committee's recommended strategic planner, Leadership Strategies, of Atlanta, GA. We anticipate completing the plan for presentation to the Board of Governors in late 2015. All stakeholders, including members of the Board of Governors, will be invited to participate in the conversation about the long term strategic plan for the State Bar.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia

**FROM: Norman E. Zoller, attorney coordinating the
Military Legal Assistance Program**

DATE: March 20, 2015

SUBJECT Status of the Military Legal Assistance Program

Background and Overview of Work: Since its inception in 2009, the Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) of the State Bar of Georgia has now made **1,383** connections between a Georgia lawyer and a service member or veteran as summarized by category below.

In addition to processing requests for legal assistance, the program through oversight by the Military Legal Assistance Program Committee, also initiated or served as facilitator for other legal assistance-related activities to include the following:

- 1) Legal Clinics at the law schools at Emory University and Georgia State University.** Working in collaboration with the Military and Veterans Law Section and the Colleges of Law in Georgia, the MLAP has assisted with military legal assistance operations at both these institutions. Interest has also been recently expressed to create similar programs at Mercer University and at the University of Georgia. These inquiries are being pursued and hopefully may be established in 2015.
- 2) VA Accreditation.** A CLE program concerned with Georgia Military Law and VA Accreditation will likely be scheduled in October or November 2015. This program qualifies lawyers to become accredited or to renew accreditation to practice before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The number of accredited lawyers in Georgia has increased from 160 in 2010 to **now 730**.
- 3) Legal Assistance Clinics at VA Medical Facilities.** In addition to the MLAP, legal assistance clinics are operating at the following VA sites: VA Medical Centers (VAMC) at Augusta and Decatur, VA medical facilities at Carrollton and Fort McPherson. Other legal clinics are being considered for the Dublin VAMC, and VA medical facilities at Rome and Athens.
- 4) Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs.** As a result of approvals by the MLAP Committee and by the Executive Committee of the Military and Veterans Law Section, Patrise Perkins-Hooker and Jeff Davis suggested to presidents and state bar executive directors throughout the Nation suggested that a symposium be held in Atlanta in April or May 2015 concerning military legal assistance programs in their various forms (their respective memoranda shown in the **Exhibit**). As a result of those memoranda, ten states plus Georgia and representation from the ABA have thus far been received indicating interest in this symposium including the

following states: Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and West Virginia.

In addition to a few keynote speakers, reports will be made in a round-table discussion format among the states on the following issues: eligibility criteria and limitations; categories of cases for which assistance is or is not provided (e.g., civil law, criminal law, actions against governmental entities); legal clinics at VA medical facilities; legal clinics at law schools; veterans courts; employment programs for veterans; housing programs for veterans; support for homeless veterans (immediate and longer term); established military legal assistance programs, et al.

- 5) **Presentations about Military Legal Assistance Programs in Georgia.** On February 4, 2015, Mr. Zoller attended and presented information at the meeting in Houston, Texas, of the **National Association of Bar Executives** on various military legal assistance programs in Georgia. This presentation included information about the MLAP (case reception and processing); legal clinics in VA medical facilities; legal clinics in law schools; support and creation of veterans courts, to include mentorships; planning and conduct of CLE programs; outreach to Bar organizations, veterans groups, and legal assistance offices; and recruitment, training, and retention of volunteer lawyers (about 850 currently), including the Young Lawyers Division.

Mr. Zoller made similar presentations to the Western Circuit Bar Association in Athens on March 10, 2015, and to the Atlanta Bar's Small Firm and Sole Practitioner's Section on March 19, 2015.

- 6) **Cases Processed.** Below is a summary of the number and types of legal assistance cases received and referred to lawyers under the State Bar's Military Legal Assistance Program. Under the program, including the cases processed prior to its formal inception in 2009, **a total of 1,383 cases have been processed.** Further, a total of 40 additional cases are in process (i.e., in the pipeline), awaiting agreement authorizations from potential clients (33) or agreements from attorneys (7) to accept a case. Further, although the program does not handle criminal cases directly, about 230 inquiries have been received from veterans or service members seeking help on a criminal law matter (which are referred to the applicable county public defender or to a local bar association).

Family Law	685 (with 59 previous by GA Legal Services)
Contested Divorce	267
Uncontested Divorce	17
Divorce Enforcement	10
Child Support	86
Guardianship/Adoption	66
	2

Visitation	29
Child Custody	151
Consumer Law	96
Housing/Property	83
Foreclosure	22
Veterans Benefits/Disability	192
Wills/Estates/Probate	72
Employment/USERRA/SCRA	37
Bankruptcy	20
Insurance	19
Personal Injury	35
Property Damage	3
Worker's Compensation	2
Contract	4
Medical Malpractice	5
Toxic Substances	5
Other	<u>103</u>
	1,383

EXHIBIT: Memoranda from Patrise Perkins-Hooker (January 16, 2015) and Jeff Davis (February 27, 2015) concerning Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs to be held in Atlanta in May 2015.



Memorandum to National Bar Presidents and Bar Executive Directors

Re: Proposed Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs, Atlanta, GA; April or May 2015

From: Patrise Perkins-Hooker, President, State Bar of Georgia

Organizers: Jeff Arnold, Army Major General, Retired, and Chair of Georgia's Military & Veterans Law Section
Eric Ballinger, Chair of Georgia's Military Legal Assistance Program Committee
Jeff Davis, Executive Director, State Bar of Georgia
Norman Zoller, Military Legal Assistance Program, State Bar of Georgia

Date: January 16, 2015

As President of the State Bar of Georgia, and on behalf of our Military Legal Assistance Program, I would like to invite your input as we begin plans for a Symposium on Military Legal Assistance in April or May 2015. The State Bar of Georgia proposes to host a one-day national symposium focused on starting and strengthening bar programs serving members of the military, veterans and their families. We invite you to partner with us in the planning and production of the conference. Other than a small fee for breakfast and lunch and the printing of a documents' reference book, no other expenses will be incurred.

The purpose of the symposium would be to improve outcomes for these special men and women by creating a greater continuity of legal assistance, nationwide. We would do this by sharing our experiences and challenges, offer model practices, and have conferees leave with helpful resources including actionable steps for their own state.

Like you, we are aware of the multiplicity of services many of us already provide and the interest by other state bars to start or formalize nascent initiatives. Our successes to-date, however, come at a time the need promises to grow as many men and women transition from war-fighting to peacekeeping or a return to civilian life. Through our collective lessons over the past decade, we believe the organized bar is on the brink of ending chronic obstacles our military and veteran families historically face. It can only come, however, working together.

Among other things, we anticipate such a symposium would include: a catalogue of bar programs in each state; presentations on short-term and permanent legal clinics and pro bono programs; the basis and role of veterans courts; the role and place of legal clinics at law schools and at VA medical facilities, and the anticipated challenges the bar should prepare to meet over the next several years.

Speakers would include bar executives, presidents, program directors and other stakeholders

Memorandum

Page 2

including from the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. We plan to host the program in April or May of 2015 in Atlanta and offer optional CLE credit for attendees. We have been in discussion with staff at the American Bar Association, who have expressed an interest in supporting this state bar-initiated effort.

Thank you for your attention, and we look forward to your response. If interested, please respond promptly to Norman Zoller (normanz@gabar.org) with your response to the following questions:

- Would you be interested in being kept apprised of this symposium?
- Would you be interested in attending?
- Do you have a military or veteran legal assistance program?
- If yes, is there a contact, website or other information concerning its scope, eligibility criteria and means of support?
- Would you like to present information about your own state bar program?

With all best wishes for the New Year.



Memorandum to National Bar Presidents and Bar Executive Directors

Re: Proposed Symposium on Military Legal Assistance Programs, Atlanta, GA; April or May 2015

From: Jeff Davis, Executive Director, State Bar of Georgia

Organizers: Patrise Perkins-Hooker, President, State Bar of Georgia
Jeff Arnold, Army Major General, Retired, and Chair of Georgia's Military & Veterans Law Section
Eric Ballinger, Chair of Georgia's Military Legal Assistance Program Committee
Norman Zoller, Military Legal Assistance Program, State Bar of Georgia

Date: February 27, 2015

As you know on January 12, 2015, State Bar of Georgia President Patrise Perkins-Hooker circulated the attached memorandum to all the presidents and executive directors of the state bars throughout the Nation concerning the possibility of conducting a one-day symposium in Atlanta on military legal assistance programs. I am pleased to report that responses have been received from a number of states saying they desire to take part in addition to a representative from the ABA. Although there are enough participants for a productive meeting to take place, we want to make certain about whether you want to present information about various approaches and programs in your state.

If you do wish to make such presentations, please inform our program director, Norman Zoller at ([normanz@gabar.org](mailto:normananz@gabar.org)). Among others, the likely subjects for this symposium will include a catalogue of bar programs in each state; short-term and permanent legal clinics and *pro bono* programs; state sponsored legal assistance programs; state bar lay and professional leadership issues; legal clinics in VA medical facilities; legal clinics in law schools; veterans courts; program funding; relationships with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and with state-supported veterans' programs; anticipated challenges the bar should prepare to meet over the next several years.

We suggest there is much to share and learn from one another. Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jeff Davis

Enclosure

HEADQUARTERS

104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303-2743
404-527-8700 • 800-334-6865
Fax 404-527-8717
www.gabar.org

COASTAL GEORGIA OFFICE

18 E. Bay St.
Savannah, GA 31401-1225
912-239-9910 • 877-239-9910
Fax 912-239-9970

SOUTH GEORGIA OFFICE

244 E. 2nd St. (31794)
PO Box 1390
Tifton, GA 31793-1390
229-387-0446 • 800-330-0446
Fax 229-382-7435

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

March 23, 2015

The Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) continues to serve both the public and members of the Bar, as it has since 1995. So far during this fiscal year (2014-2015) CAP has handled around 7,665 new or “unique” contacts (calls, letters, emails, faxes, and rare walk-ins). This does not include repeat calls, letters, emails, or follow-up contacts. CAP itself has handled 78.83% of these contacts. The remaining 21.7% have been referred to the Office of General Counsel (OGC) for investigation by way of grievances sent to persons with such complaints. It is beyond the scope of CAP’s responsibility to investigate or handle allegations of serious violations of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct and ethical misconduct.

CAP’s staff consists of three administrative assistants and two attorneys. CAP directly answers “live” about 97% of the calls received. The CAP Helpline is used when no one is available to answer calls live or for calls that come in after business hours. Calls that are not answered live are returned within the same or the next working day. CAP’s response to the voluminous mail, emails, and faxes, is usually within one day.

CAP’s two attorneys often contact members of the Bar by telephone, fax, or letter, at the request of clients. It is often helpful for attorneys to receive a confidential, non-disciplinary courtesy call, letting the attorneys know that their clients have contacted the Bar with various concerns or complaints. In order to facilitate communication between clients and attorneys, CAP notifies attorneys that their clients wish to hear from them, do not understand what is happening on their cases, need updates on case status, or, in the case of former clients, need their files. Realizing that CAP has heard only one side of the situation, CAP does not presume to advise attorneys on how to practice law or assert the client’s position is true and correct. Each CAP call is just a “heads-up” or courtesy call to the attorney. None of CAP’s actions in this regard reach attorneys’ permanent records, and all are confidential.

CAP is the contact point of the Bar for persons complaining about attorneys who are delinquent in paying their court ordered child support. Under OCGA 19-6-28.1 an attorney obligated to pay child support can be administratively suspended from the practice of law, if the custodial parent submits a certified copy of an order verifying the arrearage. The suspension is lifted once certain requirements are met in accordance with the Code and Bar rules. There has been one such case during this fiscal year.

CAP is also a contact point for the Judicial District Professionalism Program (JDPP). This involves inquiries from lawyers or judges concerning unprofessional conduct and incivility among peers. This program is private, confidential, voluntary, and non-disciplinary in nature. Its purpose is to open channels of communication by the informal use of local peer influence. During this fiscal year there have been two JDPP cases.

CAP remains within its annual budget of \$551,242, and it is anticipated that it will continue to do so.

Law Practice Management Program
(Abbreviated report for the 2014-2015 Bar Year)

This is a summary of program events scheduled and completed during the period July 1-March 20, 2015.

Consultation Report

# of Consultations by City			
Alpharetta	1	Jonesboro	1
Atlanta	18	Macon	1
Carrollton	1	Marietta	2
Columbus	1	Newnan	1
Conyers	1	Roswell	1
Douglasville	1	Savannah	2
Dublin	1	Smyrna	3
Gainesville	1	Stone Mtn.	2

# of Consultations by Firm Size	
1 Attorney	21
2-4 Attorney	15
5-8 Attorney	1
9-15 Attorney	1
16+ Attorneys	0

# of Consultations by Consultation Type	
General	17
Technical	21
Grand Total	38

Office Visits

LPM distributed **493** Starting Your Georgia Law Practice booklets as requested by attorneys. There were **75** startup discussions conducted by the Program via office visits.

Resource Library

Our lending library has a grand total of **1,610** 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 **472** checkouts by **150** patrons.

Software Library

The Program has a Software Library that consists of complete, working copies of software applications. Many of these products are legal specific, and require more guidance when being demonstrated than general applications. During this period, there were **3** office visits made to look at software programs in the Software Library.

Speaking Engagements

There are a total of **22** completed and scheduled programs during this period. The Program's staff has given **20** continuing legal education and special presentations to Georgia lawyers and other related groups. These presentations have been held in various local and national venues. **2** programs are scheduled for future dates.

- July 29, 2014 National Bar Association (NBA) 89th Annual Convention & Exhibits CLE, *Social Media & Your Law Firm: Untapped Reward & Unknown Danger Panel Discussion* (Avarita Hanson, Paula Frederick, Natalie Kelly, Randall M. Kessler, and Phaedra Parks), Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, Georgia.
- August 7, 2014 American Bar Association, Law Practice Division Annual Meeting, *Safely and Ethically Navigating the Cloud* (Natalie Kelly), Hilton Boston Back Bay, Boston, Massachusetts.
- August 14, 2014 LPM Solo & Small Firm Summer 2014 CLE (sponsored), *Using Financial Reports to Make Sense Of It All* (Natalie Kelly); *Billing & Collecting--Effective Tips and Tricks to Get Paid* (Natalie Kelly), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **47 attendees**.
- August 19, 2014 Transitioning into Law Practice Program (TILPP) Group Mentoring CLE, *The Virtual Law Office-Model Mentoring C* (Natalie Kelly), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **134 attendees**.

- September 12, 2014 Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) Solo/Small Firm Symposium, *Smooth Operators: The Business of Law--Setting Fees/Case Management (Natalie Kelly)*, Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 8 attendees.
- October 17, 2014 Basic Fiduciary Practice CLE, *Law Practice Management (Sheila Baldwin)*, Hilton Garden Inn, Macon, Georgia, 57 attendees.
- October 30, 2014 LPM Solo & Small Firm Fall 2014 CLE: Driving Business to Your Law Practice (sponsored), *How to Build a Website in One Hour (Natalie Kelly)*; Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 83 attendees.
- November 7, 2014 TILPP Mentor Orientation CLE, *State Bar of Georgia Resources for Mentors and Beginning Lawyers (Sheila Baldwin)*, Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 9 attendees.
- November 14, 2014 Cobb County Bar Solo/Small Firm Section CLE, *Don't Reinvent the Wheel! Creating Systems to Make Your Practice Easier and Profitable (Natalie Kelly)*, Board of Commissioners Room, Marietta, Georgia, 28 attendees.
- January 8, 2015 LPM Midyear Meeting CLE (sponsored), *60 + Management and Technology Tips, Apps and Gadgets (Natalie Kelly)*, Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, Georgia, 8 attendees.
- January 30, 2015 Internet Legal Research GPTV Broadcast, *Advanced Tips for Enhancing Legal Research on Fastcase (Sheila Baldwin)*, Georgia Public Broadcasting Studios, Atlanta, Georgia, 84 attendees.
- February 6, 2015 GABWA Solo/Small Firm Section Breakfast Meeting, *State Bar Member Services and Law Practice Management Resources (Natalie Kelly)*, Egg Harbor Café Buckhead, Atlanta, GA, 12 attendees.
- February 6, 2015 Residential Real Estate GPTV Broadcast, *Making Your Office Systems More Efficient and Productive (Natalie Kelly)* and *CFPB Compliance Tips Panel Discussion (Natalie Kelly, Dawn Lewallen, and David Lambrozo)*, Georgia Public Broadcasting Studios, Atlanta, Georgia, 205 attendees.
- February 21, 2015 Young Lawyer's Division (YLD) Affiliate Conference, *Law Practice Management and Opening a Small Practice (Natalie Kelly)*, Mercer Law School, Macon, Georgia, 30 attendees.
- February 23, 2015 TILPP Beginning Lawyers CLE, *Practice Resources Available from the State Bar: Law Practice Management, Fastcase, and Member Benefits (Natalie Kelly)*, Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 314 attendees.
- February 26, 2015 Cobb County Solo/Small Firm Section Meeting, *10 Small Law Office Problems and 5+ Solutions (Natalie Kelly)*, Willie Rae's Restaurant, Marietta, Georgia, 28 attendees.
- March 2, 2015 University of Georgia Law School (UGA), *Law Office Management (Natalie Kelly)*, Athens, Georgia, 17 students.
- March 5, 2015 Emory University Law School, *Law Practice Technology and the Law Practice Management Program of the State Bar (Natalie Kelly)*, Atlanta, Georgia, 14 students.
- March 10, 2015 Savannah Law School, *Going Solo Ethically! Best Tips and Techniques for Opening a*

Small Law Firm (Natalie Kelly and Paula Fredrick), Savannah, Georgia, 30 students.

March 21, 2015 GAWL Leadership Academy Session III: Leading in Your Profession – Leaning Into Your Career, *Productivity Tips for Leaning In and Leading* (Natalie Kelly), Barnsley Gardens Resort, Adairsville, Georgia, 18 attendees.

Upcoming Speaking Engagements

April 10, 2015 Georgia State University Law School (GSU) 2015 Solo Practice Workshop, Atlanta, Georgia.

July 17-18, 2015 Georgia’s 2015 Solo & Small Firm Institute & Technology Showcase (sponsored), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

Fastcase Report

During this period, a grand total of **114** members have attended Fastcase CLE seminars.

Since the decision was made to transition to Fastcase, **1,349** attorneys and **60** staff members have attended Fastcase live training. Others have taken advantage of webinar training.

Fastcase Partner Usage Report for State Bar of Georgia from July 1, 2014 - March 20, 2015										
	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Total
First Time Logins	154	158	113	142	185	162	203	190	112	1,419
Total Logins	18,215	18,637	18,029	19,060	15,440	15,066	18,054	18,083	12,919	153,503
Total Users Who Logged In	4,054	4,087	3,986	3,976	3,826	3,696	4,078	4,051	3,457	35,211
Searches Conducted	102,435	104,858	100,752	105,075	86,113	111,566	101,469	97,998	0	810,266
Documents Viewed	154,723	156,769	152,122	155,637	142,743	165,568	150,906	145,547	0	1,224,015
Documents Printed	15,217	15,108	15,359	16,062	14,043	17,746	15,270	14,274	0	123,079
Total Transactions	294,798	299,617	290,361	299,952	262,350	313,804	289,980	280,143	16,488	2,347,493

Fastcase Reported Problems	
Member Reported Issue(s)	Fastcase Response / Resolutions
<p>8/6/14 Member Reported: Member called to compliment the Member Benefits committee on the best contribution the State Bar has ever made in its history.</p>	<p>8/6/14 FC Response: Sheila passed this compliment on to the staff.</p>
<p>9/17/14 Member Reported: Two members called asking when the 2014 statutes would be available.</p>	<p>9/17/14 FC Response: Will check with CEO. In the meantime, inform members that the statutes are searchable alongside the 2014 Georgia Acts for the most up to date information.</p>
<p>9/24/14 Member Reported: Member could not find the citation on a case decided March 6, 2014, only found by case name and slip number.</p>	<p>9/29/14 FC Response: Fastcase gets the new slip opinions on almost immediately but the citations publish a bit later. To ensure that we only need to touch each published opinion once (to include official and regional citation/pagination), we are usually a little bit slower to get the published version online. Will be glad to send an updated version of the case to member. Reporters are updated on a quarterly basis with full citation/pagination.</p>
<p>10/29/14 Member Reported: Member that called on 9-17 about the outdated code called again to ask when it would be posted. Concerned that data was not accurate and would like some kind of warning or alert.</p>	<p>10/31/14 FC Response: Fastcase reported that they <i>"found a way to fast track the Georgia Code. We are setting things in motion today, and will need several weeks to finish the update. The new code will definitely be online by the end of the year."</i></p>
<p>11/20/14 Member Reported: Member unable to find a case by citation. The 2014 case was available by name but the citation had not been updated. Expressed concern that others may miss crucial cases due to this error. He suggested a warning that the citations may not be up to date.</p>	<p>11/24/14 FC Response: CEO, Ed Walters, responded to Sheila's email concerning missing citation (pagination) and the outdated code and the possibility of attaching a warning or alert. <i>"Because both are pretty temporary (the Code will be updated shortly, and we update the pagination for the Bankruptcy Reporter all the time), I'd suggest that an alert probably isn't necessary. (If either would be out of date for more than a few weeks more, but that's unlikely to be the case.)"</i></p>
<p>1/7/15 Member Reported: Member reported a missing case.</p>	<p>1/7/15 FC Response: Case should have been in the database. FC has content team correct the error and determine how this happened.</p>
<p>1/15/15 Member Reported: Member reported FC is extremely impossible and would like to go back to Lawriter.</p>	<p>1/15/15 FC Response: Sheila helped her with navigation of the website on numerous occasions and will continue to do so. She has also urged the member to come to the training sessions. Member sent her assistant to training and we haven't heard any complaints over the past few weeks.</p>
<p>1/22/15 Member Reported: Member could not find 326 Georgia App. 577 in FC, both of which were 2014 cases.</p>	<p>1/22/15-1/27/15 FC Response: The cases were in the database but missing the parallel citation. FC pulled the cases from the South Eastern Reporter and added in the Georgia Appellate Reporter citations and pagination.</p>

Member Benefits, Inc. Report



STATE BAR OF GEORGIA – PRIVATE EXCHANGE REPORT
March 23, 2015

Individual Marketplace Stats		
Individual Visits	4,787	Individuals that have visited the Individual Marketplace Registration page at least once
Individual Registrations	3,659	Individuals that have registered to begin shopping for benefits
Product Enrollments	571	Total Individual Product Enrollments
• Individual Major Medical	322	Total Individual Major Medical Enrollments
• Short-Term Medical	7	Total Individual Short-Term Medical Enrollments
• Medicare Supplement	2	Total Individual Medicare Supplement Enrollments
• Dental	129	Total Individual Dental Enrollments
• Vision	58	Total Individual Vision Enrollments
• Teladoc	5	Total Individual Teladoc Enrollments
• Life	25	Total Individual Life Enrollments
• Disability	10	Total Individual Disability Enrollments
• Long-Term Care	13	Total Individual Long-Term Care Enrollments

Employer Visits	265	Employers that have visited the Employer Registration page at least once
Employer Registrations	44	Employers that have submitted a quote request to initiate the sales process
Product Enrollments	56	Total Employee Product Enrollments
• Major Medical	34	Total Employee Medical Enrollments
• Ancillary	22	Total Employee Ancillary Enrollments

2014-15 Media Report

PUBLISHED ARTICLES		Headline	Circulation	Readership
Date	Newspaper			
6/4/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Wyc Orr	3,413	
6/4/2014	Cherokee Ledger-News, Woodstock	Kudos for Law Day celebration	40,000	
6/5/2014	The Times, Gainesville	State Bar mourns loss of Wyc Orr	17,906	
6/5/2014	Daily Report**	State bar's next president reflects the role of diversity		338,400/mo.
6/6/2014	Daily Report	State bar's next president reflects the role of diversity	3,413	
6/9/2014	Savannah Morning News	Patrick O'Connor sworn as State Bar of Georgia secretary	42,741	
6/9/2014	Daily Report**	Social Media Approves of First African-American State Bar of Georgia President		338,400/mo.
6/9/2014	Daily Report**	State Bar of Georgia Swears in First African-American President		338,400/mo.
6/10/2014	Atlanta Journal Constitution**	The State Bar has a New President		2,23mil.
6/11/2014	Atlanta Business Chronicle	Perkins-Hooker named 52nd president of State Bar of Georgia	30,935	
6/11/2014	Atlanta Daily World	State Bar of Georgia swears in first black president to lead the lawyer's association	150,000	
6/11/2014	Atlanta Daily World**	State Bar of Georgia swears in first black president to lead the lawyer's association	15,000	
6/16/2014	Daily Report**	Complete Coverage of the State Bar of Georgia 2014 Annual Meeting		338,400/mo.
6/18/2014	Metro Spirit, Augusta	Long adds to his list of titles	40,000	
6/18/2014	Marietta Daily Journal	Local elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	15,043	
6/18/2014	Atlanta Journal Constitution**	Up Close: Patrise Perkins-Hooker		2.23mil
6/19/2014	Statesboro Herald	Edenfield is new YLD president		
6/20/2014	Athens Banner-Herald	UGA grad, Maysville native named employee of the year by state bar	6,926	
6/21/2014	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Norcross attorney honored by State Bar of Georgia	13,644	
6/21/2014	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Local association honored by State Bar of Georgia	63,276	
6/21/2014	Atlanta Inquirer**	State Bar Swears in First Black President	63,276	
6/24/2014	Atlanta Inquirer**	State Bar Swears in First Black President*	200,000	
6/24/2014	South Fulton Neighbor	South Fulton resident is state bar's first black president	200,000	
6/24/2014	South Fulton Neighbor**	South Fulton resident is state bar's first black president	24,200	17,490
6/24/2014	Augusta Chronicle	Mildestones: Jack Long	47,177	
6/25/2014	Marietta Daily Journal	Sulton completes term as president of State Bar's young lawyer org.	15,043	
6/26/2014	The Atlanta Voice*	State Bar of Georgia swears in first African-American president	40,000	
6/26/2014	The Atlanta Voice**	State Bar of Georgia swears in first African-American president*		120,000
6/28/2014	The Times, Gainesville	Vaughan elected to State Bar committee	17,906	
7/1/2014	Atlanta Tribune	New president of Georgia Bar Association		35,000
7/8/2014	Brookhaven Neighbor	State Bar of Georgia installs new officers	36,750	
7/8/2014	Brookhaven Neighbor**	State Bar of Georgia installs new officers		18,375
7/8/2014	Northside Neighbor News	State Bar of Georgia installs new officers		34,980
7/8/2014	Northside Neighbor News**	State Bar of Georgia installs new officers (video)		17,490
7/9/2014	Savannah Tribune**	Patrie Perkins-Hooker installed as 52nd president of State Bar	10,000	
7/9/2014	Savannah Tribune**	Patrie Perkins-Hooker installed as 52nd president of State Bar*		5,000
7/14/2014	Cobb Business Journal	Local elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	7,000	
7/14/2014	Savannah Herald*	Patrie Perkins-Hooker installed as 52nd president of State Bar of Georgia	12,000	

* front page

** digital

2014-15 Media Report

7/14/2014	Savannah Herald**	Patrice Perkins-Hooker installed as 52nd president of State Bar of Georgia*	12,000
7/16/2014	Valdosta Daily Times	Legal Food Frenzy winner	13,573
7/16/2014	The True Citizen, Waynesboro	Judge Fryhofer was an inspiration	4,455
7/16/2014	Houston Home Journal, Perry	Congrats to Legal Food Frenzy winner	11,191
7/22/2014	Alpharetta Roswell Revue & News	New State Bar president announced	140,000
7/22/2014	Alpharetta Roswell Revue & News**	New State Bar president announced	70,000
7/22/2014	The Forsyth Herald**	New State Bar president announced	17,490
7/22/2014	The Milton Herald**	New State Bar president announced	70,000
7/23/2014	The Forsyth Herald	New State Bar president announced	140,000
7/23/2014	North Dekalb Neighbor	New State Bar president announced	34,980
7/23/2014	The Johns Creek Herald**	Congratulations to solicitor-general's office for success in legal food frenzy	22,000
7/24/2014	The Johns Creek Herald	New State Bar president announced	70,000
7/25/2014	Albany Herald	New State Bar president announced	140,000
7/25/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Owen Forrester	11,893
7/26/2014	CrossRoads News, Dekalb	Sherry Boston nabs state award for top food drive	3,413
7/28/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to new Georgia Legal Services president	28,000
7/28/2014	Athens Banner-Herald	Legal program earned national honor	3,413
7/29/2014	Savannah Morning News	3 Savannah attorneys named to state bar's YLD leadership roles	42,741
7/30/2014	Daily Report	Board of Young Lawyers Division announced	3,413
7/31/2014	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Duluth attorneys appointed to state bar YLD Board of Directors	63,276
8/1/2014	Rolling Out Weekly Magazine**	Perkins-Hooker makes history as first black president, State Bar of Georgia (video)	966,000/mo.
8/2/2014	Marietta Daily Journal	Marietta attorneys named to Bar division board	15,043
8/3/2014	Albany Herald	LEGAL: Sarah F. Kjellin	11,893
8/6/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Judge Carnes on Senate confirmation	3,413
8/6/2014	Forsyth Herald	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	17,000
8/6/2014	Forsyth Herald**	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	70,000
8/7/2014	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Loss to community, profession	31,659
8/7/2014	Revue & News, Alpharetta/Roswell	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	28,000
8/7/2014	Johns Creek Herald	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	20,000
8/7/2014	Johns Creek Herald**	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	70,000
8/8/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Ernest Greer on receiving national honor	3,413
8/10/2014	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Columbus attorneys appointed to Young Lawyers Division board	31,659
8/13/2014	Alpharetta Neighbor	Congratulations to Shigley on election to national post	11,450
8/13/2014	Daily Report	Story of Georgia's Lawyers in Now in 2nd Printing	3,413
8/14/2014	Northside Neighbor	Congratulations to Shigley on election to national post	34,980
8/14/2014	Northside Neighbor**	Congratulations to Shigley on election to national post	17,490
8/14/2014	Monticello News	Letters to the Editor ... Congratulations!	2,535
8/14/2014	Henry Neighbor	Congratulations to Shigley on election to national post	15,500
8/15/2014	Atlanta Business Chronicle	Perkins-Hooker takes helm of State Bar of Georgia	35,029

* front page
** digital

2014-15 Media Report

8/15/2014	Henry Herald, McDonough	Stockbridge attorney gets state bar appointment	2,126
8/16/2014	Milton Herald	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	8,500
8/16/2014	Milton Herald**	Young lawyers' community outreach director from Alpharetta	70,000
8/17/2014	Statesboro Herald	State bar congratulates Franklin on honor	6,926
8/18/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to JQC members on Freedom of Information Award	3,413
8/19/2014	Daily Report	Harvey Weitz was an Outstanding Lawyer, Community Leader and Friend	3,413
8/20/2014	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Georgia attorney one of three plotters who retrieved second American	31,659
8/21/2014	Times Courier, Elijah	Weaver salute	6,056
8/21/2014	Pickens County Progress, Jasper	Letter to the Editor, re: Judge Weaver	6,947
8/21/2014	Daily Report	Cartersville Attorney Commended for Ebola Mission Role	3,413
8/21/2014	Morgan County Citizen, Madison	Congrats to Jeff Davis	4,490
8/21/2014	Harris County Journal, Hamilton	Congratulations and thanks, Judge	3,800
8/22/2014	Atlanta Jewish Times	Georgia legal community mourns loss of attorney	6,553
8/26/2014	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Bravo, Judge	31,659
8/27/2014	Jones County News, Gray	Lawson installed as Co-Editor	4,175
8/31/2014	Savannah Morning News	Attorney Harvey Weitz: A true professional	42,741
9/1/2014	Bold Favor Magazine**	A Polished and Poised President: Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker Makes History as First Black Leader of Georgia Bar By Liz Broadway Brown	
9/3/2014	The Blackshear Times	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Francis Houston	3,264
9/3/2014	Atlanta Beltline News (blog)	An interview with Patrise Perkins-Hooker, President of the State Bar of Georgia	
9/4/2014	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Former Gwinnett judge honored for continuing education efforts	63,276
9/4/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Augusta DA on Statewide Award	3,413
9/5/2014	Northeast Georgian, Cornelia	Congratulations to Weidner	7,370
9/7/2014	Valdosta Daily Times	Congratulating Golden	13,573
9/7/2014	Columbia County News Times, Evans	Wright's selection for District Attorney honor is well-deserved	
9/9/2014	True Citizen, Waynesboro	Congratulations to District Attorney on statewide award	17,500
9/11/2014	Baldwin Bulletin, Milledgeville	Legal community mourns loss of Superior Court Judge James L. Cline	4,455
9/11/2014	The Herald Journal, Greensboro	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Judge Cline	3,567
9/11/2014	The Monticello News	Legal Community Mourns Loss of Judge Cline	4,579
9/16/2014	The Macon Telegraph	Local bar president	2,535
9/19/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Jill Pryor on her confirmation by the Senate	43,051
9/21/2014	The Walton Tribune, Monroe	Mourning loss of judge	3,413
9/30/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of David Hendrick	2,590
10/9/2014	Northside Neighbor	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Hendrick	3,413
10/9/2014	Henry Neighbor	Georgia legal community mourns death of Hendrick	34,980
10/10/2014	Atlanta Business Chronicle	2014 Law and Accounting Who's Who Metro Atlanta	32,500
10/10/2014	Atlanta Business Chronicle**	2014 Law and Accounting Who's Who Metro Atlanta	35,029
10/22/2014	The Advance, Vidalia	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Attorney Will Thomas Whatley	
10/23/2014	Rolling Out Weekly Magazine**	Patrise Perkins-Hooker Selected as "Top 25 Women of Atlanta"	6,911
10/28/2014	The Macon Telegraph	Macon Bar Association partners with Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity	966,000/mo.

* front page

** digital

2014-15 Media Report

10/28/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Judges on Election to Family Violence Commission	3,413
11/11/2014	The Citizen, Fayetteville	Congratulations to Fayette Bar Association	43,500
11/12/2014	The Elberton Star	Congratulations to Webb on appointment by governor	4,100
11/13/2014	Pickens County Progress, Jasper	Letter to the Editor, re: Judge Weaver/JQC	6,947
11/14/2014	Daily Tribune News, Cartersville	Congratulations to new JQC chairman	5,867
11/26/2014	Savannah Tribune*	Savannah Attorney Lester Johnson Appointed to Judicial Qualifications Comm	10,000
11/26/2014	Savannah Tribune**	Savannah Attorney Lester Johnson Appointed to Judicial Qualifications Commission	5,000
11/26/2014	Savannah Morning News**	Attorney named to Judicial Qualifications Commission	42,741
11/30/2014	Atlanta Journal-Constitution	Former Gov. Sanders pushed equal justice	644,287
12/1/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal profession, justice system stronger because of Gov. Sanders	3,413
12/3/2014	Savannah Herald*	Attorney Lester Johnson Appointed to Judicial Qualifications Commission	12,000
12/7/2014	Savannah Herald**	Attorney Lester Johnson Appointed to Judicial Qualifications Commission	
12/7/2014	The Walton Tribune, Monroe	Condolences for Kiser	2,590
12/9/2014	The Atlanta Voice	Savannah Attorney Lester Johnson Appointed to Judicial Qualifications Comm	40,000
12/9/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge John Dougherty	3,413
12/10/2014	Athens Banner-Herald	Congratulations to new UGA law dean	13,644
12/10/2014	True Citizen, Waynesboro	Congratulations to new Burke County State Court judge	4,455
12/11/2014	Times Courier, Ellijay	Congrats to Judge Weaver	6,056
12/11/2014	Statesboro Herald	Young Lawyers fundraiser to benefit Augusta Warrior Project	6,928
12/13/2014	The Times, Gainesville	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Joe Sartain	17,906
12/15/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Attorney Kirk McAlpin	3,413
12/16/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns former Judge Mathews, Attorney Phillips	3,413
12/17/2014	Early County News, Blakely	Congratulations to the new Superior Court judge	2,558
12/17/2014	Miller County Liberal, Colquitt	Letter to the Editor, re: Judge Baxley	2,541
12/17/2014	Northside Neighbor	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Kathryn Sarzen	34,980
12/17/2014	Savannah Morning News	McAlpin was a credit to state's legal profession	42,741
12/18/2014	Clayton Tribune	Georgia legal community mourns	5,232
12/18/2014	Cuthbert Southern Tribune	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	1,727
12/19/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Attorney Guy Davis	3,413
12/23/2014	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Harold Marquis	3,413
12/24/2014	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Top of his craft (J Butler)	31,659
12/25/2014	Donalsonville News	Congratulations to new Superior Court judge	3,243
12/29/2014	Augusta Chronicle	State Bar of Georgia fundraiser to benefit Augusta Warrior Project	47,177
12/30/2014	Daily Report	Congratulations to Attorney Jim Butler on Lifetime Achievement Award	3,413
12/31/2014	Northside Neighbor	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Davis	34,980
12/31/2014	Clayton News Daily, Jonesboro	Congratulations to two local attorneys	1,688
12/31/2014	South Fulton Neighbor	Year in review, 2014: a period of transition, "For the Record Books"	
1/1/2015	Atlanta Journal-Constitution	Funds to aid Warrior Project	231,094
1/1/2015	Haralson Gateway-Beacon, Bremen	Lim to be sworn in Jan. 15	2,600

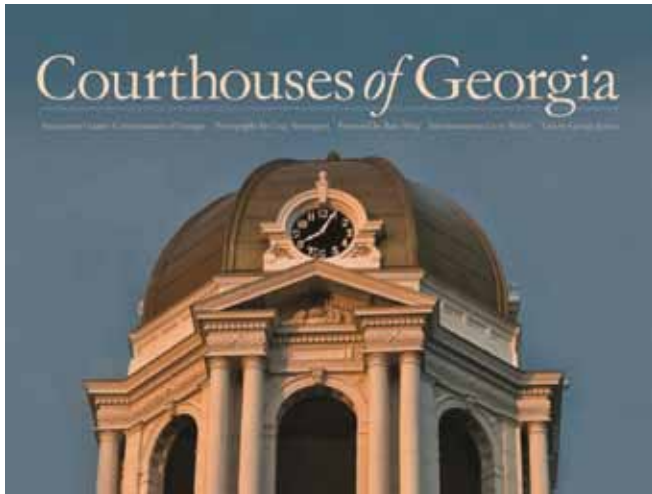
* front page

** digital

2014-15 Media Report

7/1/2014	FGTV Cable Access: Fulton Today Interview	(segment aired for 7 days)		varies
RADIO				
6/1/2014	Unity FM Online International: Power of Yes			
11/4/2015	WLBB, WKNG: KISS 102.7, B-92.1, 98.9: Interview with Judge Meng Lim			TBD
WIRE SERVICE				
6/1/2014	AP WIRE - Miami	Source: Daybook**		
6/1/2014	AP Wire - Atlanta	Source: AJC**		
SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING				
6/1/2014	Facebook: Atlanta Voice		Followers/Page Likes	
6/1/3/2014	Twitter @WSBTVNewsdesk	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker's installation as 52nd president	5,941	
		"Congrats to the GA Bar Assn's first African-American President, Patrise Perkins-Hooker, sworn in last week. #wsbtv"	5,859	
6/1/3/2014	Twitter mention @gtalumni	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker's installation as 52nd president		
		"GT Alumna, Patrise Perkins-Hooker, was recently sworn in as the 1st African American president of the State Bar of GA"	2,360	
8/1/2014	Facebook: GLSP		225	
8/1/2014	Twitter mention @johnheaves	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker's installation as 52nd president	1,599	
8/1/2014	Twitter mention @ovbrantley	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker's installation as 52nd president	381	
8/1/2014	Twitter mention @homebardeal	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker's installation as 52nd president	59	
9/2/2014	Twitter mention @iamsimmonsllaw	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker	1,039	
9/3/2014	Twitter mention @timeearlx	Mentioned Patrise Perkins-Hooker	312	
OTHER MEDIA PLACEMENTS				
Full 2014	The YLD Review	From the State Bar President		
9/8/2014	GSA Law Website	New Legal Clinic To Help Veterans at Georgia State University http://law.gsu.edu/2014/09/08/new-legal-clinic-to-help-veterans-georgia-state-university/		
11/7/2014	Atlanta's John Marshall Law School Website	State Bar President Speaks to First Year Students http://www.johnmarshall.edu/2014/11/state-bar-president-speaks-first-year-students/		
Dec. 2014	National Bar Association Magazine	State Bar of Georgia's First African American President		
Report prepared by:				
		Sarah Coole, director of communications, State Bar of Georgia		
		Linton Johnson, media consultant, Word Express LLC		
		Stephanie Jones, PR consultant, Amedia & Associates		
		(distribution figures are subject to verification)		

* front page
** digital



Courthouses of Georgia is published by the University of Georgia Press in partnership with ACCG, Newington Photography, the State Bar of Georgia and the Georgia Humanities Council.

COURTHOUSES OF GEORGIA WINS AWARD

We are very pleased to announce that the **Courthouses of Georgia** photography book has received a prestigious accolade from the *Library Journal*; the most trusted and respected national publication for the library community. *Library Journal* named *Courthouses of Georgia* as one of its **Best Print Reference Books of the Year for 2014**, and it was only one of four books recognized in the general reference category.

Courthouses of Georgia is now available through the University of Georgia Press (800-266-5842), Amazon (www.amazon.com) and Barnes and Noble (www.barnsandnoble.com). Photographs from the book are also available for purchase through Newington Photography. Please visit www.newingtonphotography.com for more information.

The *Library Journal* article that recognizes the *Courthouses of Georgia* is available here: <http://reviews.libraryjournal.com/2015/02/reference/best-reference-2014/>.

**ADDITIONAL
MATERIALS
SENT TO BOARD
OF GOVERNORS
MEMBERS**

April 7, 2015

Dear Member of the Board of Governors:

Enclosed is a copy of your Board Book for the April 18, 2015, Board of Governors Meeting in Brasstown Valley. Also enclosed is detailed information on the Incubator Program. This is a fantastic and ground breaking new program for which the Executive Committee has authorized the State Bar to work with Hulett "Bucky" Askew, the five (5) accredited law schools, the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism to refine plans for the incubator. It is being presented to you for formal approval of the program as a designated State Bar program and acceptance of both the Bar Center Committee and the Executive Committee's recommendation to provide a three (3) year lease for office space in the Bar Center on the 4th floor rent free, as our contribution to this significant program. It is envisioned that after the (3 year) initial start up period that the program will be financially self-sustainable and will not require a total rent subsidy.

The proposal does not require the use of any dues revenue, any dues increase, or changes to our proposed budget. The physical space that is being made available is not currently being used and the modifications and improvements needed to make the space suitable for housing the Incubator are less than the normal build-out allowance provided to any tenant.

We have been meeting with committees and working to develop the program throughout the year. Now, the concept has been finalized. Each law school has committed to donating a start up contribution of \$25,000 to support this project. This is an historic opportunity to create a source of permanent rotating volunteers for various legal services organizations and to help provide access to justice for poor and marginally employed low-income individuals. It will also create a laboratory for new lawyers to experiment with new delivery models and concepts which will help develop models for economically viable practices for serving the legal needs of low-income communities. It will also allow the participants in the program to set up their law practices in a manner where they can learn about law practice management principles, and train for their respective practice areas with extensive support and guidance. This is truly an exciting opportunity for the Bar. A copy of a support letter from Chief Justice Thompson and copies of the commitment letters from all five (5) of the law schools are included in your Board Book.

I have separately attached a copy of a summary of the current details of the program and a Frequently Asked Questions sheet for your reference. The incubator will be operated by a new non-profit entity called Lawyers for Equal Justice, Inc. The board of directors of this organization will consist of representatives from each of the stakeholders for this program.

I encourage you to read all of the enclosed meeting materials and if you have any questions or comments about any topic on the agenda, please feel free to contact me.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Brasstown Valley next week. Drive safely!

Sincerely,



Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Esq.
President

Enclosures

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INCUBATOR PROGRAM

1. What is a Law Practice Incubator Program?

An incubator is a post-graduate training and support program for recent law school graduates who are interested in solo or a small firm practice and who are committed to serving persons otherwise going unrepresented by legal practitioners, on both a pro bono basis or for a reduced affordable fee.

2. Why do we need an Incubator Program?

The Supreme Court, the State Bar of Georgia and the five accredited law schools all share a desire that recent law school graduates who are committed to solo, small firm or public interest practice get the post-graduate training and support they need not only to build sustainable and innovative practices but to handle their cases competently and in compliance with all the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct. In addition, each of these entities desire to institute programs to address the unmet needs of unrepresented citizens in Georgia for legal services and to improve the access to justice for this group.

3. What are the goals of the Incubator Program?

The basic goals of the program will be:

- A. to expand access to affordable legal services for low and moderate-income clients who are experiencing difficulties in obtaining access to justice;
- B. to help participant lawyers establish, maintain and grow sustainable practices that meet demonstrated community needs;
- C. to develop innovative service delivery models that will support successful practices while also being broadly replicable; and
- D. to improve the capacity of Georgia's newly minted lawyers to meet the professional demands of solo and small firm practice.

4. How will it operate?

The incubator will be operated by a newly incorporated non-profit organization called the Lawyers for Equal Justice, Inc. (LEJ) which has applied for 501(c)(3) status. The organization will be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of representatives from each stakeholder organization. The State Bar of Georgia will be entitled to four (4) representatives, one of which will be appointed from the Young Lawyers Division; the Supreme Court will have two (2) representatives and the other entities will have one (1) representative each.

5. Who are the stakeholders involved in the creation of the Incubator Program?

- A. The Supreme Court of Georgia
- B. The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism
- C. The State Bar of Georgia
- D. Emory Law School
- E. Georgia State Law School
- F. John Marshall Law School
- G. Mercer Law School
- H. University of Georgia Law School
- I. Atlanta Bar Association's Solo Practice Section
- J. Atlanta Legal Aid
- K. Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation
- L. Georgia Legal Services Program

6. Where will it be located?

The incubator will be located in the State Bar Headquarters at 104 Marietta Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia.

7. How much will it cost to operate on an annual basis?

The incubator's current proposed operating budget will be approximately \$100,000 for the first year and thereafter may vary depending upon the staffing needs of the organization. The five law schools will each provide \$25,000 to start the program, which along with the fee payments from the participants will cover the first year's operations. The State Bar is only being asked to donate office space which will create a rent subsidy and donation to the incubator of approximately \$70,000 per year at the standard \$14.50 per square foot rental rates.

8. When will the Incubator start?

The start date for the incubator will be considered as a first order of business for the board of the Lawyers for Equal Justice, Inc. The tentative start date for the incubator is planned to be August 1, 2015. Factors may lead to resetting the date back to November 15 or January 1, 2016.

9. How will the participants be selected?

There will be thirty recent law school graduates selected for the program (10 every six months) who will remain in the incubator for 18 months. The selection will be based upon a rigorous application process during which the applicants will detail their career goals and provide a business plan for their post-incubator practice. LEJ will be looking for graduates who are self-starters with an entrepreneurial spirit and who are committed to solo or small firm practice and social justice. Each group of 10 will be selected after a

rigorous interview and selection process, and two qualified participants in each group will come from each of the five Georgia law schools.

10. **What are the requirements of the participants?**

The participants will be required to sign an agreement with LEJ which will describe, in detail, their obligations and responsibilities and LEJ's commitments to them. It will require from the participants, among other things:

- A specified pro bono commitment (30 hours per month);
- A commitment to attend all the training offered;
- A commitment to offer affordable (reduced) fees to clients based upon a fee schedule to be developed and approved by the Director of the Incubator;
- A commitment to utilize innovative service delivery models;
- A commitment to remain in the incubator for the full 18 months term;
- A commitment to pay the fees assessed for participation in the program;
- A commitment to obtain and maintain malpractice insurance;
- A commitment to abide by all policies and procedures of LEJ;
- A commitment to comply with all policies and procedures of LEJ and to repay LEJ for the value of the services provided, in an amount to be established by the Foundation Board, should there be a failure to comply with all policies.

LAWYERS FOR EQUAL JUSTICE (LEJ)*

A Plan for the Creation of a Collaborative Incubator Program for Georgia

An incubator is a post-graduate training and support program for recent law school graduates who are interested in solo or small firm practice and are committed to serving communities in need, both pro bono and for an affordable fee. This document is a plan for the creation of a Georgia-based incubator, tentatively called Lawyers for Equal Justice (LEJ), that will draw from the model of successful business incubators designed to assist micro entrepreneurs create economically viable businesses. While each participating attorney in LEJ will operate an independent law practice, the incubator will enable those attorneys to share resources and receive training in an affordable and collegial setting. Once successfully established, the plan envisions that LEJ will be self-sustaining; the participants will provide high-quality, innovative and affordable legal services; and it will produce lawyers who are skilled and committed to representing low and moderate income clients at an affordable price point and are able to establish and maintain successful law practices.

The State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Supreme Court and the five accredited law schools all share a desire that recent law school graduates who are committed to solo, small firm or public interest practice get the post-graduate training and support they need not only to build sustainable and innovative practices but to handle their cases competently and in compliance with all the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct. LEJ will create a supportive environment to introduce or expand the use of technology, alternative fee arrangements, and newer models of practice that will benefit the efficient delivery of legal services to a larger client base. The “graduating” participants will be well on their way to successfully building sustainable and technologically sophisticated practices responsive to unmet community needs. As a result, the State Bar will benefit from the development of replicable models for delivering affordable legal services to otherwise unrepresented clients.

***Lawyers for Equal Justice (LEJ) is a name selected for purposes of this paper. The official name of the incubator will be selected at a later date.**

LEJ will recruit, train and support thirty recent law graduates in this program. Ten new participants will be selected every six months until the full complement of thirty participants are part of LEJ. Once ten participants complete eighteen months in the program, they “graduate” from the incubator, leave the Bar Center and continue their solo or small firm practices, in their own offices.

The target clients for LEJ will be persons in need of pro bono services as well as persons of low to modest means with legal needs who cannot afford to pay the going legal rates and would not qualify for legal aid or pro bono programs. The basic goals of the project will be:

1. to expand access to affordable legal services for low and moderate income clients who make up a sizable gap in access to justice;
2. to assist legal services agencies throughout the state with a minimum level of pro bono services;
3. to help participant lawyers establish, maintain and grow sustainable practices that meet demonstrated community needs;
4. to develop innovative service delivery models that will support successful practices while also being broadly replicable; and
5. to improve the capacity of Georgia’s newly minted lawyers to meet the professional demands of solo and small firm practice.

The commitment of the State Bar to improving access to justice and providing for the effective transition into sustainable and innovative practices for its newest members can be married with the law schools’ desire to support recent graduates as they begin their careers and to continuing the schools’ educational mission after the granting of the JD. The exciting aspects of this model are that it furthers the goals of both the State Bar and the law schools to:

1. experiment with and develop new and innovative forms of practice;
2. assist graduates in transition into practice and meeting the needs of unserved populations;

3. build upon collaborative and constructive relationships among the bar, the law schools and other stakeholders in Georgia; and
4. be a national model of collaboration among all of the state's law schools.

Many of these aspects of the program currently do not exist anywhere else in the country, so in that respect LEJ will be unique and nationally noteworthy.

As pointed out above, an incubator provides an opportunity to create a "laboratory" for experimentation with some new delivery models and concepts in real time with real clients and real lawyers, while also serving clients whose legal needs are currently going unmet. There are many ideas or new approaches that the incubator can test:

- Flat fee systems
- Limited scope representation
- New uses of technology
- Preventive law concepts
- Community legal education
- Mentoring for entrepreneurship
- Training and transition for solos
- Virtual law offices

For the lawyers in the program, the possibility of making a decent living while building careers of service and fulfillment can be tested and analyzed.

It is also possible to create a "pro bono laboratory" within the incubator to study how new and more experienced lawyers can best participate in pro bono services. Among the issues to be tested and demonstrated are what pro bono messages resonate with newer lawyers and solo and small firm lawyers; what types of cases are best placed with new lawyers and solos for successful outcomes; developing a pro bono message that resonates with solo practitioners, especially the need for incorporating pro bono into one's business plan; and the creation of a web-based toolkit for pro bono support for lawyers during and after incubator enrollment.

Lawyers for Equal Justice will be a project of the State Bar of Georgia, in collaboration with the five ABA-approved law schools in Georgia, and the Supreme Court, housed in the State Bar headquarters. LEJ will provide administrative and infrastructure support to the project and will arrange training for the participants through the State Bar's Law Practice Management Program and its Sections. A 501(c)3 entity (Lawyers for Equal Justice, Inc.- LEJ) will be created, the Board of which will be composed of representatives of the State Bar and its Younger Lawyers Division, the five Georgia law schools, the legal aid providers and other stakeholders in the project. It will retain the Director of the program and will select the ten new participants each six months from among the schools' graduates. The LEJ will collaborate with the State Bar in adopting policies and procedures for the program and overseeing its operation. The Director and any other staff retained will be employees of LEJ not the State Bar.

The incubator lawyers will be charged a fee for participation, which will be charged on a sliding scale depending on longevity in the program. The fee will range for \$100 per month to a maximum of \$600 per month toward the end of their tenure. These fees will generate between \$9,000 and \$10,000 per month in income, which in addition to the funds contributed by the law schools, will cover the costs of a part-time director, administrative support, equipment, training, an audit and liability insurance. The free space is necessary to have sufficient funds to pay for costs initially required to obtain the basics needed to operate the incubator for the first three years.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) was awarded a seed grant by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism in September of 2014, the purpose of which is to facilitate and complete the planning process for the creation of this project. In October 2104, the Executive Committee voted to participate in the development of this program and referred the request for free space to the Bar Center Committee for review. The Bar Center Committee reviewed the proposal at its January meeting; and after lengthy discussion, voted to recommend that the project receive three years of free rent. In January of 2015, the Executive Committee voted to recommend that the Board of Governors provide a 3 year lease in the Bar Center rent free, as its contribution to the program.

April 14, 2015

Dear Members of the Board of Governors:

By now, you should have received your board package and materials on the Incubator Project. On Friday, I found out that one of our existing tenants, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Counsel (CJCC), has need for additional space adjacent to the space that it currently leases on the 4th floor. It is a blessing that CJCC has the need to expand again, because it means that all of the available built out and leasable space will be fully rented out to tenants. This is a good thing for the State Bar! However, it has created the need for me to update the information that I presented to you about hosting the Incubator Project.

When the Incubator Project was conceived, we were under the impression that there was no built out space available in the State Bar Center for it. Plans were approved to fund the demolition, clean up and renovation of the public restrooms on the 5th floor to prepare that floor for future tenants. During this effort, we were approached by the Incubator Project team to see if we would be willing to provide the project a home. The Bar Center Committee approved recommendations to build out the space that was needed for the incubator in September and the committee forwarded their recommendations to the Executive Committee. When the Bar Center Committee met in January, it appeared as if there would be vacant space on the 4th floor of the State Bar Center Headquarters created by the departure of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia. The information that I presented to you was based on the availability of roughly 5,000 sq. ft. on the fourth floor. This space was already built out and ready to go. Now this space is no longer available.

The original recommendation to house the Incubator Project on the 5th floor approved by the Bar Center Committee required approximately \$175,000 to build out the space needed for the incubator. A recent review of the original estimate has placed the estimated cost of the build out closer to \$240,000 because the price of the ceiling was not previously included. We have more than sufficient funds in the \$6,000,000 Bar Center undesignated reserves to pay for these expenses. **The build out for the Incubator Project still will not require a dues increase.** The funds that we use today to build out any area of the Bar Center come from the surplus created from the profitable operation of the Bar Center and the one time assessments paid by all bar members, in addition to the amount of their annual dues. These renovations will also begin the build out of the final phase of the Bar Center. Every other floor was completed but this one.

The rest of the information stays the same, only the location of the floor on which the incubator will be located and the additional cost that we have to incur up front have changed. I will be presenting this information at the meeting on Saturday. I want to be sure that everyone understands the changes before our vote. I am still available to answer any questions that you might have from the information that I have presented on this project.

See you on Friday and Saturday,



Patrise Perkins-Hooker
President