

# Board Book

State Bar of Georgia  
Board of Governors  
Agenda Book



2016 Spring Meeting  
Atlanta, Ga.



# State Bar of Georgia

## 262<sup>nd</sup> BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Saturday, May 7, 2016

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

State Bar of Georgia Building

104 Marietta Street

Atlanta, Georgia

*Dress: Business Casual*

### AGENDA

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

- |  |                             |                  |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|
| a) Welcome and Call to Order.....                              | Bob Kauffman .....          | 1-4<br>President |
| b) Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation .....                   | Tony DelCampo               |                  |
| c) Recognition of Former Presidents, Judges .....              | Bob Kauffman                |                  |
| And Special Guests   |                             |                  |
| d) Roll Call (by signature) .....                              | Buck Rogers, Secretary..... | 5-11             |
| e) Recognition of Retiring Board Members .....                 | Bob Kauffman                |                  |
| • R. Chris Phelps, Northern Circuit – 32 years on Board        |                             |                  |
| • William V. Custer IV, Atlanta Circuit – 18 years on Board    |                             |                  |
| • S. Kendall Butterworth, Atlanta Circuit – 17 years on Board  |                             |                  |
| • James E. Hardy, Southern Circuit – 16 years on Board         |                             |                  |
| • Katherine K. Wood, Stone Mountain Circuit – 6 years on Board |                             |                  |
| • Gwyn P. Newsom, Chattahoochee Circuit – 4 years on Board     |                             |                  |
| • Kenneth Ray Bernard Jr., Douglas Circuit – 4 years on Board  |                             |                  |
| • Green Berry Moore III, Ocmulgee Circuit – 4 years on Board   |                             |                  |
| • Virgil Louis Adams, Member at Large – 2 years on Board       |                             |                  |
| • Kimberly Cooper Davis, Out of State – 2 years on Board       |                             |                  |

- f) Presentation to Immediate Past President .....Bob Kauffman  
Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker
- g) 2015 State Bar Contributions to Georgia Legal .....Bob Kauffman ..... 12-18  
Services Program (GLSP)  
(Total contributions to the 2015 State Bar Campaign for GLSP is \$549,176)
- h) Future Meetings Schedule .....Bob Kauffman ..... 19-20

**2) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

- a) President’s Report .....Bob Kauffman
- b) Treasurer’s Report .....Pat O’Connor ..... 21-39
  - (1) Finance Committee Minutes
  - (2) Investment Committee Minutes
  - (3) Audit Committee Minutes
- c) Young Lawyers Division.....Jack Long..... 40-46  
YLD President
- d) Strategic Plan Update .....Bob Kauffman ..... 47-50
- e) Wellness Task Force Update .....Ken Hodges
- f) Disciplinary Rules Committee Update .....John Haubenreich

**3) ACTION**

- a) Minutes of the 260<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the .....Buck Rogers ..... 51-58  
Board of Governors on January 9, 2016
- b) Minutes of the 261<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the .....Buck Rogers ..... 59-60  
Board of Governors on January 29, 2016
- c) Appointment to the Judicial Qualifications .....Bob Kauffman  
Commission

d) Rule 1.7 Conflict of Interest .....	Bill NeSmith .....	61-64
e) Rule 4.4 Respect for Rights of Third Persons .....	Bill NeSmith .....	65-68
f) Business Court Expansion .....	Bill NeSmith .....	69-79
g) Dues 2016-2017 .....	Pat O'Connor, Treasurer Bob Kauffman	
(1) Recommendation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations of the Finance, Programs and Personnel Committees</li> <li>• Recommendations of the Executive Committee (no dues increase)</li> </ul>		
<b>Active Dues \$248</b>		
<b>Inactive Dues \$124</b>		
(2) Approval of Other Bar Dues Statement Items		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section Dues (\$10 to \$35 opt in)</li> <li>• Assessments Required by Bar Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clients' Security Fund (\$100 @ \$25/year)</li> <li>Bar Center (\$200 @ \$50/year)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Checkoffs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative and Public Education Fund Contribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$100 opt out (no change from 2006-07 through 2015-16)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Georgia Legal Services Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$300 opt in suggested individual contribution</li> <li>\$100 opt in suggested contribution for YLD</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
h) Approval 2014-2015 Annual Audit .....	Pat O'Connor .....	80-108

#### 4) LEGISLATION

a) 2016 Legislation Update .....	Thomas Worthy
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#### 5) WRITTEN REPORTS

a) Executive Committee Minutes	
(1) February 10, 2016 .....	109-114
(2) March 4, 2016 .....	115-116

b) Office of the General Counsel Report .....	117-120
c) Military Legal Assistance Program .....	121-123
d) Consumer Assistance Program.....	124-125
e) Law Practice Management Program .....	126-130
f) Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism.....	131-139
g) Media Report.....	140-145

## 6) CLOSING

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

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING SPRING 2016



BAR CENTER, ATLANTA, GA, MAY 6 - 7  
Hotel Cut-off: Friday, April 15 // Registration Cut-off: Friday, April 29

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & ADDITIONAL DETAILS

## FRIDAY, MAY 6

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Investigative Panel

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Joint Meeting of the Executive Committees of the Military Legal Assistance Program Committee and the Military/Veterans Law Section

12 – 1:30 p.m.

ICLE Board of Trustees Meeting

1:30 – 3 p.m.

CCLC Meeting

2 – 5 p.m.

Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee

3 – 4 p.m.

Law Practice Management Committee

4 – 5 p.m.

Member Benefits Committee

6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Board of Governors Dinner,  
College Football Hall of Fame

## SATURDAY, MAY 7

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Board of Governors Meeting

## HOTEL

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Glenn Hotel

110 Marietta St. NW

Atlanta, GA 30303

404-521-2250

Fax: 404-469-0591

Cut-off date // April 15

The Glenn Hotel is offering a discounted room rate of \$135 single/double plus applicable taxes. To make reservations and receive our special rate, please call the Glenn Hotel at 404-521-2250 or Marriott reservations at 800-228-9290 and ask for the State Bar of Georgia's Spring Meeting. Reservations must be made by April 15, as rooms will be on a space and rate availability basis after this date.

// Hotel check-in is 3 p.m.

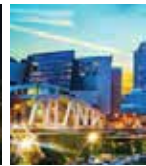
// Hotel check-out is 12 p.m.

## ATTIRE

The attire for this meeting is casual.

## PLEASE NOTE

The College Football Hall of Fame kindly requests that guests refrain from bringing food or drink into the exhibit halls.



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# COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

## BOARD DINNER // FRIDAY, MAY 6 | 6:30 – 9:30 P.M.

Join your friends and colleagues at the College Football Hall of Fame for dinner and the ultimate college football fan experience. We will have private access to the entire facility. Members and their guests will have the opportunity to provide information about their favorite team prior to the event for personalized All-Access Pass credentials that will make the experience unique to each individual's favorite college team.



### THE QUAD

Anchored by the Helmet Wall with more than 770 college football teams represented, the Quad is the entry point to the Hall of Fame.

### THE PLAYING FIELD

A 45-yard indoor football field with a 36-foot high-definition video board.

### CHICK-FIL-A PEACH BOWL SKILL ZONE

Fans can sharpen their skills through a variety of physical activities including kicking a field goal.

### CHICK-FIL-A WHY WE LOVE COLLEGE FOOTBALL

An immersive 52-foot-long interactive media wall and giant trophy case that showcase what makes college football so great by combining the heritage of the game with the technology of today.

### GAME DAY THEATER

Guests are treated to an ultra-high definition, 4K feature film, "The Game of Your Life," on a 40' by 10' screen.

### COCA-COLA FANS' GAME DAY

This gallery chronicles the college football experience from the perspective of the game's biggest fans. It includes Fight Song Karaoke, Virtual Face Painting and the ESPN College Game Day Desk.

### KIA PERFORMANCE CENTER

Offering fans a one-of-a-kind football experience, participants will find out if they have what it takes with a vertical leap, 40-yard dash and an agility reaction drill.

### AT&T GAME TIME

From the rivalries that make the game great to the split-second decisions that engrave moments into college football history, this gallery explores the intensity, passion and excellence in the game.

### HALL OF FAME

Captures the stories and accomplishments of the players who broke records and won our hearts, cementing their legacy in a one-of-a-kind experience that pays homage to the tradition and heritage of the game.





# REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and remit the enclosed registration form by Friday, April 29, 2016. 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 qualify for assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call 404-527-8627 for assistance.

### Refund Policy

The cancellation deadline for refunds is Friday, April 29, 2016. The State Bar of Georgia will accept only written requests for refund of registration fees. No refunds will be made after Friday, April 29.

### \*College Football Hall of Fame

All-Access Pass  
(Please complete for each Board Dinner attendee.)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

State of School \_\_\_\_\_ College Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

State of School \_\_\_\_\_ College Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

### Board of Governors Functions

Board of Governors Meeting N/C \_\_\_\_\_ Qty. \_\_\_\_\_

BOG Dinner (Fri.)\* \$95 \_\_\_\_\_

### Committee Functions

CCLC Meeting N/C \_\_\_\_\_

Law Practice Management Committee N/C \_\_\_\_\_

Member Benefits Committee N/C \_\_\_\_\_

### Related Organization Functions

ICLE Board 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)

REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.GABAR.ORG](http://WWW.GABAR.ORG)



State Bar  
of Georgia

**Board of Governors Attendance Record**

	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15	4-15	6-15(Fri)	6-15(Sat)	10-15	1-16	1-16
	Jekyll	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL	Brass	Stone	Stone	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Virgil L. Adams	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.
Sarah Brown Akins	e	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	e	.
Mark W. Alexander	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Kent Edward Altom	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	.	.	.	.
Anthony B. Askew	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Eric A. Ballinger	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Donna G. Barwick	e	.	e	e	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	.
Joshua C. Bell	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.
Kenneth R. Bernard, Jr	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.
Diane E. Bessen	e	.	e	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	.	.
Sherry Boston	e	.	e	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	e	.	.
Jeb T. Branham	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	.
Thomas Neal Brunt	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.
Thomas R. Burnside III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Stephanie D. Burton	e	.	.	.	.	e	.	e	.	.	.	.	.
JaDawnya C. Butler	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.
S. Kendall Butterworth	e	e	e	.	.	.	e	e	e	e	.	e	.
David Lee Cannon, Jr.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Paul Todd Carroll, III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.
Carol V. Clark	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	e	.	.
John Christopher Clark	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.
Edward R. Collier	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	e	.	.	.	.
Martin L. Cowen III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	e	.	.	.	.	.
Susan W. Cox	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Buck Rogers (buck@frg-law.com)

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	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyl	ATL	Brass	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Terrence Lee Croft	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e		•	•
Matthew B. Crowder	•	•	e										
William V. Custer, IV			•	•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•
David P. Darden	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gerald Davidson Jr.	•	•	•	e	e	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•
J. Anderson Davis	•	•	e	e	e	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•
Kimberly Cooper Davis	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	e	•	e	e	e		
Randall H. Davis	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Antonio Delcampo	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Scott Dewitt Delius	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joseph W. Dent	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Foy R. Devine			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Thomas V. Duck, III	•	•	•	•	•								
V. Sharon Edenfield	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Damon E. Elmore	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Archibald A. Farrar	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Douglass Kirk Farrar	•	•	•	•	•		e	•	•	•	•	e	•
Elizabeth L. Fite	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	•
John A. Fitzner III	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Gary Stuart Freed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Gregory A. Futch	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
William Gilmore Gainer			•										
Laverne Lewis Gaskins	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
William C. Gentry	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL	Brass	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Walter J. Gordon Sr.	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•		•	•
Patricia A. Gorham		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•
Karlise Y. Grier	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
Thomas F. Gristina	•	•	e	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
John Kendall Gross	•	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	•	e	•
James E. Hardy	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
John G. Haubenreich	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrick H. Head	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lawton C. Heard, Jr.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•
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	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Phyllis J. Holmen	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
J. Marcus E. Howard	e	•	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	e	•	•
Amy V. Howell	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Roy B. Huff Jr.	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
James W. Hurt	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Christopher D. Huskins		•	•				•		•			•	
James T. Irvin	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•
William Dixon James	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Curtis S. Jenkins	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyl	ATL	Brass Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Lester B. Johnson, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dawn M. Jones	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Michael R. Jones, Sr.	•		•			•		•			•		
Elena Kaplan	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Robert J. Kauffman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
John Flanders Kennedy	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
William J. Keogh, III	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
Barry E. King	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Judy C. King	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Seth D. Kirschenbaum	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Catherine Koura	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	e	•	•	•	•
Edward B. Krugman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Jeffrey R. Kuester	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Allegra Lawrence-Hard	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
J. Alvin Leaphart	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dawn Renee Levine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
David S. Lipscomb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dax Eric Lopez	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
John Ryd Bush Long	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ronald A. Lowry	•	•	•	•	•		e	•	•	•	•	•	•
John Bell Manly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Samuel M. Matchett	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
William R. McCracken	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	e	•	•	•
Letitia A. McDonald	e	•	•	•	•		•	e	•	•	•	•	•

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	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyll	ATL	Brass Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Brad J. McFall	e	•	e			•	•	e	•	•	e	•	•
Ashley W. McLaughlin		•	•	•	e	e		•	•	•		•	•
Michael D. McRae		•	•	e	e			•	•	•	•	•	•
Terry L. Miller		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
W. Benjamin Mitcham,		•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jennifer C. Mock	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
G.B. Moore III	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	e	•
Shondeana G. Morris	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Laura J. Murphree	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gwyn P. Newsom	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	•
Sam G. Nicholson	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dennis C. O'Brien	e	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrick T. O'Connor	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Samuel S. O lens							•						•
Jonathan B. Pannell	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Joy Renea Parks	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carson Dane Perkins		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrise Perkins-Hooker	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
R. Chris Phelps		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Will H. Pickett, Jr.	•	•	e			•		•		•			
W. Gregory Pope	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Jill Pryor	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	e	e	e	•	e	•
William M. Ragland, Jr.	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	•	•	•
Robert V. Rodatus	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•	e	e	•	•	•

To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Buck Rogers (buck@frg-law.com)

**Board of Governors Attendance Record**

	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15	4-15	6/15(Fri)	6/15(Sat)	10-15	1-16	1-16
	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyl	ATL	Brass	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Tina S. Roddenbery	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Brian D. Rogers	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joseph A. Roseborough		•											
William C. Rumer	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	e	e	•	•	
Claudia S. Saari	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	
Aimee Pickett Sanders	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	e	•
Dennis C. Sanders	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H. Burke Sherwood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Robert H. Smalley, III	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•
Phillip C. Smith		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
R. Rucker Smith	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Daniel B. Snipes	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•
R. Gary Spencer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
H. Craig Stafford	e	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•
Lawrence A. Stagg		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Lawton E. Stephens	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	
C. Deen Strickland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	•	
Frank B. Strickland	•	•	e	•	•	e	e	e	e	•	•	•	e
Joseph Carl Sumner, J	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	•
Michael B. Terry	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anita W. Thomas	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Dwight L. Thomas	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	e	•	
Edward D. Tolley							•					•	
Clayton A. Tomlinson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Martin E. Valbuena	e	To request an excused absence, please email Secretary Buck Rogers (buck@frg-law.com)											•

**Board of Governors Attendance Record**

	10-13	1-14	3-14	6-14(Fri)	6-14(Sat)	11-14	1-15	4-15	6/15(Fri)	6/15(Sat)	10-15	1-16	1-16
	Jekyl	ATL	Oconee	Amelia	Amelia	Jekyl	ATL	Brass	Stone Mtn	Stone Mtn	Sav	Buford	ATL/Phone
Carl R. Varnedoe		•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Nicki N. Vaughan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carl A. Veline, Jr.		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
J. Henry Walker	e	•	•	•	•		•	e			•	•	•
Janice M. Wallace	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jeffrey S. Ward	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Harold B. Watts	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
John P. Webb	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Nancy J. Whaley	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•
Sandra N. Wisenbaker	e	•	•	•	•	e	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kathleen M. Womack	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Katherine K. Wood	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Douglas R. Woodruff	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	e	•	e	•	•
Gerald P. Word	e	e	e	•	•	•	•	e	e	e	•	•	e
Fred A. Zimmerman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>• - Attended Meeting</b>			<b>n/a</b>	<b>Not on BOG</b>									



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****OFFICERS**

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**BETH WHITE**  
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*Executive Justice Coalition*

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*League for Education & Justice Organization*

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*State Bar of Georgia*

**NETTIE M. WILLIAMS**  
*Atlanta Area CNA*

**GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM®***Delivering on the Promise of Justice for All*

**Phyllis J. Holmen, Executive Director**  
 104 MARIETTA STREET, N. W. SUITE 250  
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-2745  
 (404) 206-5175 FAX (404) 463-1623  
<http://www.glsp.org>

June 2016

**ABOUT GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES**

The mission of Georgia Legal Services (GLSP) is to provide access to justice and opportunities out of poverty for Georgians with low-incomes living outside metro Atlanta, by providing legal services in civil cases involving basic human needs.

People with low-incomes have legal problems in connection with everyday living including loss of housing, domestic violence, need for critical benefits such as unemployment and food stamps, inability to obtain healthcare, consumer fraud and exploitation, school admission and discipline, and more. Our goal is to resolve these legal problems and help clients regain and maintain economic stability; achieve safety, stability and health; preserve their home; and support their families.

Services are provided without charge to eligible clients, and include a full range of legal services in civil cases, from advice and counsel to representation in administrative hearings and court; educational programs; and referrals to private attorneys and other services. Many cases are urgent.

Nine regional GLS offices serve 154 counties in Georgia. GLSP does not provide services in Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Gwinnett, or Cobb County, which are served by the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

**HISTORY**

In 1968, the State Bar of Georgia Younger Lawyers Section conducted a study that showed that the volunteer efforts of local private attorneys were

The Georgia Legal Services Program is a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to provide civil legal services for persons with low incomes, creating equal access to justice and opportunities out of poverty.



Offices in Albany, Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Brunswick, Columbus, Dalton, Gainesville, Macon, Piedmont, Savannah, and Farmworker Rights Division  
 AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER MEMPH

not enough to meet the critical legal needs of impoverished Georgians living outside metro Atlanta. The YLS was instrumental in the creation of Georgia Indigents Legal Services in 1970, the first staffed non-profit law firm serving low-income Georgians that was the predecessor of Georgia Legal Services Program. A year later, Georgia Legal Services Program was incorporated as a non-profit law firm to take advantage of new sources of funding available from state and federal government agencies. In 2016, GLSP will celebrate its 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### **CLIENT ELIGIBILITY AND TYPES OF CASES HANDLED**

Clients must have gross incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, which in 2016 is \$4,050 monthly for a family of four. The actual average monthly income of our client families of four is nearer the actual federal poverty level of \$2,012. The number of Georgians eligible for services is over two million. Most of our clients are among the "working poor."

GLSP staff attorneys and paralegals circuit ride to counties surrounding their home office and meet clients at court, at public libraries, and at community agencies. One of our core values is reaching out to clients in very rural areas where there may be no lawyers at all in the county. We recruit private attorney volunteers to take on additional cases and offer support and resources to them. Volunteers represent needy clients who are screened for financial need and for the merits of the case by GLSP intake staff.

In 2015, Georgia Legal Services Program staff and volunteers closed over 7,200 cases; handled 830 callers to its Benefits Hotline, gaining over \$1,435,000 in benefits for eligible callers; presented legal education sessions to clients and partner organizations in hundreds of community settings; and referred thousands of individuals to private attorneys on a pro bono or reduced fee basis. We are the first point of contact with the justice system for many Georgians, and refer thousands of cases to attorneys on our referral lists, including fee-generating cases.

A majority of clients are women with young children. Other special client groups include the elderly, individuals with limited English-speaking skills, people with disabilities, children with special needs, and veterans. A special emphasis in recent years has been working to eliminate language barriers to individuals needing to appear in court or to secure medical care or safety net benefits.

A recent study of the economic impact of legal services in Georgia found that for every dollar spent for the provision of legal services, over \$8 were brought into the state's economy.

### **SOME REPRESENTATIVE CLIENT STORIES**

Ms. P., age 72, resides in a nursing home in South Georgia. She received notice that she was being discharged from the home for nonpayment of an arrearage totaling \$31,776. She cannot handle her affairs and relies on her son, but he does not have power of attorney and does not receive notices himself. Unknown to her, her Medicaid coverage had been terminated eight months earlier because the state claimed she did not provide needed information. Unlike many nursing homes, this particular one will not assist residents with applications or annual renewals for Medicaid benefits, thus the cost of her care was allowed to mount. We determined that the state agency had in fact received the information it sought, and we got her coverage restored back to January 2014, eliminating an arrearage of \$69,493 and averting the eviction.

Sarah was in 9<sup>th</sup> grade when she was wrongly found guilty of fighting in school at a school disciplinary hearing that violated both her procedural and substantive due process rights. This hearing took place near the end of an already tumultuous school year. In one incident, although Sarah was the victim of mental and physical attacks by a peer, Sarah was the one charged with battery. She was subsequently suspended for 20 days with no notice to her mother, who repeatedly pressed administrators for more information. GLSP attorney Eugene Choi was able to reverse the finding of guilt and clear Sarah's record of the offense.

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#### CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

*We could finally be free of the abuse and tyranny we had been living under for four years." – D.H.*

*"It made me feel really comfortable knowing that I had someone on my side who cared about the outcome as much as I did. Without Georgia Legal Services, I know I wouldn't have been able to have a lawyer on my side. Thank you so much for everything." – P.M.*

*"I am so thankful for my advocate, because she looked at my case as if it were her own. You are good people and friendly. I am unable to repay you. Thank you so much." – E.G.*

*"My lawyer was very friendly and respectful and genuine to my concerns and well-being. He showed me things that I was not aware of. It meant peace of mind to me and helped me realize that I wasn't alone. Thank you." – L.L.*

*"The legal help I received from Georgia Legal Services allowed me and my 6 year old son to remain in our home, rather than face homelessness. To all single mothers, you know words cannot describe this kind of gratitude! Thank you so much for this service. You are super heroes to me and my small family. Keep fighting the good fight." – A.M.*

*"I was very grateful to Georgia Legal Services to assist me in knowing I had representation and was not alone." – P.W.*

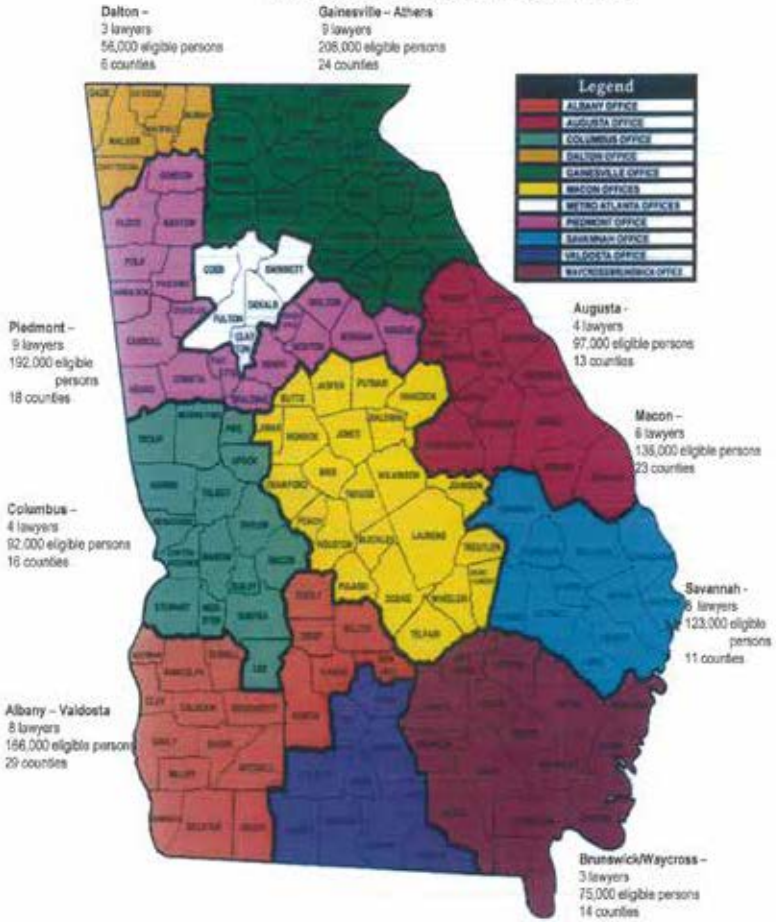
*"I wanted to get my affairs in order, I have numerous health issues. I must have called 10 lawyers from the yellow pages. Someone gave me GLSP's phone number. I can now rest and feel my children will have it easier when my time comes." – J.A.*

*"My eight siblings - four boys and four girls - were abandoned and homeless. I became their primary caregiver. However, without legal documentation to substantiate guardianship, my abilities were very limited. Georgia Legal Services answered my family's outcry for help. We received all assistance promised in a timely and accurate manner. Thank you." – R.K.*

*"My lawyer went out of her way to inform and explain the complete process of the hearing to me. She was able to get the decision for denied unemployment benefits reversed, so I was able to draw benefits for 17 weeks. A life saver for us; gave us hope." – C.G.*

*"GLSP was a welcome support I couldn't have afforded in a very difficult time." – A.S.*

**GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM  
2015 STAFFING LEVELS March 2015**



Note: Population figures represent persons with incomes at or below the federal poverty level. GLSP will consider potential clients with incomes up to 200% of that level, so the number of potential clients is significantly larger.

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

Georgia Legal Services Program  
104 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 250  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 206-5175  
1-800-498-9469

**ALBANY OFFICE**

131 West Oglethorpe Blvd.  
P. O. Box 2578 (31702-2578)  
Albany, GA 31702  
(229) 430-4261  
1-800-735-4271 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Baker, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Calhoun, Clay, Colquitt, Cook, Crisp, Decatur, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Irwin, Lanier, Lee, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Sumter, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Turner, Wilcox, and Worth (Sumter service seniors)*

**ATHENS OFFICE**

1865 W. Broad Street, Suite B  
P. O. Box 1788  
Athens, GA 30603  
1-800-745-5717 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Franklin, Hall, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe*

**AUGUSTA OFFICE**

209 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P. O. Box 2185 (30903)  
Augusta, GA 30901  
(706) 721-2327  
1-800-248-6697 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, and Wilkes (Hancock for seniors only)*

**BRUNSWICK OFFICE**

1607 Union Street  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
(912) 264-7301  
1-877-808-0553 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Glynn, Jeff Davis, McIntosh, Pierce, Ware, and Wayne*

**COLUMBUS OFFICE**

233 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 910  
The Corporate Center  
P. O. Box 176  
Columbus, GA 31902-0176  
(706) 649-7493  
1-800-533-3140 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Chatham, Chatham, Harris, Macon, Marion, Meriwether, Muscogee, Pike, Schley, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor, Twiggs, Upson, and Webster (Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Lee, Quitman, Randolph, and Sumter for seniors only)*

**DALTON OFFICE**

219 W. Crawford Street  
P. O. Box 2004 (30722-2004)  
Dalton, GA 30720  
(706) 272-2924  
1-888-408-1004 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Murray, Walker, and Whitfield (Bartow, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, and Pickens for seniors only)*

**GAINESVILLE OFFICE**

705 Washington Street, N.W., Suite B-1  
P. O. Drawer 1337 (30503)  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
(770) 535-5717  
1-800-745-5717 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Chester, Dawson, Fannin, Forsyth, Gilmer, Greene, Habersham, Hall, Langston, Morgan, Pickens, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, Walton, and White*

**MACON OFFICE**

241 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Macon, GA 31201  
(478) 751-6261  
1-800-560-2855 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Baldwin, Bibb, Bleckley, Butts, Crawford, Dodge, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Lamar, Laurens, Monroe, Montgomery, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Telfair, Treutlen, Twiggs, Wheeler, and Wilcox (Wilcox for seniors only)*

**PIEDMONT OFFICE**

104 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 240  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 894-7707  
1-800-822-5391 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Bartow, Carroll, Coweta, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Polk, Rockdale, and Spalding (Butts, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike and Troup for seniors only)*

**SAVANNAH OFFICE**

6002 Abercorn Street, Suite 203  
Savannah, GA 31405-5848  
(912) 651-2180  
1-888-220-8399 (toll-free)

Counties served: *Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Liberty, Long, Tattnall, and Toombs*

**FARMWORKER DIVISION OF GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM**

104 Marietta St., N.W., Suite 250  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 463-1633  
1-800-537-7496 (toll-free)  
Counties served: *All counties for Farmworkers only.*

Georgia Legal Services Program<sup>®</sup>

TDD 1-800-255-0056

Visit our websites:

[www.glap.org](http://www.glap.org)  
[www.georgiandvocates.org](http://www.georgiandvocates.org)  
[www.georgialegalaid.org](http://www.georgialegalaid.org)

2016



# Future Meetings Schedule

(4/8/2016)



## **Executive Committee/Strategic Planning**

April 15-17, 2016	Supreme Court Retreat, Mansion on Forsyth Park, Savannah, GA
May 19, 2016	State Bar Headquarters
September 9-11, 2016	Executive Cmte. Retreat, The Brice, Savannah, GA
Feb. 17-19, 2017	Supreme Court Retreat, The Inn at Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton, SC

## **Board of Governors**

Spring 2016	May 6-7, 2016	Bar Center, Atlanta, GA
Annual 2016	June 16-19, 2016	Omni Amelia Island, Amelia Island, FL
Fall 2016	Oct. 21-23, 2016	The Lodge & Spa at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
Midyear 2017	January 5-7, 2017	The Ritz Carlton, Buckhead, GA
Spring 2017	March 24-26, 2017	Ritz at Lake Oconee, Greensboro, GA
Annual 2017	June 8-11, 2017	Jekyll Island, GA

## **Young Lawyers Division**

Annual 2016	June 16-19, 2016	Omni Amelia Island, Amelia Island, FL
Retreat 2016	July 22-24, 2016	Barnsley Gardens, Adairsville, GA
Summer 2016	Aug. 18-21, 2016	King & Prince, St. Simons Island, GA
Fall 2016	Nov. 3-6, 2016	Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort, Orlando, FL



Midyear 2017	January 5-7, 2017	The Ritz Carlton, Buckhead, GA
Spring 2017	March 9-12, 2017	Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC
Annual 2017	June 8-11, 2017	Jekyll Island, GA

#### **American Bar Association Meetings**

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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**

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2016	October 13-16, 2016	Big Cedar Lodge, Branson, MO
2017	October 2017	Tennessee
2018	October 2018	Louisiana
2019	October 2019	Georgia
2020	October 2020	Florida

3/22/2016

**State Bar of Georgia Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures as of February 29, 2016  
Operations and Bar Center Combined**

Activity	2015-16		Actual 2014-15			Actual YTD 2015-16			Budget 2015-16		
	Net Dues		# Memb.	%	Amount	# Memb.	%	Amount	# Memb.	%	Amount
Active	\$248		37,651	81.0	\$9,141,890	37,829	80.9	\$9,278,961	38,050	80.6	\$9,215,600
Inactive	\$124		8,662	18.6	\$1,105,491	8,716	18.6	\$1,095,806	8,975	19.0	\$1,125,575
Associates	\$100		22	0.0	\$2,200	15	0.0	\$1,600	20	0.0	\$2,200
Foreign Legal Cnsit	\$248		7	0.0	\$1,736	8	0.0	\$1,984	7	0.0	\$1,736
Students	\$0		153	0.3	\$0	172	0.4	\$0	150	0.3	\$0
Emeritus	\$0		1,629		\$0	1,693		\$0	1,750	0.0	\$0
Late Fees					\$294,475			\$196,985			\$260,000
Prior Years Dues					\$8,899			\$4,063			\$7,000
<b>Total License &amp; Dues</b>			<b>46,495</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$10,554,691</b>	<b>46,740</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$10,579,399</b>	<b>47,202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$10,612,111</b>
Bar Center Revenue					\$3,595,699			\$3,031,915			\$3,652,767
Alloc. Section Fees					\$107,520			\$111,834			\$111,834
CSF Expense Reimb.					\$73,000			\$48,667			\$73,000
Advertising & Sales					\$93,336			\$85,880			\$106,700
Membership Income					\$163,913			\$86,589			\$151,000
Interest Income					\$63,372			\$55,912			\$65,000
Miscellaneous					\$5,243			\$1,495			\$3,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>					<b>\$14,656,774</b>			<b>\$14,001,691</b>			<b>\$14,775,412</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>					<b>\$14,554,532</b>			<b>\$10,237,269</b>			<b>\$15,741,394</b>
<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>					<b>\$102,242</b>			<b>\$3,764,422</b>			<b>(\$965,982)</b>

Board Designated Reserves	
Operating Reserve	\$2,750,000
Bar Center Reserve	2,000,000
Litigation Reserve	250,000
Cornerstones of Freedom Reserve	600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,600,000</b>
<b>Projected Surplus (Cash Basis) 6/30/16</b>	<b>(\$2,716,553)</b>
<b>Operations</b>	
Bar Center	\$8,347,271
<b>Total Reserves and Surplus</b>	<b>\$11,230,718</b>

March 22, 2016

**State Bar of Georgia**  
**Income Statement YTD - Operations Only**  
**For the Eight Months Ending February 29, 2016**

	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Ytd % of Bud
<b>Revenues</b>			
Dues - Active	\$ 9,280,945	\$ 9,215,600	100.71
Dues - Inactive	1,095,806	1,125,575	97.36
Dues - Misc. Types	1,600	3,936	40.65
Dues - Late Fees	201,048	267,000	75.30
	<u>10,579,399</u>	<u>10,612,111</u>	<b>99.69</b>
<b>Total Dues &amp; Licenses</b>			
Section Expense Reimb.	111,834	111,834	100.00
CSF Expense Reimb.	48,667	73,000	66.67
Advertising and Sales	85,880	106,700	80.49
Membership Income	54,314	96,000	56.58
Pro Hac Vice Admissions	216,075	195,000	110.81
Pro Hac Vice GBF Contra Acct	(183,800)	(140,000)	131.29
Savannah Misc Income	0	0	0.00
Interest Income	55,912	65,000	86.02
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,495	3,000	49.83
	<u>10,969,776</u>	<u>11,122,645</u>	<b>98.63</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	1,299,110	2,105,514	61.70
Management Info Systems	381,306	554,574	68.76
General Counsel	2,434,719	3,782,798	64.36
Consumer Assistance Pgm.	370,876	566,563	65.46
Communications	525,218	835,758	62.84
Fee Arbitration	321,276	534,623	60.09
Law Related Education	221,445	346,205	63.96
Law Practice Management	288,694	443,852	65.04
Coastal Georgia Office	138,251	212,729	64.99
South Georgia Office	101,540	162,433	62.51
Younger Lawyers Division	308,345	529,547	58.23
Unauthorized Practice of Law	506,594	779,147	65.02
Standards of the Profession	142,924	235,968	60.57
High School Mock Trial	68,061	118,816	57.28
Sections	65,635	111,834	58.69
Lawyer's Assistance Pgm	36,667	55,000	66.67
Pro Bono	141,477	212,216	66.67
Fastcase	128,965	191,000	67.52
Officers' Expenses	32,903	134,305	24.50
BASICS Program Contribution	140,000	140,000	100.00
Resource Center Contribution	110,332	110,332	100.00
Military/Vets Pro Bono	69,159	103,742	66.66
Other Expenses	254,312	718,032	35.42
	<u>8,087,809</u>	<u>12,984,988</u>	<b>62.29</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>			
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,881,967</b>	<b>\$ (1,862,343)</b>	<b>(154.75)</b>

3/22/2016

**State Bar of Georgia - Bar Center**  
**Revenues and Expenditures - Executive Summary**  
**For the Eight Months Ended February 29, 2016**

Activity	Actual FY 15	YTD 2/29/16		Budget FY 16
		Actual	% Budget	
<b>Income and Cash Receipts</b>				
CCLC Contribution	\$1,308,195	\$1,385,803	106.6%	\$1,300,000
Interest Income	\$18,655	\$7,461	37.3%	\$20,000
Member Assessment	\$317,677	\$282,451	97.4%	\$290,000
Room Rentals and Various Charges	\$24,987	\$17,699	63.0%	\$28,100
Parking Revenues	\$244,335	\$204,283	84.7%	\$241,133
Rental Income	\$1,105,143	\$743,211	62.6%	\$1,187,023
<b>GDOT Settlement</b>	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0
Operating Budget Transfer	\$576,707	\$391,007	66.7%	\$586,511
<b>Total Income and Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$3,595,699</b>	<b>\$3,031,915</b>	<b>83.0%</b>	<b>\$3,652,767</b>
<b>Expenses and Cash Disbursements</b>				
Building Rehabilitation	\$14,840	\$1,034	1.4%	\$75,000
Conference Floor Renovations	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$20,000
Tenant Improvements	\$20,362	\$462,682	308.5%	\$150,000
Furniture and Equipment	\$8,185	\$10,047	0.0%	\$9,800
Design Fees	\$26,413	\$32,921	0.0%	\$10,000
Parking Deck Enhancements	\$0	\$166,509	0.0%	\$125,000
Median and Landscaping	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$5,000
Woodrow Wilson Exhibit and Law Museum	\$1,904	\$14,313	102.2%	\$14,000
President's Conference Room	\$0	\$976	19.5%	\$5,000
Law Related Education	\$52,500	\$12,980	49.0%	\$26,500
Conference Center Operating Expenses	\$387,490	\$267,566	61.7%	\$433,567
Third Floor Contingency	\$21,175	\$0	0.0%	\$25,000
Building Operating Expenses	\$1,432,753	\$984,041	62.8%	\$1,565,898
Parking Deck Operating Expenses	\$228,604	\$196,391	67.3%	\$291,641
Legal, Due Diligence and Closing Fees	\$75,418	\$0	0.0%	\$0
<b>Total Expenses and Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>\$2,269,644</b>	<b>\$2,149,460</b>	<b>78.0%</b>	<b>\$2,756,406</b>
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>\$1,326,055</b>	<b>\$882,455</b>		<b>\$896,361</b>

**State Bar of Georgia**  
**Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions**  
**At February 29**

Total Number of Members at  
 Apr 30 of prev Bar year (active and inactive)

	<b>Dues Season May Through April 2016</b>	<b>Dues Season May Through April 2015</b>	<b>Dues Season May Through April 2014</b>
	<u>46,113</u>	<u>45,133</u>	<u>44,044</u>
<b>Dues</b>			
Active - Number Paid	37,837	37,316	36,604
Inactive - Number Paid	<u>8,716</u>	<u>8,691</u>	<u>8,420</u>
Total Number Paid	<u>46,553</u>	<u>46,007</u>	<u>45,024</u>
Percent Paid	<u>100.95%</u>	<u>101.94%</u>	<u>102.23%</u>
Total Amount Paid - Active and Inactive	<u>10,383,796</u>	<u>10,234,571</u>	<u>9,926,653</u>

**Georgia Legal Services**

Number Paid	<u>2,299</u>	<u>2,304</u>	<u>2,221</u>
Percent of Total Members Paid	<u>4.94%</u>	<u>5.01%</u>	<u>4.93%</u>
Amount Paid	<u>264,333</u>	<u>255,595</u>	<u>241,262</u>
Average Amount Paid	<u>\$ 115</u>	<u>\$ 111</u>	<u>\$ 109</u>

**Legislative**

Number Paid	<u>5,999</u>	<u>6,720</u>	<u>7,325</u>
Percent of Total Members Paid	<u>12.89%</u>	<u>14.61%</u>	<u>16.27%</u>
Amount Paid	<u>564,704</u>	<u>636,006</u>	<u>690,936</u>
Average Amount Paid	<u>\$ 94</u>	<u>\$ 95</u>	<u>\$ 94</u>

**Projected 2015-16 Dues Year Totals Based Upon The Current Participation**  
**Percentages (Note: Participation Usually Decreases For Members Who Pay Later):**

<b>Georgia Legal Services</b>	<u>\$ 265,000</u>
<b>Legislative</b>	<u>\$ 567,000</u>

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

	<b>GLSP</b>	<b>Legislative</b>
2014 - 2015	<u>\$ 255,713</u>	<u>\$ 640,505</u> \$100 Contribution
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  
Investment Performance Comparison  
2005-2016

	Period End Balances														
	Yields	All MMKT	Georgia Bank CD's	BOA/MIL Inv Port	SunTrust Inv Port	Blended Yield	All Cash/MMKT**	Georgia Bank CD's	Fidelity MMKT	BOA/MIL MMKT*	Synovus MMKT	ServisFirst MMKT	SunTrust Cash/MMKT	Total Book Investments	Total Cash and Investments**
Averages, 2005	3.02%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.02%	16,580,537	-	-	9,403,471	-	7,177,066	-	16,580,537	
Averages, 2006	4.87%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.87%	18,922,787	-	-	16,874,290	-	2,048,497	-	18,922,787	
Averages, 2007	5.21%	N/A	N/A	5.06%	N/A	5.06%	13,657,096	-	-	12,152,455	-	1,526,658	8,229,072	21,886,168	
Averages, 2008	3.01%	N/A	N/A	3.88%	N/A	3.33%	12,912,090	-	1,886,579	9,292,693	-	-	1,732,818	11,160,834	24,072,925
Averages, 2009	0.92%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.38%	16,672,270	-	4,564,309	8,545,018	-	-	3,562,943	7,946,088	24,618,358
Averages, 2010	0.18%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.07%	15,151,444	-	4,576,043	6,345,455	-	-	4,229,945	8,323,979	23,475,423
Averages, 2011	0.10%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.76%	15,641,096	-	4,582,870	6,878,861	-	-	4,179,364	7,030,212	22,671,307
Averages, 2012	0.11%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.57%	16,077,038	-	4,588,278	7,378,420	-	-	4,110,340	9,401,250	25,478,288
Averages, 2013	0.07%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.32%	18,772,091	-	3,825,012	10,839,546	-	-	4,106,533	8,636,500	27,408,591
Averages, 1Q14	0.15%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.33%	17,788,948	-	9	13,784,754	-	-	4,004,185	8,305,000	26,093,948
Averages, 2Q14	0.15%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.33%	20,479,383	416,667	9	15,823,800	-	-	4,238,907	7,468,400	28,364,450
Averages, 3Q14	0.15%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.31%	23,810,067	1,250,378	9	19,612,356	-	-	4,197,702	6,628,333	31,688,778
Averages, 4Q14	0.12%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.28%	22,859,523	1,251,500	9	17,862,929	-	-	4,996,586	5,318,667	29,429,690
Averages, 1Q15	0.34%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.42%	21,422,445	1,252,595	9	7,490,480	4,505,693	-	9,426,263	4,305,000	26,980,041
Averages, 2Q15	0.38%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.45%	23,038,985	1,254,270	9	5,390,427	5,517,551	-	12,130,998	3,709,000	28,002,255
Averages, 3Q15	0.50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.54%	27,822,166	1,088,932	9	2,808,094	10,631,018	-	14,383,046	3,229,333	32,140,432
Averages, 4Q15	0.56%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.58%	26,110,552	1,007,971	9	2,452,740	10,842,177	-	11,814,936	2,069,000	29,187,522
January 2016	0.51%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.54%	24,499,619	1,009,499	9	2,271,797	10,858,200	2,003,575	9,366,038	1,903,000	27,412,118
February 2016	0.42%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.46%	23,925,008	1,009,433	9	2,323,042	10,862,946	2,005,163	8,733,849	1,903,000	26,837,442

\* Includes CCLC

\*\* Includes CCLC, Client Security Fund and Bar Center Operating Acts

**State Bar of Georgia**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**February 29, 2016**

ASSETS - Current Assets

Total Cash & Short-Term Investments		<u>19,567,997</u>
Investment - Merrill Lynch		1,904,729
Investment - Fidelity		9
Investment - Georgia Banks		<u>1,009,499</u>
Total Long-Term Investments		<u>2,914,237</u>
Accounts Receivable		69,684
Accrued Interest Receivable		6,543
Due from Related Orgs/Emp		(143,738)
Prepaid Expenses		672,880
Bar Center Prepaid Expenses		<u>36,101</u>
Total Other Assets		<u>641,470</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>23,123,704</u>
Fixed Assets		
Furniture & Equipment		6,049,850
Bar Center		26,004,590
Accum. Depreciation		<u>(17,475,688)</u>
Total Fixed Assets		<u>14,578,752</u>
Total Assets	\$	<u><u>37,702,456</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Accounts Payable	\$	208,869
Other Current Liabilities		827,669
Vacation & Pers Day Accrual		483,630
Due to Client Security Fund		2,193,938
Deferred Income		26,050
BC-Accrued Expenses		59,239
C&W - Deferred Rent Income		<u>30,087</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>3,829,482</u>
Total Long Term Liabilities		<u>0</u>
Fund Balances - Beg. of Year		
Total Fund Balances - Beg. of Year		<u>29,409,575</u>
YTD Activity		<u>4,463,404</u>
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	<u><u>37,702,461</u></u>

**State Bar of Georgia  
 Cornerstones of Freedom Fund  
 Activity Report  
 Through February 29, 2016**

<b>7/1/15 Beginning Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 600,000</u></b>
Interest Income on Fund	1,648
Expenditures:	
Writing Services	22,884
Media Monitoring	2,089
Schoolgroup Travel-LRE	8,488
iCivics	10,926
Wellness Program and Website	5,681
Miscellaneous	41
	<u>50,109</u>
<b>Net Balance 2/29/16</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 551,539</u></u></b>

**Anticipated Expenditures  
 Prior to Fiscal Year End**

Virtual Law Museum	132,000
School Travel	4,130
Wellness	5,800
Writing Services	8,000
iCivics	-
Media Monitoring	1,100
Total Anticipated	<u>151,030</u>

Net Anticipated Fiscal Yearend Balance, 6/30/16	<u>\$ 400,509</u>
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<b>Anticipated Replenishment    Needed From Surplus</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 199,491</u></u></b>
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**State Bar of Georgia  
 Legislative Fund  
 Activity Report  
 Through February 29, 2016**

**7/1/15 Beginning Balance** **\$ 1,164,048**

Interest Income on Fund	3,470
Contributions	558,131

**Expenditures:**

Staff and Contract Lobbyists	299,051
Legislative Committee Expense	14,623
Grassroots Efforts	17,054
Travel	15,696
Shared Office Allocation	11,939
Miscellaneous	3,889
	<u>362,251</u>

**Net Balance 2/29/16** **\$ 1,363,398**

**Anticipated Expenditures  
 Prior to Fiscal Year End**

Staff and Contract Lobbyists	174,122
Legislative Committee Expense	2,500
Grassroots Efforts	-
Travel	5,000
Shared Office Allocation	5,969
Miscellaneous	3,000

Total Anticipated 190,591

**Legislative Fund  
 Net Anticipated Fiscal Yearend  
 Balance, 6/30/16** **\$ 1,172,807**

**Minutes**  
**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**February 25, 2016**  
**State Bar Building**  
**Atlanta, Georgia**

Members Present

Nancy J. Whaley (Chair), Pat O'Connor (Executive Committee Liaison), Donna G. Barwick, Lyonnnette M. Davis, Elizabeth L. Fite, Karlise Y. Grier, and Shondeana G. Morris attended in person. Jonathan B. Pannell attended via videoconference from the Coastal Georgia Office. Randall H. Davis, Joseph W. Dent, Damon E. Elmore, Elena Kaplan, Nancy N. Liu, Jennifer C. Mock, Daniel B. Snipes, Martin E. Valbuena, and Kathleen M. Womack attended via telephone.

Staff Present

Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Jenny Mittelman, Deputy General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer; and Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer, were present from the State Bar staff.

Welcome

Chairperson Nancy J. Whaley welcomed new Finance Committee members. Pat O'Connor mentioned that it would be beneficial to have the Bar Treasurer-Elect at the next Finance Committee meeting, so that he could become more acclimated to the Bar's budget and financial processes. Mr. Laine indicated he would invite Ken Hodges to the next Finance Committee meeting.

State Bar of Georgia 1/31/16 Financial Statements

Steve Laine reviewed the Bar's Combined Revenues and Expenditures Statement, Bar Center Executive Summary, Operations Income Statement, Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions, Investment Performance, and the State Bar Balance Sheet, all as of 1/31/16.

Mr. Laine projected that the Bar would incur an operating loss of \$509K for Fiscal 2015-16, given projected spending trends at 95% of budget. This loss was by design, as dues increases are being deferred in favor of spending down current reserves.

Audit Results, Fiscal 2015

The Committee reviewed the results of the financial statement audits for both the State Bar of Georgia and the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency, for the year ended June 30, 2015. Mauldin and Jenkins, the Bar's audit firm, made no audit adjustments and had no management letter comments. The State Bar Audit Committee met, reviewed the audit results, and made several recommendations on February 12, 2016.

After considerable discussion regarding the Audit Committee's recommendations, the Finance Committee approved a motion to accept the following recommendations of the Audit Committee and thus recommend them to the Executive Committee, with stipulations noted:

**Finance Committee**  
**2/25/16 Meeting Minutes**  
**Page Two**

1. The State Bar Officer Credit Card program should be sunset at the end of the current Bar year (June 30, 2016);
2. The Bar should conduct background checks (credit report and criminal history report) on all current Bar employees serving in a fiduciary capacity. The Bar should conduct background checks on all new Bar employees in a fiduciary capacity as part of the hiring process. (Caveat: The Bar's Executive Director and General Counsel shall consider background check policies of similar organizations during the implementation of this recommendation.)
3. The Committee accepts the State Bar Combined Financial Statements and the Financial Statements of the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, including the related Reports of Independent Auditor, and recommends acceptance of same to the Executive Committee, pending any substantial changes to the statements or report before issuance.
4. The Committee recommends the retention of Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC as financial auditor for the State Bar and CCLC for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

Dues History and Background

Chairperson Whaley reviewed the history of Bar dues and the concept of indexing. Indexing is the practice of increasing dues to fund new programs. The Bar historically built up additional surplus when programs were approved, and dues were increased, but actual expenditures for the program was much less than budgeted. The accumulated surplus was now being spent down by design—by deferring dues increases at this time even though operating expenses would otherwise necessitate an increase in dues revenue. The Bar dues currently stood at \$248 for active members and \$124 for inactive members. Ms. Whaley noted that the Bar is bound by a \$25 ceiling on annual dues raises and an overall dues ceiling of \$350, as set by the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Bar Reserves

Mr. Laine presented a summary of the Bar's reserves. At 12/31/14, the Bar held \$5 million in board-designated reserves, plus the \$600,000 Cornerstones of Freedom Fund. In addition, as of 6/30/16, the Bar was projected to have \$5.6 million in unrestricted surplus, which included the Bar Center surplus. This was down from \$6.3 million at 6/30/15.

He led the Committee through a projection of current reserves, given current spend plus a 3% inflation rate, discounted to 95% of budget. The projection indicates that all current surplus will be expended in 2021-22. The projection also indicates that dues will need to be incrementally increased each year in the several years in advance of the 2021-22 Bar year so as to avoid the necessity of a large dues increase in the year that reserves are fully depleted.

**Finance Committee**  
**2/25/16 Meeting Minutes**  
**Page Three**

Budget Timetable

Steve Laine explained the 2016-17 Bar Operating Budget Timetable. The timetable necessitated a dues recommendation by Finance to Executive Committee before April 8, 2016.

Programs Committee Minutes

Pat O'Connor, Programs Committee Chair and Bar President-Elect, reviewed the minutes of the 1/28/16 Programs Committee meeting. The Programs Committee recommendations were to:

- (1) Increase BASICS funding, specifically for program outcome tracking purposes, by \$10,000;
- (2) Fund up to \$72,000 from Cornerstones of Freedom for the second series of six Law-Related Education Virtual Law Museum online case studies;
- (3) Deny a \$2,500 funding request for events to be hosted by the Law School Outreach Committee, as its efforts were duplicative of those of the YLD Law School Outreach Committee;
- (4) Fund \$2,500 for programs of the Committee on Professionalism, including a Law School Orientation on Professionalism, Connect with a Colleague, CJCP Professionalism Programs, and Atlanta Dream Team Law Day;
- (5) Fund an additional \$5,000 for the CJCP's Justice Robert Benham Community Service Awards program (for a total of \$10,000 in FY17);
- (6) Deny a \$5,000 funding request to further publicize the SOLACE program;
- (7) Increase YLD Meetings funding by \$10,000 to allow for loss of Bar's sponsorship revenues;
- (8) Increase funding for the YLD Committees line item by \$5,500.

The Committee conducted an extended discussion of whether the groups above would have to come back to Programs Committee in 2017 to request the same items, or whether the one approval would serve for future years. The Committee concluded by unanimous vote that the BASICS program requests and the CJCP/Committee on Professionalism requests would have to be heard again in 2017, if these additional funds were desired for 2017-18.

Personnel Committee Recommendations

Mr. O'Connor, chair of Personnel Committee, reviewed the recommendations of the Personnel Committee, which had met on January 29, 2016.

The recommendations were:

- (1) Addition of a Human Resources Director and convert 2 Staff Accountant positions from hourly to salaried, at a maximum net cost of \$97,756;

**Finance Committee**  
**2/25/16 Meeting Minutes**  
**Page Four**

(2) Addition of a Sections part-time Assistant, at a maximum cost of \$17,354;

(3) Grant a staff raise of 0% COLA plus up to 3% discretionary merit increase, for a total maximum cost of approximately \$180,000.

2016-17 Dues Recommendation

The Committee discussed the 2016-17 State Bar of Georgia member dues recommendation, in light of projected available surplus, the recommendations of the Programs Committee, and the recommendations of the Personnel Committee.

The impact of 2016 Programs Committee recommendations was \$0.77 per member.

The dues motion was made by Jon Pannell, seconded by Shondeana Morris as follows: Finance Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that active and inactive member dues shall not increase for 2016-17. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

2016-17 Bar Operating Budget

Steve Laine led the Committee through the cover sheets for the 2016-17 State Bar Operating Budget. The budget will be amended for review and proposed for Committee approval at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The Committee agreed to meet again on Friday, March 25, 2016, at 11:30 AM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**DRAFT**  
**Minutes**  
**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**March 25, 2016**  
**State Bar Building**  
**Atlanta, Georgia**

Members Present

Nancy J. Whaley (Chair), Shondeana G. Morris, and Martin E. Valbuena attended in person. attended via videoconference from the Coastal Georgia Office. Dennis C. Sanders (Vice Chair), Pat O'Connor (Executive Committee Liaison), Lyonnette M. Davis, Randall H. Davis, Joseph W. Dent, Damon E. Elmore, Karlise Y. Grier, Nancy N. Liu, Jennifer C. Mock, Jonathan B. Pannell, and Kathleen M. Womack attended via telephone.

Staff Present

Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Jenny Mittelman, Deputy General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer; and Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer, were present from the State Bar staff.

Guests

Ken Hodges, Executive Committee member and nominee for Bar Treasurer 2016-17, was also present via telephone.

Minutes—10/27/15 and 2/25/16 Meetings

The Committee reviewed the draft minutes of its 10/27/15 and 2/25/16 meetings. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.

State Bar of Georgia 2/29/16 Financial Statements

Steve Laine reviewed the Bar's Combined Revenues and Expenditures Statement, Bar Center Executive Summary, Operations Income Statement, Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions, Investment Performance, and the State Bar Balance Sheet, all as of 2/29/16.

Mr. Laine reported that the Bar continued on an expense trajectory at 95% of budget. Revenues were in line with budget. This would create a loss that was by design, as dues increases are being deferred in favor of spending down current reserves. The projected 2015-16 loss was \$1,144,517 in the Operating segment, offset partially by a \$631,159 gain in the Bar Center segment, for a net projected loss of \$513,358. This projected loss was approximately \$453,000 less than the budgeted loss.

Ms. Whaley asked that a status of the Legislative Fund be added to the Committee meeting packages in the future. Mr. Laine agreed and also indicated he would also add this information to the monthly Finance Committee reporting package.

**Finance Committee**  
**3/25/16 Meeting Minutes**  
**Page Two**

Budget Timetable

Steve Laine reviewed the 2016-17 Bar Operating Budget Timetable. The timetable necessitated a budget recommendation by Finance to Executive Committee before its May meeting.

Updated Projections of Bar Reserves

Mr. Laine presented a summary of the Bar's reserves. At 12/31/15, the Bar held \$5 million in board-designated reserves, plus the \$600,000 Cornerstones of Freedom (COF) Fund.

As of 6/30/16, he projected that the Bar would hold \$5.6 million in unrestricted surplus, which included the Bar Center surplus. This was down from \$6.3 million at 6/30/15, and would take into account a projected \$200,000 transfer from surplus to shore up the COF Fund back to \$600,000.

As of 6/30/16, the Bar was projected to have \$5.0 million in unrestricted surplus, after incurring a \$600,000 loss in 2016-17. This would be subject to further reductions if the COF Fund needed to be replenished. This was up from \$4.6MM as presented in the previous month's Finance Committee meeting, as a formula error was found and corrected.

He led the Committee through three projections of current surplus, given current year projected spend, 2016-17 spend discounted to 95% of budget, and future years projected at 3% growth in spending.

The first projection indicated that all current surplus would be expended by 2022-23, if \$2/year dues increases were employed from 2018-19 forward. The second projection indicated that surplus would dip to \$2.6MM by 2023-24 if \$6/year dues increases were employed from 2018-19 forward, but would then grow. The third projection indicated that all current surplus would dip to zero by in 2024-25 if \$6/year dues increases were employed from 2019-20 forward.

In all three scenarios, replenishment of the COF Fund would deplete surplus further. The projections also indicated that dues would need to be incrementally increased each year in the several years in advance of a zero surplus Bar year. This would avert a large dues increase above statutory maximums in the year that reserves would be fully depleted.

The Committee requested that Mr. Laine list the projected reserves for the end of the budget year in question, on the face of the annual budget. He agreed to do so, as well as to total the surplus line items on all financial statements and budgets.

2016-17 Bar Budget

Mr. Laine led the Committee through the second draft of the 2016-17 State Bar Budget, which consisted of two components: Operations and Bar Center. The budget reflected all recommendations of the Programs and Personnel Committees (previously discussed in the

**Finance Committee**  
**3/25/16 Meeting Minutes**  
**Page Three**

Investment Committee Summary

Mr. Laine gave the Committee a summary of the recent meeting of the Bar's Investment Committee (IC). He indicated the following recommendations from IC:

1. Split the current State Bar Investment Policy into two pieces: one for long-term investing of permanent reserves, and one for short-term investing of surplus.
2. Substitute President-Elect for Secretary as an authorized approver in section IV of the policy, since the Secretary position usually has the least Bar tenure.
3. Allow investments in common Stock, preferred Stock, equity-based mutual funds, and exchange-traded funds (ETF's). These were currently prohibited in section III. M. of the policy. The CFO was to report back to IC whether Finance had an "appetite" for equity-based instruments. The IC clarified that its intent with equities was to invest in funds of equities, not individual stocks.

IC had also discussed whether an outside manager or managers should be used to select investments and make trades, in lieu of the existing policy, which is styled to have internal officer/management approvals of individual trades. The selection of outside managers would occur via a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. If utilized, the performance of the outside managers would be reviewed by the Investment Committee quarterly.

The Finance Committee indicated that it indeed had an appetite for equity investments and that policy changes should be pursued accordingly, subject to Executive Committee approval.

Next Meeting Date

Ms. Whaley mentioned that the Committee might meet again in Fall 2016 as a general update and to address any issues noted in the interim.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



**DRAFT  
Minutes  
Investment Committee  
State Bar of Georgia  
March 23, 2016**

Members Present

Lyonnette M. Davis, Chair; Donna G. Barwick; Edward M. Manigault; and Oscar Lee Wiseley attended in person. Mark A. Shaffer, and Hillary S. Stringfellow attended via telephone.

Staff Present

Steve Laine, State Bar CFO.

Guest

Patrick O'Connor, State Bar President-Elect.

Welcome and Purpose

Ms. Davis welcomed the members. The Committee discussed its purpose—whether it was to determine investments to pursue and manage, or to recommend policy changes. Mr. O'Connor read the Committee's purpose per the Bar's website: "This special committee will review and monitor the State Bar's Investment Policy and report to the Finance Committee on its advice and recommendations."

The Committee also discussed continuity, since all members' terms were to end 6/30/16. Mr. O'Connor indicated his intent in the coming year was to preserve the composition of the Committee, with perhaps a few additional appointments added.

Current Investment Policy and Current Portfolio

Mr. Laine presented the Bar's current Investment Policy, which had been amended in February 2015. He then presented a listing of the Bar's current investment portfolio, which included fully-insured certificates of deposit and non-equity-based money market funds.

Discussion of Investment Policy and Proposed Changes

The Committee conducted a detailed conversation regarding the Bar Investment Policy. Mr. Laine detailed that the long-term component (10-year horizon) could be composed of the Bar's board-designated reserves, less the Cornerstones reserve, for a total of \$5 million. He indicated the short-term component (5-year horizon) would be comprised of approximately \$2 million in surplus, which was project to be around for 5 years. Remaining investments would have to be very short-term to allow for liquidity in running the Bar.

The Committee via motion and unanimous approval recommended the following changes to the Finance Committee:

1. Split the current State Bar Investment Policy into two pieces: one for long-term investing of permanent reserves, and one for short-term investing of surplus.

## **Investment Committee Minutes**

**March 23, 2016**

**Page Two**

2. Substitute President-Elect for Secretary as an authorized approver in section IV of the policy, since the Secretary position usually has the least Bar tenure.

The Committee then discussed appropriate investments. They recommended that the CFO discuss with the Finance Committee a recommendation to allow investments in common Stock, preferred Stock, equity-based mutual funds, and exchange-traded funds (ETF's). These were currently prohibited in section III. M. of the policy.

The CFO was to report back to Investment Committee whether Finance had an "appetite" for equity-based instruments. The Committee clarified that its intent with equities was to invest in funds of equities, not individual stocks.

The Committee also discussed whether an outside manager or managers should be used to select investments and make trades, in lieu of the existing policy, which is styled to have internal officer/management approvals of individual trades. The selection of outside managers would occur via a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. If utilized, the performance of the outside managers would be reviewed by the Investment Committee quarterly.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**--DRAFT--**  
**Minutes**  
**Audit Committee**  
**State Bar of Georgia**  
**February 12, 2016**  
**YLD Presidents' Boardroom, Third Floor, Bar Center**

Members Present

R. Chris Phelps, Chair; Han Chun Choi, Vice-Chair; Charles M. Dalziel, Jr. Kenneth R. Bernard, Jr. and Patrick O'Connor (Executive Committee Liaison) participated via telephone.

Staff Present

Steve Laine, State Bar CFO; Jeff Davis, Executive Director.

Guests

Jeff Fucito, Partner, Mauldin & Jenkins LLC; Kimberly Haynes, Audit Manager, Mauldin & Jenkins LLC.

Minutes, 9/23/15 Meeting

The Committee reviewed and approved the draft minutes of its September 23, 2015 meeting.

Audit Results, Fiscal 2015

Jeff Fucito reviewed the results of the financial statement audits for the combined State Bar of Georgia and State Bar of Georgia Foundation, and for the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency for the year ended June 30, 2015. There were no audit adjustments necessary and no management letter comments were made. There were no disagreements with management and all items requested of the Bar were provided in a timely manner. There were no identified deficiencies in internal control.

Officer Credit Card

Mr. Fucito communicated a minor finding that there were some missing receipts related to Bar credit card expenditures of one officer drawn in their sample of Bar credit card transactions. The Committee discussed the Bar officer credit card and its use and unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Executive Committee:

The State Bar Officer Credit Card program should be sunset at the end of the current Bar year (June 30, 2016).

Background Checks for Financial Employees

Mr. Fucito discussed his recommendation to require periodic background checks for employees that handle currency, credit card information, and/or other personal information of the Bar's members. Upon further discussion, the Committee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Executive Committee:

The Bar shall conduct background checks (credit report and criminal history report) on all current Bar employees serving in a fiduciary capacity. The Bar shall conduct background checks on all new Bar employees in a fiduciary capacity as part of the hiring process.

Acceptance of Financial Statements and Auditor's Report

The Committee made and approved a motion to recommend acceptance of the State Bar Combined Financial Statements and the Financial Statements of the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, including the related Reports of Independent Auditor, to the Finance Committee, pending any substantial changes to the statements or report before issuance.

Auditor Retention

Mr. Fucito and Ms. Haynes left the room and the Committee discussed the performance of the current audit firm. Mr. Laine stated that the firm had conducted its responsibilities in a professional and timely manner. Upon further discussion, the Committee approved a motion to recommend the retention of Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC as auditor of the State Bar and CCLC for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Board of Governors  
State Bar of Georgia  
104 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: May 6-7, 2016 Report to the Board of Governors

Board Members:

It is my privilege to report to the Board on the activities of the State Bar of Georgia YLD. The YLD is committed to continually promoting the mission of our Bar through its younger members, who number nearly 10,000. Throughout the Bar year, the YLD has been busy both continuing already great programs and projects and improving initiatives from previous years. This report will bring you up to date on our activities and accomplishments so far this year.

#### **Signature Service Projects**

The Signature Fundraiser Committee, led this year by Ashley Akins and Elizabeth O'Neal, organizes and orchestrates an annual fundraising event to raise money to support a designated charitable organization. Since its inception 10 years ago, the YLD Signature Fundraiser has donated more than \$400,000 to several worthy causes. This year's 10th Annual YLD Signature Fundraiser was a black-tie gala that took place at the Biltmore on January 23, 2016. This year's event raised over 130,000 for Camp Lakeside, to ensure that children of all abilities have access to life-changing outdoor recreation and therapeutic programs. This event featured live music, dancing, open bar, food, silent auction and more.



*YLD Past Presidents attend the 2016 Signature Fundraiser.*



*Jana Edmondson-Cooper receives the Signature Service Award at the 2016 Signature Fundraiser.*

In addition, the YLD organized and participated in the fifth annual Legal Food Frenzy in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General. The Food Frenzy has a 2016 goal of raising over 1 million pounds of food for Georgia's needy, making a cumulative total raised of more than 5 million pounds of food over the course of the project's first five years in existence. All donations will not only stay in Georgia, but will directly benefit the local community food banks where the donations are made. Results pending.



*Legal Food Frenzy Press Conference at the Capitol.*

These two major service projects not only benefit our state as a whole and our local communities, they show the public that Georgia lawyers care more about their contribution to society than the billable hour. *I am asking each of you, as members of our Board of Governors, to support our mission of public service, and personally contribute your time, talent, or financial resources towards one or both of these signature public service events.*

## YLD Committees

- **Advocates for Students with Disabilities**  
**Co-Chairs: Clayton Adams & Susan Haynes**  
Recently, this Committee hosted their final lunch meeting of the Bar year on April 14, at the Bar Center. As always, it was well-attended, and they had a door prize, and gave away two tickets to Shake It Up, a cocktail fundraiser for children in need.
  
- **Appellate Admissions**  
**Co-Chairs: Bryan Schivera & Rachel Hudgins**  
This Committee held a successful swearing-in ceremony for the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Court of Appeals of Georgia, and the United State District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, on May 3 at the Court of Appeals.
  
- **Aspiring Youth Program**  
**Co-Chairs: LaToya Bell & Alexia Davis**  
Recently, this Committee created a Georgia Substance Abuse Awareness brochure to be distributed statewide in DJJ facilities.
  
- **Criminal Law Committee**  
**Co-Chairs: C. Brock Brockington & Ryan English**  
This Committee hosted a mixer with members of the judiciary in Macon, GA on April 28. They enjoyed food, drinks and a chance to mingle with the judiciary and colleagues.
  
- **Estate & Elder Law**  
**Co-Chairs: Brandon D. Elijah & Amanda N. Moyer**  
This committee recently held a Wills Clinic in Douglasville, GA on May 21. They also finished a complete rewrite of the Senior Handbook and a brochure titled, "Selecting a Personal Care Home."
  
- **Ethics & Professionalism**  
**Co-Chairs: Matthew L. Jones & Alisha Marie Scott**  
This committee held a conference call on April 7, a final lunch meeting of the Bar year on May 5 and are planning a community service project for the end of May. They also accepted nominations for their annual Ethics & Professionalism award, which will be given out at the YLD Dinner and Swearing-In of Officers, at Annual Meeting in June.
  
- **Family Law**  
**Co-Chairs: Katie Kiihnl & Jonathan Brezel**  
This Committee attended a Fulton Family CLE on April 29 that was well-attended.
  
- **Intellectual Property Law**  
**Co-Chairs: Sonia Lakhany & Tiffany Logan**  
This Committee held their annual "War Stories of an IP Associate" Lunch CLE on April 19 from 12-1 p.m. at the Bar Center, Room 1. The cost was \$10 and included 1 hour of general CLE credit and lunch.

- **Intrastate Moot Court Competition**  
**Co-Chairs: William A. Alexander & Mary Weeks**  
 This Committee held their annual Intrastate Moot Court Competition April 1-2, 2016. This event included a happy hour for competitors and a dinner and reception for the volunteer judges. The competition was held in Athens, Georgia, where they hosted 2 teams from each of 6 law schools within the State of Georgia.
- **Leadership Academy**  
**Co-Chairs: Ron E. Daniels, M. Anne Kaufold-Wiggins & Sarah F. Kjellin**  
 The Class of 2016 began in January 2016 and meets once a month for six months. Participants who attend all six sessions will receive 12 CLE credit hours, including 1 Professionalism, 1 Ethics and 3 Trial.
- **Legal Food Frenzy**  
**Co-Chairs: Justin L. Oliverio, Lisa G. Robinson, Daniel Burroughs & W. Justin Purvis**  
 This committee coordinates with the Office of the Attorney General to host the statewide "Legal Food Frenzy," a food drive and fundraiser competition among Georgia's law firms, law schools and other legal organizations. The committee partners with community legal leaders across the state to spread awareness about Georgia's hunger problems, and to make a significant impact by gathering both canned food donations and monetary donations to help those affected by hunger in the state. This competition is held in the spring, and since its inception, has raised more than 3.5 million pounds of food.
- **Litigation Committee**  
**Co-Chairs: Edwin Cook & Jake Evans**  
 This Committee held a War Stories event in Savannah, GA on April 14, a 4-hour CLE on Litigation on April 26 at the Bar Center, and are planning a lunch meeting at the Bar Center on May 19 as well as a final year-end happy hour for June 9.
- **Public Interest Internship Program**  
**Co-Chairs: Jennifer Weaver & Kerry Nicholson**  
 This Committee recently chose three lucky law students to each receive the prestigious \$5,000 public interest grant for their upcoming work this summer.
- **Signature Fundraiser**  
**Co-Chairs: Ashely A. Akins & Elizabeth Pool O'Neal**  
 This committee organizes and orchestrates an annual fundraising event to raise money to support a designated charitable organization. Since its inception 10 years ago, the YLD Signature Fundraiser has donated more than \$400,000 to several worthy causes. This year's 10th Annual YLD Signature Fundraiser is a black-tie gala taking place at the Biltmore on January 23, 2016. This year's event raises money for Camp Lakeside, to ensure that children of all abilities have access to life-changing outdoor recreation and therapeutic programs. This event features live music, dancing, open bar, food, silent auction and more! This committee raised more than \$130,000, the most ever raised in the history of the fundraiser.



- **Solo Practice/Small Firm**

- **Co-Chairs: Samantha A. Holloway & Jacob W. Poole**

- This Committee recently held the second annual joint YLD Solo-Small Firm/Affiliates Conference on April 23 from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Mercer Law School, 1st Floor Courtroom. The cost was \$25, which included 2 hours of CLE credit, lunch, a trolley ride through Macon and a cocktail hour. Then, the group went out for dinner. Topics included online reputation management, law practice management, marketing and profitability and a roundtable discussion with local affiliate chapters featuring YLD Presidents.

- **YLD Women in the Profession**

- **Co-Chairs: Morgan Clemons & Danielle Russell**

- This Committee held a successful Wine Country CLE on March 26, that was well-attended, included 3 stops at North Georgia Vineyards, lunch and a CLE on the alcohol industry in Georgia, sponsored by Sard & Leff, LLC. They also hosted Questions & Croissants, on April 15, where women got the chance to sit and eat breakfast with Judges from all over the State, who shared life experience and stories from their careers. This Committee also is hosting an event titled Tea & Technology, scheduled for May 18.

### Quarterly Meetings

In addition to the work load of our many committees, YLD members gather four times over the course of the Bar year during quarterly meetings to report on their committee work, socialize, and plan and organize division-wide projects.

The YLD Summer Meeting took place August 20-23, 2015 at the Ritz-Carlton Lodge at Reynolds Plantation in Greensboro, Georgia. It featured food, fellowship, and our first business meeting of the year. In addition, our members had the opportunity to attend a CLE entitled “Practicing in the Sticks: Candid Advice From Rural Jurists.” The CLE included a panel discussion among local judges practical tips and professional advice to the attendees. For the first time, both the CLE and General Session were simulcast over the internet so that members who could not make it to the meeting in person could participate; each of our future meetings this Bar year will have this feature to attract more registrants.



*Panelists and moderators of the YLD Summer Meeting CLE.*

The YLD held its Fall Meeting Nov. 5-8, 2015, at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, WV. Events included a welcome reception, group dinner and general session. A CLE was conducted by former YLD member Ivy Cadle. Ivy educated the group on “Accounting for Lawyers.” Attendees also enjoyed afternoon tea and a bunker tour. The meeting’s service project was a gift wrapping event for The Greenbrier’s Dream Tree for Kids.



*YLD Fall Meeting Attendees wrapped hundreds of gifts for The Greenbrier’s Dream Tree for Kids.*

The YLD Midyear Meeting was held in conjunction with the State Bar Midyear Meeting, Jan. 7-9, 2016, at The Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands, in Buford, Georgia. Events included the annual Cell Phone/Suit Drive, a CLE on Georgia’s Journey to Marriage Equality and YLD General Session. Other YLD groups such as the Leadership Academy, Law School Fellows and Nominating Committee also met in conjunction with the Midyear Meeting.



*Panelists and co-chairs of the YLD Midyear Meeting CLE on Georgia’s Journey to Marriage Equality: The Importance of Diversity and Inclusion in the Profession.*

The YLD held a successful Spring Meeting, March 10-13, 2016, at The Cosmopolitan Hotel, in Las Vegas, NV. Events included a welcome reception, buffet breakfasts, a CLE, group dinner, the YLD General Session and a performance of O by Cirque Du Soleil at the Bellagio.



*YLD Attendees enjoy fellowship and networking during dinner at the Spring Meeting.*

I hope the Board shares in my enthusiasm for the great work the YLD does. Please let me know if there are any projects you have in your local communities that the YLD can assist with, or if I can be of service to you in any way.

Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John R.B. 'Jack' Long". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

John R.B. "Jack" Long  
2015-16 YLD President



<b>Our Vision</b>	<b>Lawyers Serving the Public and the Justice System</b>
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<b>Our Mission</b>	<p>The purposes of the State Bar of Georgia are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To foster among the members of the bar of this State the principles of duty and service to the public</li> <li>• To improve the administration of justice</li> <li>• To advance the science of law</li> </ul>
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<b>Our Positioning Statements</b>	
<i>Positioning statements describe how the organization will respond to key trends impacting its success.</i>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Regulation of Practice</b></p> <p><b>We believe</b> that an effective disciplinary process is important to both the profession and the public. <b>Therefore</b>, in order to improve and promote our ability to discipline ourselves and to make the system more effective and efficient, <b>we will</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to review the entire disciplinary process and implement recommended improvements;</li> <li>• Support adequate funding and resources to carry out these recommendations; and</li> <li>• Develop a non-disciplinary system for intervention with respect to mentally impaired lawyers.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"><b>Access to Justice</b></p> <p><b>We believe</b> that there is a lack of access to justice for many people and that we, as a profession, have an obligation to provide and promote access. <b>Therefore, we will</b> analyze options the Bar can utilize to provide funding and delivery of services to achieve access by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing the use of technology to serve people in areas with unmet legal needs;</li> <li>• Continuing to explore private and public funding options; and</li> <li>• Encouraging members to provide pro bono services and contribute to legal services organizations.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lawyer Wellness</b></p> <p><b>We believe</b> that too many lawyers are experiencing high levels of stress and are unhealthy and unhappy, adversely affecting their personal lives and their effectiveness as lawyers. <b>Therefore we will</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote health and wellness among our members and staff;</li> <li>• Increase awareness of existing Bar programs, such as the Lawyer Assistance Program, Law Practice Management and Suicide Prevention, to help lawyers recognize when they (or others) are in need of help;</li> <li>• Develop a progressive diversion and non disciplinary system for intervention with respect to aging and impaired lawyers;</li> <li>• Develop more CLEs on work/life balance; and</li> <li>• Consider a mandatory one-hour CLE on overall wellness issues.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"><b>Integrating New Delivery Methods</b></p> <p><b>We believe</b> that the delivery of legal services is changing and more people are relying on self-help services. <b>Therefore we will</b> assist our members and the public to adapt to the changing climate for the practice of law by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informing the public of the benefits of using lawyers and the risks of some alternatives;</li> <li>• Embracing technology and other delivery methods; and</li> <li>• Integrating the effective use of technology.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Importance of Our Role</b></p> <p><b>We believe</b> that we need to promote the importance of a mandatory Bar and its programs to both the public and our members. <b>Therefore, we will</b> educate the public about the State Bar of Georgia and what we do, and provide and/or eliminate programs as appropriate/relevant for a mandatory bar/members.</p>	

## Our Goals

## Our Objectives

NA – Not available  
TBD – To be determined

		Base	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	
<b>A. Regulation of Practice</b>  Provide a highly efficient, expedient, and fair disciplinary process, and enforce the rules and regulations concerning the unauthorized practice of law.	1	Decrease the median amount of time between the receipt of a grievance and resolution of the grievance.	TBD	100% of base 90% of base	
	2	Increase the public's and lawyers' perception that the disciplinary system is fair as measured by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bi-annual survey of the public</li> <li>• Bi-annual survey of members</li> </ul>	NA	Baseline 20% ↑ base	
	3	Decrease the number of grievances filed annually.	1997 Filed FY '14-'15	5% ↓ base	10% ↓ base
	4	Limit the unauthorized practice of law as measured by the # of identified UPL cases filed annually.	TBD	5% ↑ base	10% ↑ base
	5	Increase % of identified UPL cases resolved annually.	TBD	5% ↑ base	10% ↑ base
<b>B. Access</b>  Increase access to justice for all.	1	Decrease the number of people annually with legal needs that are not being served (those unqualified /unable to serve due to lack of resources), as measured by numbers provided by GLSP and ALAS.	TBD	10% ↓ base 20% ↓ base	
		Increase the number of people annually served by GLSP and ALAS.	TBD	10% ↑ base 20% ↑ base	
	2	Increase the number of hours volunteer lawyers provide annually on pro bono matters as measured by reporting and/or member surveys.	TBD	10% ↑ base 20% ↑ base	
		Increase the number of lawyers annually who provide pro bono service as measured by reporting and/or member surveys.	TBD	10% ↑ base 20% ↑ base	
	3	Increase the awareness and availability of court or bar provided self-help legal resources in courthouses/public libraries throughout the state as measured by the numbers received from court and library personnel.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
	4	Increase awareness of the importance of access to justice issues through educational and lobbying efforts aimed at bar members, the public and the legislature, as measured by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased member funding for access programs</li> <li>• Increased member participation in funding access programs</li> <li>• Increased public funding for access programs</li> <li>• Increased legislative funding for access programs</li> </ul>	8% TBD TBD	12% 5% ↑ base 5% ↑ base	16% 10% ↑ base 10% ↑ base
	1	Increase % of lawyers indicating, by a survey, that our services and resources have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced their professional lives</li> <li>• Enhanced their personal lives</li> </ul>	NA	Base	10% ↑ base
	2	Increase number of people participating in the following key programs who indicate a professional and personal enhancement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LPM</li> <li>• CLEs</li> <li>• LAP</li> <li>• Wellness</li> </ul>	TBD	5% ↑ base	10% ↑ base
	3	Increase satisfaction with being a lawyer, as measured by survey.	NA	Base	5% ↑ base
	4	Decrease # of known lawyer suicides annually.	NA	Base	5% ↓ base
<b>D. Reputation</b>  Promote positive perception of the legal system and the legal profession.	1	Increase % of public with a positive view of the legal system as measured by a bi-annual survey.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
	2	Increase the positive perception of the legal profession through the media as measured by the number of positive exposures - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified by the Communications Department.</li> <li>• Originated by the Communications Department.</li> </ul>	TBD	10% ↑ base 15% ↑ base	
	3	Increase % of Bar members who have a positive view of the State Bar as measured by an annual survey of Bar members.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
	4	Increase the public's awareness that the State Bar is diligently and proactively prosecuting lawyers who violate the public trust as measured by bi-annual surveys of the public.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
<b>E. Lawyer Competency</b>  Provide effective practice tools and educational resources to improve lawyer competency and ensure continued competence.	1	Increase # of section-sponsored CLE's and the % of section members who annually attend them.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
	2	Improve technology training and provide CLE credit.	TBD	+1 +2	
	3	Increase # of members who utilize LPM resources.	TBD	5% ↑ base 10% ↑ base	
	4	Increase % of CLEs that contain a wellness component.	TBD	10% ↑ base 20% ↑ base	
	5	Require all Section-sponsored CLEs to have one hour of ethics for every 6-hours of instruction.	TBD	5% ↓ base 10% ↓ base	

## Our Critical Success Factors and Barriers

## Our Strategies

Priority

CSFs & Barriers

- Adequate staffing for investigations
- High awareness of disciplinary process
- Lack of transparency in discipline process
- Lack of effective education for lawyers about the nature of grievance
- Lack of adherence to the law
- Lack of lawyers to serve people
- Lack of enforcement of rules

A1	Support disciplinary rules committee in their efforts to revise rules to streamline the process and to address transparency and implement appropriate recommendations.
A2	Publicize outcome of successful UPL cases to inform the public and increase public awareness of UPL.
A3	Develop a non-disciplinary system for intervention with respect to mentally impaired lawyers.

CSFs & Barriers

- Significant funding for servicing needs
- Adequate # of service providers committed to pro bono
- Appropriate means of communicating availability of services
- Willingness to house resources
- High participation in CLE and learning
- Higher awareness of the value of receiving higher education
- Lack of awareness of the problem by the public, legislature and lawyers

B1	Promote increased state and federal funding for criminal and civil legal access programs.
B2	Encourage reporting of annual pro bono hours.
B3	Establish Bar-supported self-help legal resources in each circuit to increase access to information.
B4	Encourage the incorporation of the importance of access to justice as part of CLE in general.
B5	Promote and develop additional access to justice initiatives in addition to the recommendations of the Civil Legal Services Task Force.

CSFs & Barriers

- High awareness of service availability and the benefits
- Better coordination with law schools on setting expectations for our lawyers
- Better awareness of the reality of practicing and balancing life
- High stress, life imbalance, over extension
- Lack of perspective on expectations
- Lack of control over the practice
- Unwillingness to talk about weaknesses

C1	Develop recommended programs and services to better enhance members' professional and personal lives.
C2	Educate members about services and resources which can enhance their professional practice.
C3	Educate future lawyers about expectations of being lawyers.
C4	Encourage wellness programming to improve work/life balance.
C5	Recommend an approach for adapting to changes in the delivery of legal services.

CSFs & Barriers

- More competent lawyers
- Perception that we are adequately policing our own
- High awareness of our good work
- High awareness of the perception lawyers' actions have on the public's perception
- Lawyers behaving badly
- Low public perception of lawyers
- Perceived bias that we are self-serving in addressing this
- Lack of ability to be open about disciplinary matters (confidentiality)

D1	Promote the positive role of lawyers and the value of the legal system through various media
D2	Improve communications with the public about the disciplinary system and its outcomes.

CSFs & Barriers

- High participation in CLE and learning
- Higher awareness of the value of receiving higher education
- Lack of evaluation of learning
- Low expectation of value
- "Know-it-all" attitude
- Inability to accurately measure competency

E1	Work with the Sections to increase awareness, visibility and value of Section CLEs.
E2	Educate members thru CLE how to avoid common ethical complaints.

*\*Additional sub-strategies appear in the Appendix document)*

<b>Our Priorities</b>	
<b>Priority Strategy</b>	<b>Who</b>
A1. Support disciplinary rules committee in their efforts to revise rules to streamline the process and to address transparency and implement appropriate recommendations.	Bob Kauffman
A2. Publicize outcome of successful UPL cases to better inform public.	UPL
B1. Promote increased state and federal funding for criminal and civil legal access programs.	ACL
B4. Encourage the incorporation of the importance of access to justice as part of CLE in general.	Sections, Nicki Vaughan
B5. Promote and develop additional access to justice initiatives in addition to the recommendations of the Civil Legal Services Task Force.	Bob Kauffman, Pat O'Connor
C1. Develop recommended programs and services to better enhance members' professional and personal lives.	Jeff Kuester, Wellness Taskforce, LAP
C2. Educate members about services and resources that can enhance their professional practice.	Communications
C5. Recommend an approach for adapting to changes in the delivery of legal services.	TBD
D2. Improve communications with the public about the disciplinary system and its outcomes.	TBD
E1. Work with the Sections to increase awareness, visibility and value of Section CLEs.	Sections, Communications

<b>When</b>	<b>Our Monitoring Plan</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<b>Are we doing what we said we were going to do?</b> The Executive Committee will review the strategic plan at each meeting to ensure continued progress.
<b>Quarterly</b>	<b>Are we getting the results we want to get?</b> The Board will review each priority strategy and updates on any objectives for which information is available.
<b>Annually</b>	<b>What adjustments do we need to make to our targets and our priorities?</b> The plan will be updated and an annual report provided at the annual meeting.

Our Strategy Partner  
  
[www.leadstrat.com](http://www.leadstrat.com)

**D-R-A-F-T**  
**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**MINUTES**  
**Saturday, January 9, 2016**  
**Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands/Buford, GA**

The 260<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Robert J. Kauffman, President, presided.

Special Recognition

President Bob Kauffman recognized the members of the YLD Leadership Academy, members of the judiciary, the Past Presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance.

Roll Call

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

Future Meetings Schedule

President Bob Kauffman referred the Board of Governors to the Future Meetings Schedule.

General Session

Following a unanimous voice vote on a motion to adjourn the Board of Governors meeting and to convene a General Session, President Bob Kauffman 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 VII, Nominations and Elections

Following a report by Bill NeSmith, proposed amendments to Bylaws Article VII, Nominations and Elections (Exhibit B) were adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Board of Governors Meeting

Following a unanimous voice vote, President Bob Kauffman adjourned the General Session and reconvened the Board of Governors Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia.

Legislation

Following a report by Marc Howard and Thomas Worthy, the Board of Governors took the following action on proposed legislation.

Legislative Proposal

Germane to Scope &  
Purposes of the Bar

Support on Merits  
2/3 Majority

Georgia Department of Law  
Funding Request

Passed by unanimous voice  
vote

Passed by unanimous voice  
vote



Access to Justice Committee

- |                              |                                |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Settlement Funds Proposal | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

- |   |                                |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Georgia Resource Center Funding Request | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Nonprofit Law Section

- |  |                                |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Nonprofit Corporation Code Amendments | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Electronically Stored Information Committee

- |                            |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1) E-Discovery Legislation | Action was postponed until January 29, 2016 (see below) |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|

Before any action was to be taken on the above E-Discovery Legislation proposal, President Bob Kauffman reported that the parties for and against the proposed legislation had met, but failing to reach a compromise, expressed a willingness to meet again next week for the same purpose. Consequently, he asked the Board of Governors to consider postponing a vote on the legislative proposal until January 29, at which time the Board will meet in Atlanta at noontime. For Board members who cannot attend in person, arrangements will be made for them to participate by phone or video conference.

Thereafter, the Board of Governors took the following action:

1. Following a motion and second to postpone a vote on the proposed E-Discovery Legislation by the Board of Governors until January 29 at noontime, an amended motion asking that the Board of Governors oppose the proposed legislation until such time that it learns more about it failed for lack of a second, and
2. The original motion postponing a vote on the proposed E-Discovery Legislation until January 29 at noontime passed by a standing vote of 81 in favor to 34 opposed.

Child Protection and Advocacy Section

- |   |                                |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Waiver of Counsel in Juvenile Proceedings Proposal | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

- |                                     |                                |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2) Juvenile Court Practice Proposal | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Business Law Section

- |                                 |                                |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Benefit Corporation Proposal | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Real Property Law Section

- |   |                                |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Clarification of Licensure Requirements Proposal | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
| 2) Lis Pendens Statute Amendments                   | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |
| 3) Good Funds Statute Amendments                    | Passed by unanimous voice vote | Passed by unanimous voice vote |

President Bob Kauffman thanked Marc Howard, Chair, and the other members of the Advisory Committee on Legislation (ACL) for their efforts.

The Board of Governors received a copy of the Minutes of the ACL Meeting on December 8, 2015.

Minutes of the 259<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting on October 24, 2015, at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, Georgia, were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Proposed Rules Changes

Following a report by Bill NeSmith, the Board of Governors took the following action on proposed Rules and Bylaws amendments (Exhibit C) to:

- | <u>Proposed Rule</u>                                   | <u>Action</u>  |
|--|--|
| 1) Rule 4-227 Petitions for Voluntary Discipline       | By unanimous voice vote approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia  |
| 2) Rule 1-203 Practice by Active Members; Nonresidents | By unanimous voice vote approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia, as amended  |
| 3) Rule 4.4 Respect for Rights of Third Persons        | By a majority standing vote failed to pass a motion to postpone action until the Spring Board of Governors Meeting<br><br>By unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia as presented subject to further review by the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee |

- 4) Rule 5.3 Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants By unanimous voice vote approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia
- 5) Rule 4-210 Powers and Duties of Special Masters By unanimous voice vote approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia
- 6) Rule 8-106 Hours and Accreditation By unanimous voice vote approved recommending To the Supreme Court of Georgia

#### 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	Amy V. Howell Dennis C. Sanders (Seconding)	Kenneth B. Hodges, III
Secretary	Elena Kaplan Joseph W. Dent (Seconding)	Darrell L. Sutton
President-elect	S. Lester Tate, III Dawn M. Jones (Seconding)	Brian D. (Buck) Rogers
President	Hon. Lawton E. Stephens Hon. Shondeana Genean Morris (Seconding)	Patrick T. O'Connor

#### 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. These positions are open to any Georgia lawyer who is an ABA member. Anyone else interested in running for any of the three posts can do so by filing a petition or contacting Paula Frederick and they can be added to the statewide ballot.

<u>Post</u>	<u>Delegate</u>
1	Robert Rothman (currently held by Robert Rothman)
3	Carla Elisia Frazier (currently held by Hulett Askew)
7	Past President Gerald Edenfield (currently held by Past President Edenfield)

#### Report of the ABA

Past President and ABA President-elect Linda A. Klein reported that she is bringing the ABA Board of Governors to Atlanta in November where she will showcase the Bar Center. In that role as ABA President, which begins in August, she plans to address service to veterans, access to justice, and service to members. She also gets to select the theme for Law Day, and plans to focus on the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She will have the task of appointing over 800 people to various ABA committees and her appointments chair is Paula Frederick. It has

been more than two decades since a Georgia lawyer became president of the ABA and she's looking forward to showing the world how much Georgia lawyers do for their communities and access to justice.

Presentation of Resolution to Mike Cranford

President Bob Kauffman presented the following State Bar of Georgia Resolution of Appreciation to Mike Cranford:

Resolution

Whereas, J. Michael Cranford has been an active member of the State Bar of Georgia since 1985; and

Whereas, Cranford is a partner at The Law Office of J. Michael Cranford in Macon, focusing his practice on criminal defense; and

Whereas, Cranford served for years as a member and chair of the Indigent Defense Committee, as well as a long-time member and chair of the Criminal Law Section; and

Whereas, Cranford earned the Hugh Q. Wallace Award in recognition of distinguished service to indigent criminal defendants; and

Whereas, Cranford received the Rees Smith Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, where he is a life-member and former president; and

Whereas, Cranford was named 2012 Lawyer of the Year by the Macon Bar Association, of which he also served as chair; and

Whereas, Cranford served his community through service and support of innumerable community organizations, commissions, and boards, as recognized by his receipt of the 2013 Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism and the State Bar of Georgia, the award for which he is most proud.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the State Bar of Georgia does hereby express its sincere appreciation to J. Michael Cranford for his lifetime career devoted to public service and the practice of criminal law as reflected in his service to the State Bar.

Given this 9th day of January 2016.

State Bar Strategic Plan

President Bob Kauffman presented the Strategic Plan 2016-2018 (rev. 12/2/15) for approval, and thanked the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors for their work on the Plan. The Hon. Rucker Smith reported that during the strategic planning process, one of the most important features raised was an interactive web-based communications system for Board members. He asked that the Board not take vote on the plan today until such a system is in place. Other Board members also expressed their desire for such a system. President Bob Kauffman reported that he

would appoint a committee to look into a communications system. Anyone interested in serving on the committee is to provide their name to Jeff Davis. Following that, the Board of Governors approved the Strategic Plan 2016-2018 (rev. 12/2/15) by unanimous voice vote (Exhibit D).

#### Report of the President

President Bob Kauffman reported that the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee is continuing its review of the entire disciplinary process. He reported that at yesterday's *Are You Fit to Practice?* CLE co-sponsored by the Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP), several members reported not knowing about the LAP program. He asked the Board members to let their constituency know about the LAP, which is a free member service that provides confidential assistance to Bar members in dealing constructively with personal problems before they escalate to the point that client interests are endangered and professional careers are damaged.

Jeff Davis reported that improvements have been made to the Bar's parking garage that are designed to help traffic flow more quickly in and out of it. They include curb widening and two exit lanes at Marietta Street, and automated kiosks to quickly read validated tickets. No changes have been made to the Bar's parking policies. Members who park at the Bar Center for meetings and events must take a ticket and have it validated with a barcode from State Bar security. If you attend a special event after hours when an attendant is present, you will only need to present your Bar card to the attendant for admittance to the deck.

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Patrick T. O'Connor reported on the Bar's finances and investments and the upcoming 2016-2017 budgeting process. The Board of Governors received copies of the Operations and Bar Center Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures Report as of October 31, 2015; Income Statement YTD for the Four Months Ended October 31, 2015; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Summary for the Four Months Ended October 31, 2015; State Bar Balance Sheet for October 31, 2015; and the Summary of Selected Payment Information at November 30, 2015.

#### Young Lawyers Division (YLD) Report

YLD President Jack Long reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. He stated that one of the purposes of the State Bar of Georgia is to foster among the members of the bar of this State the principles of duty and service to the public. YLD service to the public has included the Family Law Committee's annual Supreme Cork fundraiser benefitting AVLF's Guardian Ad Litem and domestic violence programs, resuming the Wills Clinics, sponsoring a suit and cell phone drive at the Midyear Meeting, disaster legal assistance to victims of flooding in South Carolina, assistance to senior pro se litigants, and a community service event at every YLD meeting. He encouraged the Board members to support the Annual Signature on January 23 at the Biltmore that is benefitting Camp Lakeside, and further encouraged participation in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Legal Food Frenzy kicking off in the spring.

The Board of Governors received a written report on the YLD committees, programs and projects for the 2015-16 Bar year.

#### Activities in the Circuit

Nicki Vaughan and Mark Alexander, Northeastern Circuit Board of Governors representatives, reported on the Northeastern Judicial Circuit and the Gainesville Bar Association.

The Honorable Philip Smith, Bell-Forsyth Circuit Board of Governors representative, reported on the Bell-Forsyth Circuit Bar Association.

#### Executive Committee Minutes

The Board of Governors received copies of the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held on September 11, October 2, and November 13, 2015.

#### Office of the General Counsel

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

#### Satellite Office Usage Reports

The Board of Governors received a copy of the State Bar South Georgia Office Statistics - January to November 2015, and the State Bar Coastal Georgia Office Statistics - January 2014 to November 2015.

#### Military Legal Assistance Program

The Board of Governors received a written 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.

#### Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

The Board of Governors received a copy of press release on the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Service Awards.

#### Media Report

The Board of Governors received a copy of the 2015-16 Media Report.

#### Old Business

Dawn Jones, on behalf of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit, expressed appreciation for the work done by everyone on the strategic plan. Having worked on strategic plans in the past with several organizations, she knows how monumental such an undertaking can be.

New Business

Secretary Buck Rogers announced that the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service will take place on February 23 at the Bar Center.

Immediate Past President Patrise Perkins-Hooker provided an update on the law school incubator program. Office space has been secured at 229 Peachtree Street for occupancy on April 1. She thanked Steven Kaminshine, Dean of Georgia State University's College of Law, for his support of the program and for providing office space to Bucky Askew. She announced that Stephanie Everett has been hired as the managing attorney, and that applications are still being taken for the first class of participants that will begin on April 1.

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.

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Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

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Robert J. Kauffman, President

**D-R-A-F-T**  
**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**MINUTES**  
**Friday, January 29, 2016**  
**State Bar Building/Atlanta, GA**

The 261st meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Robert J. Kauffman, President, presided.

Roll Call

Secretary Buck Rogers took the attendance by roll call, and after determining that there were 91 Board members present, declared there to be a quorum present to proceed with the meeting. The list of those in attendance is attached as Exhibit A.

Procedures

President Bob Kauffman outlined the procedures for today's meeting, which included 15 minutes for those in favor of the proposal and 15 minutes for opponents of the proposal, and only Board members speaking after being recognized by the President. The Board of Governors approved the meeting procedures by unanimous voice vote. President Kauffman also reported that voting would take place by roll call. The Board of Governors approved the voting procedure by unanimous voice vote.

E-Discovery Legislative Proposal

Leslie J. Bryan, Chair of the Electronically Stored Information Task Force, reported on the process the committee went through and explained the differences in the spoliation and proportionality components. After discussion on the E-Discovery legislative proposal was concluded, the Board of Governors took the following action:

1. By unanimous voice vote, found the subject matter to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice, failed to approve an amended motion to remove § 9-11-37(e) *Failure to preserve electronically stored information* from the legislative proposal; and
3. By a 2/3 majority roll call vote (69 in favor to 24 opposed), supported the E-Discovery legislative proposal as originally presented (Exhibit B).



Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

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Robert J. Kauffman, President

# STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

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General Counsel

*WILLIAM P. SMITH, III*  
Ethics Counsel

*Bar Counsel*  
*WILLIAM D. NESMITH, III*  
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*JOHN J. SHIPTENKO*  
Sr. Assistant General Counsel



*Disciplinary Counsel*  
*JENNY K. MITTELMAN*  
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*REBECCA A. HALL*  
*A. M. CHRISTINA PETRIG*  
*WILLIAM J. COBB*  
Assistant General Counsel  
*WOLANDA R. SHELTON*  
Grievance Counsel

### Rule 1.7 Memorandum

The Formal Advisory Opinion Board received a request concerning conflicts and part-time prosecutors serving clients in criminal matters in other courts. The Formal Advisory Opinion Board, after much discussion, believed that a rule change was a better way to handle the issue and referred the issue to the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee.

The Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee agreed to look at the Rules of Professional Conduct and see if there was a suitable solution to the concerns raised by the Formal Advisory Opinion Board. The Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee, after numerous discussions and drafts with input from various sources, drafted the attached proposed revision to Rule 1.7 and the Comments to address those concerns.

Bill NeSmith

1   **RULE 1.7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST: GENERAL RULE**

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- a. A lawyer shall not represent or continue to represent a client if there is a significant risk that the lawyer's own interests or the lawyer's duties to another client, a former client, or a third person will materially and adversely affect the representation of the client, except as permitted in (b).
- b. If client informed consent is permissible a lawyer may represent a client notwithstanding a significant risk of material and adverse effect if each affected client or former client gives informed consent, confirmed in writing, to the representation after:
  - 1. consultation with the lawyer, pursuant to Rule 1.0(c);
  - 2. having received in writing reasonable and adequate information about the material risks of and reasonable available alternatives to the representation, and
  - 3. having been given the opportunity to consult with independent counsel.
- c. Client informed consent is not permissible if the representation:
  - 1. is prohibited by law or these Rules;
  - 2. includes the assertion of a claim by one client against another client represented by the lawyer in the same or substantially related proceeding; or
  - 3. involves circumstances rendering it reasonably unlikely that the lawyer will be able to provide adequate representation to one or more of the affected clients.
- d. Though otherwise subject to the provisions of this Rule, a part-time prosecutor who engages in the private practice of law may represent a private client adverse to the state or other political subdivision that the lawyer represents as a part-time prosecutor, except with regard to matters for which the part-time prosecutor had or has prosecutorial authority or responsibility."

30   **COMMENT:**

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[4] As a general proposition, loyalty to a client prohibits undertaking representation directly adverse to that client without that client's informed consent. Thus, a lawyer ordinarily may not act as advocate against a person the lawyer represents in some other matter, even if it is wholly unrelated. Paragraph (d) states an exception to that general rule. A part-time prosecutor does not automatically have a conflict of interest in representing a private client who is adverse to the state or other political subdivision (such as a city or county) that the lawyer represents as a part-time prosecutor, although it is possible that in a

1 particular case, the part-time prosecutor could have a conflict of interest under  
2 paragraph (a)."

3  
4 Simultaneous representation in unrelated matters of clients whose interests are  
5 only generally adverse, such as competing economic enterprises, does not require  
6 informed consent of the respective clients.

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8 [16] For the purposes of 1.7(d), part-time prosecutors include, but are not limited  
9 to, part-time solicitors-general, part-time assistant solicitors-general, part-time  
10 probate court prosecutors, part-time magistrate court prosecutors, part-time  
11 municipal court prosecutors, special assistant attorneys general and prosecutors  
12 pro tem.

13  
14 [17] Pragmatic considerations require that the rules treat a lawyer serving as a  
15 part-time prosecutor differently. See *Thompson v. State*, 254 Ga 393, 396-397;  
16 330 S.E2d 348, 351-352 (1985).

17  
18

19 **RULE 1.7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST: GENERAL RULE**

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21 a. A lawyer shall not represent or continue to represent a client if there is a  
22 significant risk that the lawyer's own interests or the lawyer's duties to another  
23 client, a former client, or a third person will materially and adversely affect the  
24 representation of the client, except as permitted in (b).

25 b. If client informed consent is permissible a lawyer may represent a client  
26 notwithstanding a significant risk of material and adverse effect if each affected  
27 client or former client gives informed consent, confirmed in writing, to the  
28 representation after:

- 29 1. consultation with the lawyer, pursuant to Rule 1.0(c);  
30 2. having received in writing reasonable and adequate information about the  
31 material risks of and reasonable available alternatives to the  
32 representation, and  
33 3. having been given the opportunity to consult with independent counsel.

34 c. Client informed consent is not permissible if the representation:

- 35 1. is prohibited by law or these Rules;  
36 2. includes the assertion of a claim by one client against another client  
37 represented by the lawyer in the same or substantially related proceeding;  
38 or

- 1           3. involves circumstances rendering it reasonably unlikely that the lawyer  
2           will be able to provide adequate representation to one or more of the  
3           affected clients.
- 4       d. Though otherwise subject to the provisions of this Rule, a part-time prosecutor  
5       who engages in the private practice of law may represent a private client adverse  
6       to the state or other political subdivision that the lawyer represents as a part-time  
7       prosecutor, except with regard to matters for which the part-time prosecutor had  
8       or has prosecutorial authority or responsibility."  
9

10       COMMENT:

11  
12       [4] As a general proposition, loyalty to a client prohibits undertaking  
13       representation directly adverse to that client without that client's informed  
14       consent. Thus, a lawyer ordinarily may not act as advocate against a person the  
15       lawyer represents in some other matter, even if it is wholly unrelated. Paragraph  
16       (d) states an exception to that general rule. A part-time prosecutor does not  
17       automatically have a conflict of interest in representing a private client who is  
18       adverse to the state or other political subdivision (such as a city or county) that the  
19       lawyer represents as a part-time prosecutor, although it is possible that in a  
20       particular case, the part-time prosecutor could have a conflict of interest under  
21       paragraph (a)."  
22

23       Simultaneous representation in unrelated matters of clients whose interests are  
24       only generally adverse, such as competing economic enterprises, does not require  
25       informed consent of the respective clients.  
26

27       [16] For the purposes of 1.7(d), part-time prosecutors include, but are not limited  
28       to, part-time solicitors-general, part-time assistant solicitors-general, part-time  
29       probate court prosecutors, part-time magistrate court prosecutors, part-time  
30       municipal court prosecutors, special assistant attorneys general and prosecutors  
31       pro tem.  
32

33       [17] Pragmatic considerations require that the rules treat a lawyer serving as a  
34       part-time prosecutor differently. See *Thompson v. State*, 254 Ga 393, 396-397;  
35       330 S.E2d 348, 351-352 (1985).  
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### Rule 4.4 Memorandum

Rule 4.4 was presented to the Board of Governors at the Mid-Year Meeting with the new subpart (b) and Comment [2] approved by the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee. At the Mid-Year Meeting, the Board of Governors approved Rule 4.4 as presented with the understanding that a comment would be added suggesting that a lawyer should not use any confidential or privileged materials that were received inadvertently from an adverse party.

I provided the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee with proposed comments that seemed to address the concerns of the dissenting Board of Governors members. The proposed comments were more of a professionalism comment than an ethics comment. After much discussion with the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee, the committee members voted to leave Rule 4.4 as presented at the Mid-Year Meeting and not to add any additional comments.

Because the approval of the changes to Rule 4.4 by the Board of Governors was conditional upon the addition of a new comment, this matter must be voted on again by the Board of Governors. The proposed rule is attached to this memorandum.

Bill NeSmith

1 **RULE 4.4 RESPECT FOR RIGHTS OF THIRD PERSONS (lined version)**

2 (a) In representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no  
3 substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person, or use  
4 methods of obtaining evidence that violate the legal rights of such a person.

5 (b) A lawyer who receives a document or electronically stored information  
6 relating to the representation of the lawyer's client and knows or reasonably should know  
7 that the document or electronically stored information was inadvertently sent shall  
8 promptly notify the sender.

9

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

11

12 Comment

13 [1] Responsibility to a client requires a lawyer to subordinate the interests of others to  
14 those of the client, but that responsibility does not imply that a lawyer may disregard the  
15 rights of third persons. It is impractical to catalogue all such rights, but they include legal  
16 restrictions on methods of obtaining evidence from third persons and unwarranted  
17 intrusions into privileged relationships.

18 [2] Paragraph (b) recognizes that lawyers sometimes receive a document or electronically  
19 stored information that was mistakenly sent or produced by opposing parties or their  
20 lawyers. A document or electronically stored information is inadvertently sent when it is  
21 accidentally transmitted, such as when an email or letter is misaddressed or a document  
22 or electronically stored information is accidentally included with information that was  
23 intentionally transmitted. If a lawyer knows or reasonably should know that such a  
24 document or electronically stored information was sent inadvertently, then this Rule  
25 requires the lawyer to promptly notify the sender in order to permit that person to take  
26 protective measures. Whether the lawyer is required to take additional steps, such as  
27 returning the document or electronically stored information, is a matter of law beyond the  
28 scope of these Rules, as is the question of whether the privileged status of a document or  
29 electronically stored information has been waived. Similarly, this Rule does not address  
30 the legal duties of a lawyer who receives a document or electronically stored information  
31 that the lawyer knows or reasonably should know may have been inappropriately

32 obtained by the sending person. For purposes of this Rule, “document or electronically  
33 stored information” includes, in addition to paper documents, email and other forms of  
34 electronically stored information, including embedded data (commonly referred to as  
35 “metadata”), that is subject to being read or put into readable form. Metadata in electronic  
36 documents creates an obligation under this Rule only if the receiving lawyer knows or  
37 reasonably should know that the metadata was inadvertently sent to the receiving lawyer.  
38

39 **RULE 4.4 RESPECT FOR RIGHTS OF THIRD PERSONS (clean version)**

40 (a) In representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no  
41 substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person, or use  
42 methods of obtaining evidence that violate the legal rights of such a person.

43 (b) A lawyer who receives a document or electronically stored information  
44 relating to the representation of the lawyer’s client and knows or reasonably should know  
45 that the document or electronically stored information was inadvertently sent shall  
46 promptly notify the sender.

47

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

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50 Comment

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64 protective measures. Whether the lawyer is required to take additional steps, such as  
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66 scope of these Rules, as is the question of whether the privileged status of a document or  
67 electronically stored information has been waived. Similarly, this Rule does not address  
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73 “metadata”), that is subject to being read or put into readable form. Metadata in electronic  
74 documents creates an obligation under this Rule only if the receiving lawyer knows or  
75 reasonably should know that the metadata was inadvertently sent to the receiving lawyer.



*Superior Court of Fulton County*

185 Central Avenue, S.W.

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

CHAMBERS OF  
JUDGE JOHN J. GOODER

PHONE (404) 612-8671  
FAX (404) 224-0950

March 28, 2016

Ken Hodges  
Executive Committee Liaison  
Ken Hodges Law  
2719 Buford Highway NE  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
[ken@kenhodgeslaw.com](mailto:ken@kenhodgeslaw.com)

Dear Mr. Hodges,

Ten years ago, the Superior Court of Fulton County launched its Business Court program with the support of the Georgia Bar and local businesses. The original vision was that businesses throughout the state would have access to a specialized business court to consistently resolve complex commercial litigation issues.

The Business Court Committee of the State Bar of Georgia has explored various options to expand the Superior Court of Fulton County's Business Court model to other state and superior courts in Georgia. After consideration of various models, the Business Court Committee agreed to a regional expansion approach, allowing counties in the Metro Atlanta area to join the current Business Court Program.

Under this approach:

- o State and superior court systems in counties neighboring Fulton County may elect to join the current Business Court;
- o A Case would remain pending in its home county but would be assigned to a designated Business Court judge from that county;
- o Cases would be reviewed for Business Court consideration by a committee of judges chosen from each participating county; and
- o Cases would be administered through existing legal and administrative Business Court support staff, ensuring the development of consistent commercial case law and providing efficient use of current resources.

Gwinnett County seeks to be the first Adopting Metro Court. The Judges of the Superior Court of Fulton County unanimously approved the proposed Business Court expansion model at its September

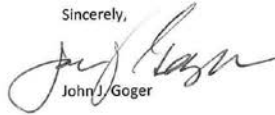
Ken Hodges  
Page 2

29, 2015 monthly meeting. Subsequently, the Judges of both the State and Superior Courts of Gwinnett County voted to join the proposed Business Court expansion model. Gwinnett County Courts have advertised the expansion pursuant to Uniform Superior Court rule 1.2(D) in the March Newsletter to the Gwinnett Bar Association.

The Business Court Committee is hopeful that Fulton County, in partnership with Gwinnett County, can establish a multi-county model for other neighboring counties to join or for other regions in the state to emulate. The attached proposed Rule 1004 would give other counties the ability to join the expanded multi-county Metro Atlanta Business Court upon approval of the joining court and the Business Case Division Committee.

I respectfully request that the Executive Committee vote to approve the attached proposed rules at their next meeting and submit them to the Board of Governors for its approval. Following approval by the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors, the proposed rule will be submitted for final approval to the Supreme Court of Georgia. If the Executive Committee members have any questions regarding the proposed rule change, please feel free to contact Jody Rhodes, Program Director and Staff Attorney to the Business Case Division, at (404) 613-3690.

Sincerely,



John J. Goger

Enclosures:

Proposed Atlanta Judicial Circuit Rule 1004, Metro Atlanta Business Case Division  
Proposed Gwinnett Judicial Circuit Adoption of Judicial Circuit Rule 1004, Metro Atlanta Business Case Division

pc:

Joel O. Wooten, Business Court Committee Chairperson  
Wade W. Herring, Business Court Committee Vice-Chairperson  
Judge Randy Rich, Gwinnett Superior Court  
Chief Judge Gail Tusan, Fulton Superior Court

**GWINNETT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**ADOPTION OF ATLANTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RULE 1004**

**METRO ATLANTA BUSINESS CASE DIVISION**

1.

Pursuant to their authority under Uniform Superior and/or State Court(s) Rule 1.2(D), the majority of Judges of the Gwinnett County Superior and/or State Court(s) with the consent of the Metro Atlanta Business Case Division Committee hereby adopt Atlanta Judicial Circuit Rule 1004 as a pilot project in Gwinnett County State and/or Superior Court(s) effective as of the date of approval by the Supreme Court of Georgia. At such time, the Gwinnett County State and/or Superior Court(s) will be an “Adopting Metro Court(s)” as defined in Rule 1004.

2.

Any case filed in Gwinnett County State and/or Superior Court(s) and designated a Business Case under Rule 1004 shall remain pending in its originating county subject to applicable Georgia law.

3.

The Transfer Fee collected by the Division in Paragraph 6 of Rule 1004 shall be the fee established by the “Standing Order Regarding Transfer Fee Amount” as maintained in original form by the Fulton County Clerk of Court pursuant to Rule 1.2(B) of the Uniform Superior Court Rules and as currently published online at <http://home.fultoncourt.org/>.

**ATLANTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RULE 1004**

**METRO ATLANTA BUSINESS CASE DIVISION**

1.

The Judges of the ~~Fulton~~ Superior Court of Fulton County hereby created the Business Case Division with approval of The Georgia Supreme Court pursuant to Uniform Superior Court Rule 1.2(D) on June 3, 2005 (as amended on June 7, 2007, May 6, 2009, September 1, 2010, October 11, 2012, and May 7, 2015), create which shall be referred to as the "Metro Atlanta Business Case Division" (hereinafter referred to as the "Division").

2.

The purpose of the Division is to provide judicial attention and expertise to and uniform administration to of certain complex Business Cases filed in the state and superior courts of voluntarily participating Metro Atlanta Counties (hereinafter referred to as the "Adopting Metro Court(s)"). Any Adopting Metro Court may join the Division with the consent of the Business Case Division Committee by adopting this rule within its own Circuit.

3.

Case selection and administrative decision-making of the Metro Atlanta Business Case Division will be the responsibility of the current Business Case Division Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Division Committee"). Each Adopting Metro Court shall be represented by not less than one judge who is designated a Division Committee Member. A full-time Business Division Program Director will manage the day-to-day administration of the Division.

34.

(a) The Division Committee may accept for assignment Business Cases, which include actions brought pursuant or subject to the following:

- (i) Georgia Securities Act of 1973, as amended, O.C.G.A. § 10-5-1, et seq.;
- (ii) Uniform Commercial Code, O.C.G.A. § 11-1-101, et seq.;
- (iii) Georgia Business Corporation Code, O.C.G.A. § 14-2-101, et seq.;
- (iv) Uniform Partnership Act, O.C.G.A. § 14-8-1, et seq.;
- (v) Uniform Limited Partnership Act, O.C.G.A. § 14-9A-1, et seq.;
- (vi) Georgia Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, O.C.G.A. § 14-9-100, et seq.;
- (vii) Georgia Limited Liability Company Act, O.C.G.A. § 14-11-100, et seq.; and
- (viii) Georgia International Commercial Arbitration Code, O.C.G.A. § 9-9-20.

In addition, Business Cases may include any action in which the amount in controversy (or, in a case of ~~injunction-injunctive~~ relief the value of the relief sought or the cost of not getting the relief) exceeds \$1,000,000 and where one or more parties to the action or the Judge currently assigned that case~~Court~~ believes warrants the attention of the Division, including, but not limited to, large contractual and business tort cases as well as other complex commercial litigation involving a material issue related to the law governing corporations, partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability partnerships, and limited liability companies, including issues concerning governance, involuntary dissolution of a corporation, mergers and acquisitions, breach of duty of directors, election or removal of directors, enforcement or interpretation of shareholder agreements, derivative actions and/or arbitration.

(b) Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, cases that include the following claims shall not be classified as a Business Case without the consent of all parties:

- (i) Personal injury;

- (ii) Wrongful death;
- (iii) Employment discrimination; and
- (iv) Consumer claims in which each individual plaintiff's claims are in the aggregate less than \$1,000,000.

**45.**

The Division is to be comprised of ~~one or more at least two~~ Judges (the "Division Judge" or "Division Judges") who manage, administer, and try the cases assigned to this Division within their own County, as the Chief Judge shall designate upon recommendation of the Business Case Division Committee(~~the "Division Judge" or "Division Judges"~~). The Division Judges may select a judge to serve as the head of the Division (the "Division Leader"), who will be in charge of addressing issues with regard to case assignment, creating and implementing Division policies, representing the Division to the public, and performing all other functions that are necessary for the administration of this Division.

**56.**

A Business Case filed in the Fulton County Superior Court or an Adopting Metro Court shall be eligible for assignment to the Division based upon: (1) the parties' joint request; (2) the motion of a party; or (3) a request submitted by the Superior or State Court Judge currently assigned that case, with notice to the parties. By filing a motion to transfer a case into the Division pursuant to subsections (I) or (2) above, the movant(s) agrees pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-6-77(1) to pay, pro rata, a transfer fee in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 as set forth in the "Standing Order Regarding Transfer Fee Amount" for the applicable County as currently published online at <http://home.fultoncourt.org/> ("Transfer Fee") to be used solely for the

Business Court Division. Pursuant to Rule 1.2(B) of the Uniform Superior Court Rules, the Clerk of Court shall maintain the original of such Standing Order and provide copies of it, upon request. In the event that a Superior or State Court Judge requests that a case be assigned to the Division pursuant to subsection (3), no such Transfer Fee shall be required. The motion or request shall be directed to the Business Case Division Committee, via the Business Court Division Program Director, to determine, after allowing the parties twenty (20) days for briefing of the issue, whether the case is a Business Case Division case and whether it should be accepted for assignment into the Business Case Division. Pursuant to Uniform Superior Court Rule 6.7, the Chief Judge may shorten the time requirement applicable to transfer motions upon written notice and good cause shown. If so accepted, the Business Court Division Program Director shall reassign the case to a Division Judge within the originating county~~within the Business Case Division.~~

**6.7.**

Upon a motion or request, if a majority of the Business Court Division Committee deems the case appropriate for assignment to the Division, the Business Court Division Program Director shall assign the case to the Division. Within the Division, the Business Court Program Director shall assign the Division's cases in rotation, taking into account, reasonably estimated discovery, dispositive motions, availability of the Division Judge, the Division Judge's current case load, and trial time, as far as practicable, and any other applicable concerns. The Business Court Program Director shall make every effort to fairly assign the case load within the Division. In Adopting Metro Counties in which both state and superior courts have adopted the program, the Business Case will be assigned to either a superior court or state court Division Judge



regardless of the court into which it was filed. However, the Business Case shall remain in the County in which it was filed.

**78.**

When an active Judge's case has been reassigned to a Division Judge as a Business Case, the Court Administrator shall make such additional assignments to the active Judge as are necessary to comply with these rules.

**89.**

The Division Committee will recommend and the Chief Judge/District Administrative Judge shall select or re-select all Division Judges from those Judges, considering their experience, training, and other relevant factors, who volunteer for such assignment for a period of two years. At the end of each two year term, the Chief Judge/District Administrative Judge shall decide the continuation of such assignment if the Division Judge volunteers for continued service. The Chief Judge/District Administrative Judge may reassign such Division Judge at any time in the best interests of the Court and the Division.

**910.**

The Business Cases assigned to the Division shall be governed by applicable law, including the Georgia Civil Practice Act, O.C.G.A. § 9-11-1, et seq., and the Uniform Superior and/or State Court Rules.

**1011.**

The Division Judges, in consultation with all parties and pursuant to applicable law, shall have the ability to modify the schedule for the administration of Business Cases, including the schedule for conducting discovery, filing dispositive motions, conducting pre-trial procedures, and conducting jury and non-jury trials.

~~11~~12.

In particular, the Division Judges, pursuant to O.C.G.A § 9-11-5(e) may modify the procedure for filing papers with the Court, including allowing such filings to be made by facsimile or by e-mail with the Court. Upon the written consent of all parties and upon any necessary waivers as may be required by law, the Division Judges may allow for service of papers filed with the Court by electronic means, including ~~by facsimile or~~ by e-mail ~~or an~~ electronic filing service in accordance with Uniform Superior and State Court Rule 36.16. In the event that any procedures are modified pursuant to this paragraph, an electronic signature shall be deemed an original signature.

~~12~~13.

The Division Judges, in consultation with all parties, shall have the ability to order nonbinding mediation, nonbinding arbitration, or other means of alternative dispute resolution as dictated by the needs of a particular Business Case. The Division Judges themselves, with the consent of all parties, may conduct such nonbinding mediation, nonbinding arbitration, or other means of alternative dispute resolution.

~~13~~14.

The calendar for the Division shall be prepared and maintained by the Business Court Program Director under the supervision of the Division Judges and shall be made available to all parties with Business Cases pending in the Division. Pursuant to agreement of the parties and the ~~Court~~Division, the ~~Court~~Division may notify parties of such calendar by electronic means, including ~~by facsimile or~~ by e-mail or by publication by website.

~~14~~15.

Subject to the rules of evidence, the Division encourages the parties to use electronic presentations and technologically generated demonstrative evidence to enhance the trier-of-fact's understanding of the issues before it and to further the convenience and efficiency of the litigation process.

~~15~~16.

Within thirty (30) days of a Business Case being assigned to the Division, or such shorter or longer time as the Division Judges shall order, the parties shall meet with the Division Judge to whom the Business Case is assigned to discuss the entry of a case management order, including the following issues: (i) the length of the discovery period, the number of fact and expert depositions, and the length of such depositions; (ii) a preliminary deposition schedule; (iii) the identity and number of any motions to dismiss or other preliminary or pre-discovery motions which shall be filed and the time period in which they shall be filed, briefed, and, if appropriate, argued; (iv) the time period after the close of discovery within which post-discovery dispositive motions shall be filed, briefed, and, if appropriate, argued; (v) the need for any alternative form of dispute resolution, specifically including mediation; (vi) an estimate of the volume of documents and electronic information likely to be the subject of discovery from the parties and non-parties, and whether there are means by which to render document discovery more manageable and less expensive; (vii) and modifications to the rules under the Civil Practice Act or the Uniform Superior or State Court Rules as may be applicable to a particular case; (viii) such other matters as the Division Judge may assign to the parties for their consideration. Prior to the meeting with the Division Judge, lead counsel for each party shall meet ~~in person~~and confer to discuss subparts (i) through (viii) of this paragraph. At the initial meeting with the Division

Judge, the parties shall submit a proposed case management order to the Division Judge for consideration.

**1617.**

In an effort to reduce the length of discovery and quickly resolve any discovery disputes, the Division Judges shall be available to the parties to resolve disputes that arise during the course of discovery.

**1718.**

In addition to telephone conferencing pursuant to Rule 9 of the Uniform Superior and State Court Rules, by mutual agreement between the parties and the Division Judges, counsel may arrange for any hearing or other conference to be conducted by video conference, subject to the same rules of procedure and decorum as if the hearing or conference were held in open court. In addition to charging the parties for other costs associated with Business Cases pending in the Division, the Clerk may charge the parties a fee for such video conferencing or may include the costs of such video conferencing in any standard fee charged to parties participating in Business Cases pending in the Division.



March 10, 2016

To the Board of Governors of  
State Bar of Georgia

We have audited the financial statements of State Bar of Georgia and related entities for the year ended June 30, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated March 7, 2016. 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 17, 2015. 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 State Bar of Georgia are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2015. We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the 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 financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements was were:

Management's estimate of the fair value of investments is based on various valuation methodologies and is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimated fair value of investments in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on the estimated useful lives of the assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate of depreciation expense in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the allowance for doubtful accounts for receivables, including contributions receivables, is based on the estimate of individual collectability. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the allowance for doubtful accounts in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

The 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. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

*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 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 March 7, 2016.

*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 Organization's 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 Organization's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

*Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC*

# **STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**

## **COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

*Years Ended June 30, 2015 and 2014*

*(With Report of Independent Auditor Thereon)*

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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### **To the Board of Governors**

**State Bar of Georgia**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

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 statement of financial position as of June 30, 2015, and the related combined statement of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated 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 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 audit. We conducted our audit 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 consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity'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 entity'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 that 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 combined financial position of the State Bar as of June 30, 2015, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Prior Period Financial Statements**

The combined financial statements of the State Bar as of June 30, 2014, were audited by other auditors whose report dated December 17, 2014, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Atlanta, Georgia  
March 7, 2016

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

*JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014*

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,855,234	\$ 19,164,478
Accounts receivable	106,454	56,262
Receivable from related parties	70,521	99,120
Receivable from employees	35,017	36,827
Accrued interest receivable	7,895	10,210
Prepaid and other assets	427,804	284,524
Investments, at fair value	4,810,970	8,456,201
Bar Center building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	13,938,249	14,178,852
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	640,502	780,744
<b>Total assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 41,892,646</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 43,067,218</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 933,477	\$ 1,092,409
Employee benefits payable	752,531	748,287
Payable to Client Security Fund	2,432,607	2,141,983
Payable to Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency	70,819	138,097
Accrued vacation	483,630	444,656
Deferred income - dues and sections	7,647,676	7,947,356
Other deferred income	161,940	148,039
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b><u>12,482,680</u></b>	<b><u>12,660,827</u></b>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	2,571,220	4,051,602
Board-designated (See Note 8)	25,028,056	24,619,220
<b>Total unrestricted</b>	<b><u>27,599,276</u></b>	<b><u>28,670,822</u></b>
Temporarily restricted	1,810,690	1,735,569
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b><u>29,409,966</u></b>	<b><u>30,406,391</u></b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 41,892,646</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 43,067,218</u></b>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

3

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	Unrestricted			Total
	Undesignated	Board- Designated	Temporarily Restricted	
Revenue and other support:				
Fees:				
License	\$10,554,691	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,554,691
Advertising	93,336	-	-	93,336
Membership	163,912	-	-	163,912
Total fees	<u>10,811,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,811,939</u>
Contributions	-	1,308,195	906,822	2,215,017
Section dues	-	684,716	-	684,716
Convention and meeting fees	-	265,817	-	265,817
Law Practice Management Fees	17,230	-	-	17,230
Younger Lawyers Division fees	9,007	-	-	9,007
High School Mock Trial fees	67,757	-	-	67,757
Assessment income	-	317,677	-	317,677
Investment income	63,372	31,164	12,383	106,919
Rental income	-	1,127,316	-	1,127,316
Other	78,515	446,970	-	525,485
Total other revenue	<u>235,881</u>	<u>4,181,855</u>	<u>919,205</u>	<u>5,336,941</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	-	844,084	(844,084)	-
Total revenue and other support	<u>11,047,820</u>	<u>5,025,939</u>	<u>75,121</u>	<u>16,148,880</u>
Expenses:				
Program expenses:				
Counsel	3,509,449	-	-	3,509,449
Communications	956,656	-	-	956,656
Section	(1,960)	682,265	-	680,305
Conventions and meetings	-	280,356	-	280,356
Membership	536,591	-	-	536,591
Consumer Assistance Program	544,216	-	-	544,216
Client Security Fund Contribution	500,000	-	-	500,000
Unauthorized Practice of Law	748,068	-	-	748,068
Younger Lawyers	449,805	126,068	-	575,873
Fee Arbitration	456,972	-	-	456,972
Legislative	-	560,039	-	560,039
Law Practice Management	434,549	-	-	434,549
Mock Trial	163,972	38,913	-	202,885
Meetings	296,267	-	-	296,267
SBG Foundation	-	34,012	-	34,012
Law-Related Education	237,982	3,272	-	241,254
Pro Bono	212,216	-	-	212,216
Board of Governors	142,455	-	-	142,455
Lawyers' Assistance Program	55,000	-	-	55,000
Georgia Diversity Program	-	59,934	-	59,934
Standards of the Profession	198,848	-	-	198,848
Basics Program	-	140,073	-	140,073
Resource Center	110,332	-	-	110,332
Military/Veterans Pro Bono	102,810	-	-	102,810
Other	82,697	21,773	-	104,470
Total program expenses	<u>9,736,925</u>	<u>1,946,705</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,683,630</u>
Management and general	2,045,203	3,416,472	-	5,461,675
Total expenses	<u>11,782,128</u>	<u>5,363,177</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,145,305</u>
Other Changes in Net Assets - Transfer	<u>(746,074)</u>	<u>746,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in net assets	<u>(1,480,382)</u>	<u>408,836</u>	<u>75,121</u>	<u>(996,425)</u>
Net assets, beginning of year	4,051,602	24,619,220	1,735,569	30,406,391
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 2,571,220</u>	<u>\$25,028,056</u>	<u>\$ 1,810,690</u>	<u>\$29,409,966</u>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

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**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	<b>Unrestricted</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>Undesignated</b>	<b>Board- Designated</b>	<b>Temporarily Restricted</b>	
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>-</u>	<u>-</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	2,113,326	3,185,498	-	5,298,824
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.

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**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**COMBINED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ (996,425)	\$ 328,834
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,425,810	1,446,351
Unrealized (gain) on investments	(31,595)	(19,896)
CD interest rolled directly to principal	(6,175)	-
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	89,895	2,156
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(50,191)	28,071
Decrease (increase) in receivables from related parties	28,599	(20,372)
Decrease in receivables from employees	1,810	3,078
Decrease in accrued interest receivable	2,315	1,568
(Increase) decrease in prepaid and other assets	(143,280)	68,581
(Decrease) in accounts payable	(158,930)	(79,980)
Increase in employee benefits payable	4,244	80,730
(Decrease) increase in payables to related parties	(67,278)	97,972
Increase (decrease) increase in accrued vacation	38,974	(6,298)
(Decrease) increase in deferred income - dues and sections	(299,681)	142,437
Increase (decrease) in other deferred income	13,901	(14,133)
Increase (decrease) in payable to Client Security Fund	290,624	(179,368)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>142,617</u>	<u>1,879,731</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchase of building improvements, furniture, fixtures, and equipment	(1,134,861)	(313,054)
Purchase of investments	-	(6,390,000)
Proceeds from sale and maturity of investments	3,683,000	5,527,000
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>2,548,139</u>	<u>(1,176,054)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	2,690,756	703,677
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>19,164,478</u>	<u>18,460,801</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 21,855,234</u>	<u>\$ 19,164,478</u>

See accompanying notes to the combined financial statements.

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**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

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**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 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 \$18,947,793 and \$16,504,671 at June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, consisting of money market funds. These funds are not insured.

At June 30, 2015 and 2014, in addition to the money market deposits above, the State Bar maintained bank deposits in excess of federally insured limits of \$2,412,694 and \$2,494,835, 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**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

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**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 when received. 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, 2015 and 2014 were sent out in May 2015 and April 2014, respectively.



# STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

## NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

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### **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, 2015 and 2014.

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, 2015 and 2014.

*Clients' Security Fund (CSF)* – The State Bar of Georgia Clients' Security Fund is a trust administered by the CSF Board of Trustees to provide monetary relief to persons who suffer reimbursable losses as a result of the dishonest conduct of a member (or members) of the State Bar of Georgia. The CSF is governed by State Bar Rules 10-101 through 10-112.

The CSF is funded by a \$100 mandatory assessment of all new members of the State Bar. The CSF can also be funded by an ad hoc assessment of up to \$25 per member per year upon the event its balance falls below \$1,000,000. In its history there has never been an ad hoc CSF assessment.

The Board of Governors of the State Bar also approved a \$500,000 contribution of unrestricted funds to the CSF at its meeting on April 18, 2015, in light of increased claims and a reduction in interest income.

Aggregate payout from the CSF is limited to \$350,000 per year and \$25,000 per claimant, although there is a rule change pending before the Supreme Court of Georgia to increase aggregate annual payout amounts to \$500,000.

### **Note 2 – Membership**

Membership in the State Bar totaled 48,124 and 46,716 at June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

**Note 3 – Investments**

Investments are carried at fair market value. At both June 30, 2015 and 2014, the State Bar's portfolio consisted of fully-insured brokered bank certificates of deposit (CDs) and direct CD deposits with banks. Brokered CDs were valued by Bank of America 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). Book value of direct CD deposits was \$1,256,175 and \$1,250,000 at June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, and was considered to approximate fair market value.

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

Investments, at fair value, and total investment income are summarized as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Certificates of deposit	\$ 4,810,970	\$ 8,456,201
Total investments	<u>\$ 4,810,970</u>	<u>\$ 8,456,201</u>
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ 79,118	\$ 59,868
Net realized and unrealized (gains) losses	27,802	17,753
Total investment income	<u>\$ 106,920</u>	<u>\$ 77,621</u>

**Note 4 – Building, furniture, fixtures, and equipment**

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

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Building and improvements	\$ 26,004,590	\$ 26,568,177
Furniture and office equipment	2,909,062	2,283,929
Computer and electronic equipment	910,999	709,855
	<u>29,824,651</u>	<u>29,561,961</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	(15,886,402)	(15,383,109)
	<u>\$ 13,938,249</u>	<u>\$ 14,178,852</u>

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

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Furniture and office equipment	\$ 377,670	\$ 355,448
Computer and electronic equipment	551,424	492,471
Leasehold and building improvements	334,488	334,488
Computer software	966,207	953,867
	<u>2,229,789</u>	<u>2,136,274</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,589,287)	(1,355,530)
	<u>\$ 640,502</u>	<u>\$ 780,744</u>

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

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**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, 2015 and 2014 were \$397,329 and \$393,290, respectively.

**Note 6 – Leases**

*Lessor* – The State Bar leases office space to both related and non-related parties. Rental income totaled \$1,127,316 and \$1,200,408 in 2015 and 2014, respectively. These amounts included receipts of \$53,959 and \$53,954, 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, 2015, approximate future minimum annual lease payments for the leases that are not renewable annually or cancelable are as follows:

Fiscal year ending June 30,	2016	\$	90,700
	2017		92,492
	2018		84,899
	2019		34,139
	Thereafter		<u>0</u>
	Total	\$	<u>302,230</u>

*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, 2016.

As of June 30, 2015, approximate future minimum annual lease payments for these leases are as follows:

Fiscal year ending June 30,	2016	\$	104,797
	2017		93,212
	2018		90,214
	2019		55,393
	Thereafter		<u>0</u>
	Total	\$	<u>343,616</u>

Rental expense charged to operations amounted to approximately \$111,415 and \$130,842 for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

**Note 7 – Related-party transactions**

The Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency contributed \$1,308,195 and \$1,524,915 to the State Bar in 2015 and 2014, respectively. These amounts represent approximately 8% and 9% of the total amount of State Bar's revenue and other support in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

The State Bar was also reimbursed by related organizations for their share of salary and operating expenses during 2015 and 2014 as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency	\$ 705,616	\$ 646,416
Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism	149,825	187,974
Georgia Bar Foundation, Inc.	81,564	84,648
	<u>\$ 937,005</u>	<u>\$ 919,038</u>

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

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism	\$ 56,437	\$ 58,902
Georgia Bar Foundation, Inc.	14,084	36,014
Georgia Legal Services - Pro Bono Program	-	4,204
	<u>\$ 70,521</u>	<u>\$ 99,120</u>

The State Bar had a payable of \$70,819 and \$138,097 to the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency at June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Note 8 – Board-designated net assets**

The State Bar has Board-designated net assets available for the following purposes at June 30, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Bar Center	\$ 17,390,912	\$ 17,788,392
General Operations	4,750,000	4,750,000
Cornerstones of Freedom	600,000	-
Litigation	250,000	250,000
Sections	2,035,507	1,820,726
Conventions	1,637	10,102
	<u>\$ 25,028,056</u>	<u>\$ 24,619,220</u>

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

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

**Note 9 – Temporarily restricted net assets**

Net assets were released from donor restrictions in 2015 and 2014 by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by occurrence of other events specified by donors as follows:

Purpose Restrictions Accomplished	2015	2014
Legislative	\$ 560,039	\$ 599,072
Basics Program	73	140,000
Younger Lawyers	126,068	108,527
Georgia Diversity Program	59,934	63,550
Law-Related Education/Marshall Fund	3,272	-
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	34,012	125,623
iCivics Program	3,594	30,106
Access to Justice	-	5,712
Promote Inclusion	10,193	338
Bar Media Conference	1,504	1,206
Law Day	6,482	21,391
High School Mock Trial	38,913	28,098
	\$ 844,084	\$ 1,123,623

Temporarily restricted net assets at June 30, 2015 and 2014 were available for the following purposes and are included in cash:

	2015	2014
Legislative	\$1,164,049	\$ 1,069,757
Law-Related Education / Marshall Fund	318,173	299,664
High School Mock Trial	47,095	67,087
Basics Program	37,247	36,776
Younger Lawyers	168,673	187,687
Lawyers Assistance	25,807	20,683
Georgia Diversity Program	10,681	18,386
Bar Media Conference	18,960	17,858
Evidence Study	7,535	7,492
Law Day	6,196	3,394
iCivics Program	555	2,145
Promote Inclusion	5,327	4,040
State Bar of Georgia Foundation	392	600
	\$1,810,690	\$ 1,735,569

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

*YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014*

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**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 March 7, 2016, in connection with the preparation of these combined financial statements, which is the date the combined financial statements were available to be issued.

There are no material subsequent events of which management is aware.



March 10, 2016

To the Members of the Commission of  
Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency

We have audited the financial statements of Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency for the year ended June 30, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated March 7, 2016. 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 17, 2015. 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 Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2015. We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the 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 financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements was:

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on the estimated useful lives of the assets.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate of depreciation expense in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

The 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. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

*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 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 March 7, 2016.

*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 Organization's 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 Organization's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

*Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC*



# **COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

*Years Ended June 30, 2015 and 2014*

*(With Report of Independent Auditor Thereon)*

**COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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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, 2015 and 2014 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, 2015 and 2014, 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.

**Prior Period Financial Statements**

The consolidated financial statements of the Commission as of June 30, 2014, were audited by other auditors whose report dated December 17, 2014, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Atlanta, Georgia  
March 7, 2016

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

*JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014*

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	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,502,847	\$ 3,897,288
Receivable from the State Bar of Georgia	70,819	138,097
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment, net	17,613	28,812
Other Receivables	30	938
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,591,309</u>	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>
 <b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 4,591,309</u>	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 4,591,309</u>	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

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

*YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014*

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Changes in unrestricted net assets:		
Revenue and other support:		
Sponsor fees	\$ 1,552,750	\$ 1,550,075
Attorney fees	360,684	364,661
Late penalties	506,086	540,140
Interest income	6,549	1,819
Total revenue and other support	<u>2,426,069</u>	<u>2,456,695</u>
Expenses:		
Program:		
Contributions to State Bar	1,308,195	1,524,915
Personnel expenses	343,140	298,888
Allocated office expenses	83,322	83,358
Recruitment Expense	-	43,138
Data processing	14,091	9,266
Postage	8,622	8,819
Depreciation	12,080	12,004
Credit card and banking fees	10,255	11,784
Audit	3,000	3,000
Other miscellaneous expenses	6,200	4,742
Total program	<u>1,788,905</u>	<u>1,999,914</u>
Management and general	<u>110,990</u>	<u>103,691</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,899,895</u>	<u>2,103,605</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	526,174	353,090
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>4,065,135</u>	<u>3,712,045</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 4,591,309</u>	<u>\$ 4,065,135</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

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

*YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014*

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ 526,174	\$ 353,090
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	12,080	12,004
Decrease (increase) in receivable from the State Bar of Georgia	67,278	(97,972)
(Increase) decrease in other receivables	908	(938)
	<u>606,440</u>	<u>266,184</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activity:</b>		
Purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment	(880)	-
	<u>605,559</u>	<u>266,184</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>3,897,288</u>	<u>3,631,104</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 4,502,847</u>	<u>\$ 3,897,288</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

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# COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LAWYER COMPETENCY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014

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### **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 amounts paid by the State Bar on behalf of the Commission as loans in the period advanced. 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 \$4,412,277 and \$1,853,536 at June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, consisted of money market funds.

At June 30, 2015 and 2014, in addition to money market deposits above, the Commission maintained bank deposits of \$90,570 and \$2,043,753, respectively, in excess of federally insured limits. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) covers \$250,000 for substantially all deposit relationships with the same institution. 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 comprehensive 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

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014

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#### Note 1 – Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

*Subsequent Events* – Management of the Commission has evaluated subsequent events through March 7, 2016, 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, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Furniture and equipment	\$ 8,211	\$ 8,211
Computers and electronics	7,470	6,589
Computer software	86,343	86,343
	<u>102,024</u>	<u>101,143</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(84,411)</u>	<u>(72,331)</u>
	<u>\$ 17,613</u>	<u>\$ 28,812</u>

#### Note 3 – Related-party transactions

The Commission reimburses the State Bar for its share of expenses paid by the State Bar, which were \$705,616 in 2015 and \$646,416 in 2014. At June 30, 2015 and 2014, \$70,819 and \$138,097 were receivable from the State Bar, respectively. The Commission contributed \$1,308,195 and \$1,524,915 to the State Bar in 2015 and 2014, 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 for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 were \$11,651 and \$11,430, respectively.

**D-R-A-F-T**  
**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**February 10, 2016**  
**Sam & Rosco's Restaurant/Douglasville, GA**

Members Participating:

Robert J. Kauffman, President; Patrick T. O'Connor, President-elect and Treasurer; Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary; Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, Immediate Past President; John R.B. Long, YLD President; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD Immediate Past President (by phone); Thomas R. Burnside, III; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Phyllis Holmen; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Jennifer Campbell Mock, YLD President-elect, and Kenneth B. Hodges, III.

Staff Participating:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer; and Bill NeSmith, Bar Counsel.

Future Meetings Schedule

President Bob Kauffman reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the December 17, 2015 Executive Committee meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Members Requesting Resignation

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-208, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the following resignation requests: Paul T. Hardy-325950; Carl H. Trieshmann-716275; Bryan J. Davis-207681; Jack Rush Hicks Jr.-351245; William M. Davidson-207125; Elizabeth H. Foss-270423; Megan Kay Stanley-675132; Charles Otis Lee-076192; Juana Winfield-740471; Susan Hirsch-357260; Michael D. Kelly-413025; Bruce N. Petterson-574781

Members Requesting Disabled Status

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-202, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the following requests for disabled status: Pamoja B. Pagnotta-97351; Charles M. Ferguson-258625; William J. Wright-778819

Rule 1.7 Conflict of Interest: General Rule

Following a report by Bill NeSmith, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors proposed changes (Exhibit A) to

Rule 1.7 Conflict of Interest: General Rule.

Insurance Committee Recommendations

Bill NeSmith reported that the Insurance Committee is recommending that the State Bar hire Greyling to serve as the State Bar's insurance broker for the 2016-17 Bar year, and hire a security consultant to review the current security measures and protocols at the State Bar Building. The Executive Committee took the following action:

- 1) By unanimous voice vote, approved a motion to hire Greyling to serve as the State Bar's insurance broker for a maximum of 5 years, but that the relationship be terminable at any time, and
- 2) By unanimous voice vote, approved the State Bar sending out a Request for Proposal to potential security consultants to facilitate a review of the current security measures and protocols at the State Bar.

Georgia Immigration Working Group

President Bob Kauffman reported that the Georgia Immigration Working Group (GIWG), a consortium of stakeholders focused on increasing pro bono immigration representation and improving immigration access to counsel in Georgia, is requesting that he designate an officer or other Executive Committee member to receive its communications and participate in meetings so as to retain the connection it had when Rita Sheffey was in leadership. Nicki Vaughan expressed an interest in attending the meetings so her name will be given to the GIWG, but it was the consensus of the Executive Committee that the State Bar not make an official appointment to the organization.

President's Report

President Bob Kauffman reported that bills have been introduced in the House regarding the Judicial Qualifications Commission (JQC) and expansion of the Supreme Court of Georgia by two justices. He continues to work toward a solution that addresses House leaders' concerns about the JQC. Other State Bar's bills are slowly progressing in the legislature.

Thereafter the Executive Committee took the following action on the proposed HB 808:

1. By unanimous voice vote, found the subject matter to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice vote, determined that immediate Executive Committee action was necessary since the Board of Governors will not be meeting until May 7, 2016;
3. By unanimous voice vote, opposed HB 808, should other discussions fail.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Patrick T. O'Connor reported on the Bar's finances and investments. The Executive Committee received copies of the Operations and Bar Center Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures Report as of December 31, 2015; Income Statement YTD for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2015; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Summary for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2015; State Bar Balance Sheet for December 31, 2015; and the Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions at December 31, 2015.

The Executive Committee received a copy of the minutes of the January 28, 2016 meeting of the Programs Committee.

### YLD Report

YLD President Jack Long reported on the activities of the Young Lawyers Division. He announced the Spring Meeting will be held March 10-13 in Las Vegas, and that the Annual Capitol Leadership Luncheon will take place on February 24. He reported that the YLD will participate in the February 22 Transition into Law Practice Program for new attorneys, and that the Leadership Academy will meet in Augusta next month. He stated that this year's Signature Fundraiser raised over \$132,000 for Camp Lakeside. He reported that the Legal Food Frenzy is in full swing and hopes everyone will participate by making either a financial donation or contributing food. He announced that the YLD presented a resolution concerning private probation at the ABA YLD Midyear meeting, which was overwhelmingly approved by the ABA YLD Assembly. The YLD has sent a full delegation to every ABA meeting this year.

### Executive Director's Report

Jeff Davis reported on the Midyear Meeting of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) and the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) that he and President-elect Pat O'Connor recently attended. He said challenges to unified bars appear to be on the increase and they continue to watch developing trends. He reported on the Fastcase suit against Casemaker. He stated that the Attorney Wellness Task Force and its subcommittees continue to meet and the Task Force is in the process of developing its website. President Bob Kauffman reported that he recently attended a very well attended wellness program at the South Carolina Bar's meeting that featured Marcus Lattimore, former football running back.

Immediate Past President Patrise Perkins-Hooker reported on the ABA House of Delegates adopting a revised and amended ABA Model Regulatory Objectives for the Provision of Legal Services resolution that provides for some regulatory framework to deal with legal services providers who are not attorneys. It urges each state's highest court to be guided by it when they assess the court's existing regulatory framework and any other regulations they may choose to develop concerning non-traditional legal

services providers.

YLD Immediate Past President Sharri Edenfield reported that the ABA House of Delegates adopted a resolution that urges bar admission authorities to adopt the Uniform Bar Examination in their respective jurisdictions.

#### Executive Session

Following a motion, second and unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee went into Executive Session to discuss pending State Bar litigation and other issues. Thereafter, the Executive Committee moved out of Executive Session by unanimous voice vote.

#### Legislative Report

President Bob Kauffman reported on legislative issues under the President's Report.

#### Reduced Dues for Lawyers Over Age 70

The Executive Committee moved this item to its next meeting.

#### Strategic Plan

President Bob Kauffman reminded the Executive Committee that it agreed to talk about the Strategic Plan at each meeting. The State Bar is addressing a lot of the priority strategy items, but a few others still need to be determined, such as recommending an approach to adapt to changes in the delivery of legal service. The disciplinary process is under review by the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Committee, Phyllis Holmen has been at the legislature several times to discuss funding, the Attorney Wellness Task Force is working on promoting programs and services to better enhance members' professional and personal lives, and Sections are going to be reviewed and asked to offer substantive CLE programming for their members. Sarah Coole will be asked for a report at the next meeting on efforts to educate members about the services and resources that can enhance their professional practice.

#### Military Spouse Law Practice Subcommittee

The Executive Committee received a copy of a letter from the Military Spouse Law Practice Subcommittee to Sally Lockwood requesting an opportunity to meet with the Board of Bar Examiners to discuss the issue of provisional admission to practice law by military spouses of active duty service members.

#### *New York Times Article: New York's Chief Judge Leaving a Legacy of Reforms Inspired by Social Justice*

The Executive Committee received a copy of a *New York Times* article about Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman, Court of Appeals, who is leaving a legacy of providing lawyers and other legal help to thousands of impoverished New Yorkers who face serious proceedings, such as eviction, foreclosure and the loss of child custody, with no

representation.

#### ABA Journal Articles

The Executive Committee received copies of *ABA Journal* articles on 1) *Utah Supreme Court backs limited practitioner paralegals*, 2) *Washington State Bar suspends some ethics opinions because of antitrust concerns*, 3) *Substance abuse and mental health issues are a growing problem for the legal profession, say experts*, and 4) *Avvo readies rollout of fixed fee legal services*.

#### Bar Leaders Articles

The Executive Committee received copies of *Bar Leaders* articles on 1) *Unbundling: The bridge between going it alone and full representation*, and 2) *Old problem, new solutions: Improving access to justice through innovation, collaboration*.

#### Old Business

There was no old business.

#### New Business

Pat O'Connor reported that he was advised by the Programs Committee to not reappoint the Law School Outreach Committee, since its work is duplicative to that of the YLD Law School Outreach Committee. He reported that to the committee chair and she understood. The Programs Committee also declined a monetary request by the SOLACE Committee, and he has reached out to the chair Karlise Grier to let her know. The Programs Committee also discussed doing away with the SOLACE program since it's only been used a couple of times since its inception, but will also discuss that with Karlise.

Nicki Vaughan reported that Department of Education has removed the seven deadly sins education out of the proposed Georgia standards. A draft of the revised standards is posted on the Georgia DOE website for public comment until March 14. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that it would be inappropriate for the State Bar to advocate for a change in policy to the Georgia DOE. Since the Child Protection and Advocacy Section is concerned about this change, Nicki, as Section chair, can encourage the section members to forward comments to the Department of Education in their individual capacity, but not on behalf of the Section.

Nicki Vaughan announced that the Indigent Defense Committee symposium will be held on March 5 at the Georgia State University Law School.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



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Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

Approved:



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Robert J. Kauffman, President

**D-R-A-F-T**  
**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2016**  
**Via Teleconference**

Members Participating:

Robert J. Kauffman, President; Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary; Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, Immediate Past President; John R.B. Long, YLD President; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD Immediate Past President; Thomas R. Burnside, III; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Kenneth B. Hodges, III; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Patrick T. O'Connor, President-elect and Treasurer; Jennifer Campbell Mock, YLD President-elect; and Phyllis Holmen.

Staff Participating:

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.

Guest Participating:

Rusty Sewell, Legislative Consultant.

Legislative Proposal - Senate Bill 367

Following a report by Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell, the Executive Committee took the following action on Senate Bill 367 (criminal justice reform bill) after obtaining the required 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote of the Executive Committee members by email approving the specially called Executive Committee meeting:

1. By unanimous voice vote found the subject matter to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice vote determined that immediate action was necessary since the Board of Governors is not meeting until May 7, 2016; and
3. By unanimous voice vote supported Senate Bill 367.

Judicial Qualifications Commission (JQC)

Before this item was discussed, Jeff Davis recused himself from the meeting. Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell provided an update on the proposed bill that reconstitutes the JQC. The bill is now with the Senate Ethics Committee. Thomas Worthy recommended that the State Bar work with the Committee so that the Bar's appointments remain intact



if the bill is revised. If the final bill strips the Bar of its appointments, the State Bar should oppose the bill. President Bob Kauffman reported on actions taken by the JQC at its most recent meeting and the Supreme Court's position on the proposed legislation. He plans to send a letter to the members of the Senate Ethics Committee that reiterates the importance of having appointees from both the State Bar and the judiciary. He suggested that it might be advisable to hire an additional lobbyist if the bill is revised to eliminate the Bar's appointments and approved by the Senate Ethics Committee. By unanimous voice vote the Executive Committee authorized President Kauffman to hire an additional lobbyist at his discretion and in consultation with Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

Approved:



Robert J. Kauffman, President



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: May, 2016  
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 and March 2016 the OGC sent 590 Grievance forms to members of the public and received 357 filed Grievances. The Supreme Court of Georgia entered orders in seven disciplinary cases during the two-month period. The Year-to-Date Report on Lawyer Regulation (covering the period May 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016) appears at page 4 of this memorandum.

Rules Changes:

- By order of February 4, 2016 the Court approved a revision to Rule 5.4. As approved the rule allows a Georgia lawyer to share fees with a lawyer who is ethically practicing under an alternative business structure.
- By order of March 3, 2016 the Court approved several revisions to the Bar Rules:
  - The proposed amendment to the Rule 10-103 of the rules governing the Clients' Security Fund increasing the aggregate yearly amount available to be paid from the Fund;
  - Rules 5.5(h) through (k) cross-reference several Supreme Court rules that allow limited admission to non-Georgia lawyers under certain circumstances (Provision of Legal Services Following Determination of Major Disaster, Student Practice Rule, Court Rule XVI regarding Law School Graduate Practice, and the Extended Public Service Program);
  - Revisions to the rules governing confidentiality of information obtained by the Lawyer Assistance Program committee volunteers and staff.
- The Board previously considered proposed revisions to Rule 4.4 regarding a lawyer's obligation when she receives information that was inadvertently sent.

Members asked the Rules Committee to consider additional revisions. The proposal will be back on the agenda for the Board's consideration at this meeting.

Formal Advisory Opinion Board:

- Proposed Opinion 15-R1 finds that a sole practitioner may not use a firm name that includes the words "group" or "& Associates" because both terms imply that the solo practices with other lawyers, and thus are misleading. The draft opinion was published for comment in the April 2016 issue of the Georgia Bar Journal and members have until May 31 2016 to comment to the Board. The Board has received several comments already.

Lawsuits: There are four lawsuits pending against the State Bar of Georgia, its staff, and/or officers. Please contact me directly if you would like additional information about any of these matters.

- A disbarred lawyer has sued the State Bar of Georgia in federal district court in Texas, claiming that the Bar forged his signature on a Petition for Voluntary Surrender of License and has subsequently libeled him, which prevents him from obtaining employment. The case is similar to one the same lawyer filed several years ago that was ultimately dismissed by the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.
- A complainant who filed grievances and fee arbitration petitions against 11 lawyers sued in both the U.S. District Court and the Superior Court of Fulton County for the Bar's failure to discipline the lawyers or to accept jurisdiction of the fee arbitration cases. The Bar's Motions to Dismiss were granted in both courts and the complainant has appealed both dismissals.
- A lawyer who was disbarred by a superior court judge upon the lawyer's conviction for two felonies has filed an appeal and motion to expedite with the Court of Appeals. The lawyer has previously filed multiple lawsuits in the federal district court and appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court three times.
- A lawyer who was disbarred and who is currently serving a lengthy prison sentence has sued the State Bar of Georgia in the Northern District of Georgia. Thus far the Bar has not been served with the lawsuit.

Bar Committees:

The **Disciplinary Rules & Procedures Committee** continues its review of the disciplinary process and hopes to have a final report for the Board's consideration at the Annual Meeting.

The **Insurance Committee** has recommended the Bar hire a security consultant to create a comprehensive security plan for the Bar Center. The RFP and details can be found on the Bar's website.

**Year-to-Date Report on Lawyer Regulation  
 May 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016**

Grievance forms requested and sent to public .....	2,983
Grievance forms sent back to Office of General Counsel for screening .....	2,099
Grievances pending as of 4/30/2015 .....	<u>349</u>
TOTAL .....	2,448
Grievances referred to State Disciplinary Board members.....	203
Grievances being screened by Grievance Counsel (GC) .....	335
Grievances closed by Grievance Counsel.....	1,881
Grievances moved to moot status by GC after attorney was disbarred .....	<u>29</u>
TOTAL .....	2,448

**Regulatory Action May 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016**

	<u>Attorneys</u>	<u>Cases</u>
Letters of Admonition Accepted	17	17
Investigative Panel Reprimands Administered	13	16
Review Panel Reprimands	4	4
Public Reprimands	5	5
Suspensions	21	29
Disbarments/Voluntary Surrenders	<u>25</u>	<u>37</u>
TOTAL	85	108
Reinstatements Granted	7	
Reinstatements Denied	0	

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

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

**DATE: April 8, 2016**

**SUBJECT Status of the Military Legal Assistance Program**

**Background and Overview of Work:** The main objective of the State Bar of Georgia's Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) has been and remains to connect lawyers with service members and veterans who need legal assistance. Thus far, 1,640 service members or veterans have been so connected as shown below. Here are additional highlights since the report to the Board of Governors for its last meeting:

- 1) **Volunteer Lawyers.** Along with Mike Monahan, Pro Bono Director of Georgia Legal Services, helped recruit and maintain a cadre of volunteer lawyers, currently at 662, to provide direct legal consultations with service members and veterans.
- 2) **Legal Clinics at Georgia Law Schools.** Along with Professor Charles Shanor, Lane Dennard, and Drew Early at Emory University; and Dean Steve Kaminshine, Associate Dean Roy Sobelson, Patricia Shewmaker, and Steve Shewmaker at Georgia State University, helped facilitate establishment of legal clinics in the law schools at Emory (February 2013) and Georgia State (November 2014). Clinics are also being planned or considered at the University of Georgia (scheduled to begin operations in August 2016) and at Mercer University.
- 3) **Legal Assistance Clinics at VA Medical Facilities.** In addition to the MLAP, legal assistance clinics are operating at the following VA medical facilities: VA Medical Centers (VAMC) at Augusta and Decatur, VA medical facilities at Carrollton, Fort McPherson, and now Rome, which began operations August 24, 2015. Other legal clinics remain under consideration for the Dublin VAMC and at the VA medical facility in Athens, Macon, and Savannah.

- 4) **Veterans' Courts.** Veterans' courts are organized and remain operational in nine judicial circuits representing 19 counties. Recidivism rates are about 11%. According to recent VA data, there are reportedly 264 Veterans courts operating nationwide in 37 states. Reportedly, the cost of such diversion programs is about \$19 per person compared to \$69 a day for someone incarcerated.
- 5) **VA Accreditation.** A CLE program concerned with Georgia Military Law and VA Accreditation is scheduled for October 13, 2016. This full-day program will qualify lawyers to become accredited initially or to renew accreditation to practice before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 6) **Possible Travel to Central Europe, Fall 2017.** Together with the MLAP Committee, the Military and Veterans Law Section is considering a Law Section-sponsored trip in the Fall 2017 to Central Europe with a CLE program commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of various World War I battle sites, memorials, and related events.
- 7) **Military and Veterans Legal Network National Summit.** Together with the MLAP Committee, the Military and Veterans Law Section is considering participation in an ABA-sponsored Military and Veterans Legal Network National Summit to be held June 23-24, 2016, in Washington, D.C. It is expected that representatives from all states will be invited to take part.
- 8) **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 1,640 cases have been processed.** Further, a total of 33 additional cases are in process (i.e., in the pipeline), awaiting agreement authorizations from potential clients (26) or agreements from attorneys (7) to accept a case. Further, although the program does not handle criminal cases directly, about 325 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).

**A summary of cases processed by the MLAP by category follows:**

Family Law	831 (including 59 previous)
Contested Divorce	332
Uncontested Divorce	17
Divorce Enforcement	16
Child Support	109
Guardianship/Adoption	82
Visitation	34
Child Custody	182
Consumer Law	107
Housing/Property	99
Foreclosure	25
Veterans Benefits/Disability	229
Wills/Estates/Probate	90
Employment/USERRA/SCRA	45
Bankruptcy	23
Insurance	20
Personal Injury	37
Property Damage	3
Worker's Compensation	2
Contract	7
Medical Malpractice	6
Toxic Substances	5
Other	<u>111</u>
	1,640



**CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**

April 5, 2016

The Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) continues to serve both the public and members of the Bar, as it has since 1995. So far during the last calendar year CAP has handled around 11,259 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 79.32% of these contacts. The remaining 20.68% have been referred to the Office of General Counsel (OGC) for investigation by way of grievances sent to persons complaining about alleged violations of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct. It is beyond the scope of CAP’s responsibility to investigate or handle allegations of such violations 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 O.C.G.A. and Bar rules. There have been no such cases during this 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. There have been no JDPP cases during this time period.

CAP remains within its annual budget of \$566,563, and it is anticipated that it will continue to do so.

# Law Practice Management Program

(Abbreviated report for the 2015-2016 Bar Year)

This is a summary of program events scheduled and completed during the period July 1, 2015-April 8, 2016.

## Consultation Report

# of Consultations by City		# of Consultations by Firm Size		# of Consultations by Consultation Type			
Athens	1	Newnan	1	1 Attorney	19	General	16
Atlanta	12	P'tree Corners	1	2-4 Attorney	9	Technical	13
Decatur	3	Roswell	3	5-8 Attorney	1	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29</b>
Douglas	1	Statesboro	1	9-15 Attorney	0		
Douglasville	3	Valdosta	1	16+ Attorneys	0		
Marietta	2						

## Office Visits

LPM distributed **329** *Starting Your Georgia Law Practice* booklets as requested by attorneys. There were **69** startup discussions conducted by the Program via office visits.

## Resource Library

Our lending library has a grand total of **1,438** 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 **328** checkouts by **104** 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 was **4** office visits made to look at software programs in the Software Library.

## Speaking Engagements

There are a total of **35** completed and scheduled programs during this period. The Program's staff has given **23** continuing legal education and special presentations to Georgia lawyers and other related groups. These presentations have been held in various local and national venues. **12** programs are scheduled for future dates.

July 17-18, 2015 Georgia's 2015 Solo and Small Firm Institute and Technology Showcase (sponsored), *Disaster Planning: What to Do in a Small Law Office* (Natalie Kelly); *Plenary: 60 Tips, Sites, and Apps in 60 Minutes* (Natalie Kelly, Patricia Yevics, Reid Trautz, and Charity Anastasio); *Time Management and Productivity* (Natalie Kelly); and *Fastcase* (Sheila Baldwin), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **168 attendees**.

August 18, 2015 TILPP Group Mentoring CLE, *Strategies for Increasing Productivity-Model Mentoring Plan A & C* (Natalie Kelly), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **130 attendees**.

- August 20, 2015 Atlanta Bar Association Sole Practitioner & Small Firm Breakfast CLE, *Disaster Planning: What to Do in a Small Law Office* (Natalie Kelly), Buckhead Club, Atlanta, Georgia, **27 attendees**.
- September 23, 2015 Dougherty Circuit Bar Association, *Law Practice Management and Hot Topics* (Natalie Kelly), Albany, Georgia, **50 attendees**.
- September 25, 2015 GABWA Solo and Small Firm Symposium: Tools of the Business and Practice of Law, *Software for Firm Management* (Natalie Kelly), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **38 attendees**.
- October 22, 2015 ABA Lead Law Conference/ABA Law Practice Fall Meeting, Ask the Experts Panel CLE, *Finance* (Natalie Kelly) and *30 Tips in 30 Minutes* (Natalie Kelly, Sharon Nelson, Tom Mighell, and John Simek), Hyatt Regency Greenville, Greenville, South Carolina, **100 attendees**.
- October 29, 2015 Nuts & Bolts of E-Discovery CLE, *Legal Practice Technology for Small Firms* (Natalie Kelly and Michael R. Dunham), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **54 attendees**.
- November 5, 2015 John Marshall Law School Solo Boot Camp, *Technology for Law Firms* (Natalie Kelly), The Blackburn Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **30 students**.
- November 12, 2015 Atlanta Technical College Paralegal Studies Class, *Fastcase* (Sheila Baldwin), Atlanta Technical College Campus, Atlanta, Georgia, **9 attendees**.
- November 24, 2015 ABA Law Practice Institute Series Webinar CLE Online Course, *Case Management for Lawyers: How to Organize the Chaos and Make More Time for You!* (Natalie Kelly and Bryan Sims), **17 attendees**.
- January 7, 2016 State Bar of Georgia's Midyear Meeting, *Law Practice Management CLE: Managing the New Normal: Tips for New and Seasoned Lawyers (sponsored)*, Legacy Lodge Lake Lanier, Buford, Georgia, **16 attendees**.
- February 22, 2016 TILPP Beginning Lawyers Program CLE, Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia, **330 attendees**.
- March 1, 2016 Emory University Law School, *Technology in Law Practice* (Natalie Kelly), Atlanta, Georgia, **20 attendees**.
- March 2, 2016 ABA Webcast CLE, *Are you Plugged In? The Ethical Dangers of Technology in the Legal Practice* (Moderator: Mindy Rattan; Panelists: Natalie Kelly, Katrin Rothgery, and Robert Ambrogi), **17 attendees**.
- March 8, 2016 TILPP Mentoring Program CLE, Georgia Bar Conference Center, *Organizing and Managing Your Time-Model Mentoring Plan A, E, H* (Natalie Kelly), Atlanta, Georgia, **89 attendees**.

- March 14, 2016 University of Georgia (UGA) Law School, Law Office Management, Athens, Georgia, 39 students.
- March 16, 2016 ABA Bar Leadership Institute CLE, *Managing Technology* (Natalie Kelly, Catherine Sanders Reach, and Jim Calloway), Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, 100+ attendees.
- March 16-19, 2016 ABA TECHSHOW 2016, *Effective Practice Management Systems Yield Focused Lawyering* and *Android and iOS Apps: Common Grounds* (Moderator: Natalie Kelly), Chicago Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, 100+ attendees.
- March 23, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, Trust Accounting Basics, Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 4 attendees.
- April 1, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, *Apps for Lawyers* (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 2 attendees.
- April 5, 2016 Lawyers for Equal Justice Training, *Your Office Toolbox* and *Your Marketing Toolbox* (Natalie Kelly), Atlanta, Georgia, 12 attendees.
- April 6, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, Trust Accounting Basics (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 0 attendees.
- April 8, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, *Basic Computer Skills* (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 0 attendees.

### Upcoming Speaking Engagements

- April 19, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, *How to Build a Website in 1 Hour* (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia.
- April 20, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, Trust Accounting Basics (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 3 registrants.
- April 22, 2016 Georgia State University (GSU) Law School Solo Practice Workshop, *Office Technology* (Natalie Kelly), TBD, Atlanta, Georgia.
- April 22, 2016 GAWL Leadership Academy, *Practice Management Productivity* (Natalie Kelly), TBD, Atlanta, Georgia.
- April 23, 2016 Young Lawyers Division Solo & Small Firm Affiliates Conference, (Natalie Kelly), Mercer Law School, Macon, Georgia.
- April 23, 2016 *Perks/Benefits of Your State Bar Membership* (Natalie Kelly), Kessler & Solomiany, LLC, Atlanta, Georgia.

- April 25, 2016 Virginia State Bar Association TECHSHOW, *60 Tech Tips in 60 Minutes*, (Natalie Kelly, Jim Calloway, Tom Mighell, Sharon Nelson, and Debbie Foster); and *Using Tech to Do More Legal Work in Less Time* (Natalie Kelly and Reid Trautz) Richmond Convention Center, Fairfax, Virginia.
- April 27, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, *Apps for Lawyers* (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia.
- April 29, 2016 LPM Lunchbox Basics CLE, *Online Legal Research with Fastcase* (Natalie Kelly), Bar Center, Atlanta, Georgia.
- May 13, 2016 ABA LPM Spring Meeting, *The Future of Law and How to Future Proof Your Firm* (Natalie Kelly and Jim Calloway); and *60 Tech Tips in 60 Minutes* (Natalie Kelly, Jim Calloway, Tom Mighell, Sharon Nelson, and Debbie Foster); Frenchman’s Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.
- May 18, 2016 Tea & Technology CLE, *Technology and Apps* (Natalie Kelly), Nelson, Mullins, Riley, & Scarborough, LLP, Atlanta, Georgia.
- July 15-16, 2016 Georgia’s 2016 Solo and Small Firm Institute and Technology Showcase (*sponsored*), Georgia Bar Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Visit the conference website at <http://bit.ly/SSFInstitute>.

**Fastcase Report**

During this period, a grand total of 35 members and 2 law firm staff persons have attended Fastcase CLE seminars.

Since the decision was made to transition to Fastcase, 1,468 attorneys and 69 staff members have attended Fastcase live training. Others have taken advantage of webinar training.

**Fastcase Partner Usage Report for State Bar of Georgia  
July 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016**

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
First Time Logins	168	104	110	128	146	141	154	186	206	1,343
Total Logins	18,441	19,561	19,227	18,498	15,995	15,104	18,258	19,711	21,009	165,804
Total Users Who Logged In	4,068	4,054	4,020	3,926	3,774	3,615	4,009	4,207	4,343	36,016
Searches Conducted	102,641	108,582	104,349	101,586	82,106	82,258	98,809	103,379	109,190	892,900
Documents Viewed	149,344	157,466	157,045	147,992	122,997	122,453	144,708	150,096	162,300	1,314,401
Documents Printed	14,718	16,384	14,851	16,608	13,349	13,857	15,105	15,600	16,787	137,259
Total Transactions	289,380	306,151	299,602	288,738	238,367	237,428	281,043	293,179	313,835	2,547,723

Fastcase Reported Problems	
Member Reported Issue(s)	Fastcase Response / Resolutions
<b>7/30/15</b> <b>Member Reported:</b> 18 members called to notify us that FC was not working.	<b>7/30/15</b> <b>FC Response:</b> FC programmers were working on the system and got it back up within an hour.
<b>9/8/15 and 9/9/15</b> <b>Member Reported:</b> Member called to notify us about the continued malfunction in the Ga Code browse mode.	<b>9/9/15</b> <b>FC Response:</b> Fastcase discovered the problem and corrected it and reached out to the member.
<b>11/25/15</b> <b>Member Reported:</b> OCGA 44-13-100 not current in FC.	<b>11/25/15</b> <b>FC Response:</b> It can be found in the 2015 Acts. <i>I personally looked and SB 65 is not found which is the bill listed in History that applies.</i>
<b>12/04/15</b> <b>Member Reported:</b> Ga. Code not current. FC has version 2014. “Three different support personnel all give the same info and it does not get me to the 2015 version of the Georgia code”, concerns OCGA 42-8-66.	<b>12/5/15</b> Fastcase reps tell me that if they view in the 2015 Acts it will show the most recent version however that is not my experience. This is consistent with search of OCGA 44-13-100 on 11/25/15. <b>12/11/15</b> Nina is checking into this for us. She agrees it is incorrect.
<b>12/10/15</b> <b>Member Reported:</b> Case summaries not available.	<b>12/10/15</b> FC developers said that there’s been an ongoing issue with matching the summaries to our cases. This problem should be resolved in the short term and the summaries should begin attaching again soon.
<b>12/11/15 to 12/31/15</b> Follow up Emails to Fastcase about the outdated code.	<b>1/4/16</b> Fastcase response: The 2015 Code is up today. We still need to write the catchlines, so you’ll notice that there are no section headers.
<b>3/11/16</b> Member reported missing cases and sometimes has trouble finding statuses. FC help desk verified that sometimes cases are missing the regional reporter pagination and they are working with vendors to improve.  Also was unable to find a statute, due diligence showed it to be repealed but no notice given in FC.	<b>3/11/16</b> FC response: Missing regional reporter pagination does exist; have had several rounds of updates to improve our database.  No editorial decisions are made such as completely removing a statute; those are made at the official publisher’s discretion. Best practice is to search both the statutes and Acts to find repealed or replaced.



# CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

## MEMORANDUM

The Honorable Hugh P. Thompson (Chair)  
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Atlanta, Georgia

Professor Frank S. Alexander  
Emory University School of Law  
Atlanta, Georgia

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

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

The Honorable David P. Darden  
State Court of Cobb County  
Marietta, Georgia

Jennifer M. Davis  
Georgia Defense Lawyers Association  
Atlanta, Georgia

J. Antonio DelCampo  
DelCampo Weber & Grayson, LLC  
Atlanta, Georgia

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

Associate Dean A. James Elliott  
Emory University School of Law  
Atlanta, Georgia

The Honorable Steve C. Jones  
U.S. District Court, Northern District  
Atlanta, Georgia

Robert J. Kauffman  
Hartley, Rowe & Fowler  
Douglasville, Georgia

C. Joy Lampley-Fortson  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Atlanta, Georgia

John R. B. Long  
John R. B. Long, PC  
Augusta, Georgia

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

The Honorable Kelle K. McIntyre  
Office of the Solicitor General  
Augusta, Georgia

The Honorable Carla W. McMillan  
Court of Appeals of Georgia  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dean Malcolm L. Morris  
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School  
Atlanta, Georgia

Wanda M. Morris  
The Home Depot  
Atlanta, Georgia

The Honorable Kathy S. Palmer  
Middle Judicial District Superior Court  
Swainsboro, Georgia

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

Lynne E. Scroggins  
Atlanta, Georgia

R. Kyle Williams  
Williams Testnik, LLC  
Decatur, Georgia

Avarita L. Hanson  
Executive Director

Terie Latala  
Assistant Director

Nacka Harris-Daniel  
Administrative Assistant

**TO: President Robert J. "Bob" Kauffman, Executive Committee, Members, Board of Governors**

**FROM: Avarita L. Hanson, Executive Director**

**DATE: April 12, 2016**

**SUBJECT: Spring Update**

It is my pleasure to update you on the activities of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism ("CJCP"). The CJCP is under the third year of Chief Justice Hugh Thompson's leadership. The CJCP's representative to the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency ("CCLC") is Damon E. Elmore who is in his second year of service. Its Executive Director, Avarita L. Hanson, remains an ex-officio member.

### I. SPRING UPDATE: OVERVIEW

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism is guided by its mission, stated as follows:

The mission of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism is to support and encourage lawyers to exercise the highest levels of professional integrity in their relationships with their clients, other lawyers, the courts, and the public and to fulfill their obligations to improve the law and the legal system and to ensure access to that system.

**II. PRIORITIES.** This 2015-2016 bar year, the Commission continues to focus on ensuring access to justice while informing and positioning Georgia lawyers to be ready for the future delivery of legal services. It continues to support the initiatives that promote language access and supportive of deaf/hard of hearing litigants. It provides input for the Lawyers for Equal Justice Program aka "incubator program," to provide training for new lawyers and ultimately improve access to justice in Georgia. It continues to lead the charge to ensure that attorneys aging in the law are informed about their options to continue to practice, transitioning out of practice with dignity, and remaining engaged in meaningful activities. Working with the Bar's Wellness Task Force, the Commission is supporting lawyers living well – mentally, physically and socially – as a professionalism issue included in appropriate CLE programming.

**III. MEETINGS.** The CJCP holds three (3) meetings each year. It met on September 11, 2015 and February 5, 2016, and will meet on May 20, 2016.



**IV. MEMBERS.** The CJCP has twenty-two (22) members including Chief Justice Thompson. The Hon. Kellie McIntyre (Solicitor General, Augusta) recently joined the Commission to represent prosecutors.

**V. PROFESSIONALISM CLES - REVIEW, APPROVAL AND SUPPORT**

**A. GENERAL.** The CJCP continues to review and approve up to 800 CLE professionalism courses. Staff provides content suggestions and materials as requested.

**B. PROFESSIONALISM CLES – AVARITA HANSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Executive Director, Avarita Hanson, presents, conceives, convenes, advises, facilitates and moderates CLE programs every year. During this year (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016), CLEs included:

1. November 6, 2015, Presentation, ICLE, Advanced Urgent Legal Matters at Sea, *Professionalism Opportunities: Making Professionalism an Every Day Pursuit*
2. January 28, 2016, *The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism: Program Updates*, Child Protection Seminar, ICLE
3. February 1, 2016, Plenary Speaker Presentation, *Aging in the Law: It's More than a Senior Moment! Challenges and Opportunities to Provide CLE Programs – Helping Lawyers Help Themselves*, ACLEA's 52nd Mid-year Meeting, Savannah, Georgia
4. February 22, 2016, Presentation, *Communicating Professionally and Managing Your Reputation: The Keys to Your Success!!*, Transition Into Law Practice Program, State Bar of Georgia, Beginning Lawyers Program
5. February 25, 2016, Presentation, *Hot Topics in Professionalism*, City of Atlanta Law Department, In-House CLE
6. March 10, 2016, Panelist, *Women of the Gate City Bar Association*, Judge Thelma Wyatt Moore, Attorney Avarita Hanson & Attorney Patrise Perkins-Hooker and Moderated by Judge Kimberly M. Esmond Adams
7. March 23, 2016, Panelist, *Family Law Convocation on Professionalism*, Family Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia, ICLE
8. April 13, 2016, Presentation, *Hot Topics in Professionalism*, DeKalb Lawyers Association

**VI. SIGNATURE PROGRAMS**

**A. LAW SCHOOL ORIENTATION PROGRAMS**

In partnership with the State Bar's Committee on Professionalism and

Georgia law schools, for the twenty-fourth year the CJCP will present law school orientations on Professionalism in **August of 2016** at all 6 Georgia law schools (Atlanta's John Marshall, Emory, Georgia State, Mercer, UGA, Savannah). More than 200 judges, attorneys and legal educators will serve as group leaders in discussions with groups of incoming (entering, transfer and visiting) students to address professionalism and ethical challenges affecting law students and professionals. Students will discuss professionalism issues from hypothetical situations written, reviewed and updated by the Committee. The timely and relevant situations encourage students to learn an appropriate response to ethical challenges in law school and in practice. Students will hear keynote addresses from prominent professionals. In addition to the Fall orientations, the Commission and the State Bar's Committee on Professionalism will support two January orientations at Emory and Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. BOG members are invited to participate in the orientations. Please complete and return the form calling for participants.

#### **B. 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHIEF JUSTICE BENHAM COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

The Commission, along with the State Bar of Georgia, for the seventeenth year presented awards for community service at an evening ceremony **at the Georgia Bar Center on Tuesday, February 23, 2016**. Drawing a crowd of more than 200 persons, honorees received Lifetime Achievement and Community Service Awards. The twelve honorees have served a wide range of community organizations, government-sponsored activities, and humanitarian efforts outside of their professional practices and judicial duties. Solicitation for nominees for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards to be presented in 2017 is underway and a Nomination Form is attached to this report.

#### **VII. SPECIAL PROJECT: AGING LAWYERS**

Over the last few years, the Commission worked with State Bar leadership and staff, ICLE, the American Bar Association and other individuals and organizations to develop a professionalism approach to the issues of lawyers aging in the practice of law. A Commission Task Force with representatives from several segments of the Bar was constituted in May of 2014 to address aging lawyers' issues. The CJCP staff and the Task Force planned and presented the Convocation on Professionalism on November 12, 2014 on the topic: Aging in the Practice of Law: It's More Than a Senior Moment! This program was designed to address what is happening every day: lawyers who were once as sharp as a tack and never missed a step begin to stumble through simple thoughts, can't find the right words and begin to mentally wander. It asked and answered the questions: What do you do when a lawyer begins to exhibit signs of cognitive impairment? What are your responsibilities to the firm, law office, clients, the lawyer and the public? What resources are available to guide your decision-making and help? This program drew on the expertise and experiences of local and out of state bar leaders, physicians and mental health professionals, lawyer assistance programs, lawyer discipline and professional

liability professionals to analyze the impact of cognitive impairment from multiple perspectives and give practical direction to lawyers and judges faced with a colleague showing signs of age-related impairment. It also recognized the importance of planning for transition out of active law practice or a second season.

The Aging Lawyers Project is lead by Executive Director Avarita Hanson who has met with bar leaders, the general counsel, the executive director, the lawyers assistance program leaders and others, and shared the issues addressed in the Convocation. The Project has four (4) components: 1) information; 2) education; 3) discipline; and 4) intervention and assistance. First, working with the Bar's Wellness Task Force (Lawyers Living Well), information will be placed on the State Bar's website, similar to that information which the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, State Bar of California and other state bar associations have provided regarding aging in the law issues. Second, working with ICLE and others, there are increased CLE programs offered to educate bar members on topics relative to aging in the law. Third, Ms. Hanson has asked Bar Counsel Paula Frederick and the Disciplinary Rules Committee to consider appropriate changes to address issues of aging lawyers, including adding a new membership category for retired lawyers. Fourth, an intervention program is proposed to assist attorneys, family members and staff to intervene and assist a colleague who is experiencing some debilitating mental or physical incapacity that affects competence to practice. It is contemplated that this would ultimately be a bar program with dedicated resources. The Commission will continue to work with all appropriate State Bar departments, entities and members. Chief Justice Thompson has expressed his support and is pleased that the Commission has kept ahead of the curve by the fine work that Ms. Hanson and its members are doing on these issues.

**VIII. CJCP-SPONSORED INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO JUSTICE.** The CJCP financially and technically supports initiatives to promote access to justice.

**A. LAWYERS FOR EQUAL JUSTICE FKA INCUBATOR PROJECT**

Formally known as the Incubator Project, Lawyers for Equal Justice, a Georgia non-profit, opened its doors in April of 2016 under its Executive Director Stephanie Everett with several participating attorneys and volunteers. The Lawyers for Equal Justice Board includes representatives of all the stakeholders, including the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (Ms. Hanson is an ex-officio member) and has met several times. The Commission continues to provide input and technical support to this project.

**B. LANGUAGE ACCESS**

Chief Justice Thompson has stated that the Supreme Court has found the increased need for interpreters and others to improve access to justice for Georgia's diverse population and address the needs of deaf and hard of hearing persons. It is

likely that the Commission will approve funding in FY 2016-2017 to support CLE programming to support this initiative.

## **IX. OTHER PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.**

### **A. CONVOCAION ON PROFESSIONALISM - Tuesday, August 30, 2016**

Following its mission and tradition, the Commission is planning its 2016 Convocation on Professionalism to address issues of the future delivery of legal services. Scheduled for Tuesday, August 30, 2016, this full-day CLE program will feature ABA President and Past State Bar of Georgia President Linda Klein. Program Chairs include Timothy Floyd, Avarita Hanson, Nicole Iannarone and Rita Sheffey, supported by a large, inclusive and diverse planning committee. This gathering will look at issues regarding access to justice and law practice delivery models for today and tomorrow. More information will be available in future reports, on the Bar's e-news and through ICLE.

### **B. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The CJCP continues to work closely with the State Bar's Transition Into Law Practice Program (Mentoring Program) and its Director, Michelle West, as well as the Law Practice Management Program and its Director Natalie Kelly.

### **C. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The CJCP's Professionalism Page, its regular column in the *Georgia Bar Journal*, is published six (6) times a year. Articles this year include:

1. August 2015, Avarita L. Hanson and Jana Edmondson-Cooper, *Eliminating Barriers to Justice: How and Why to Ensure Language Access for Limited English Proficient and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Litigants*
2. August 2015, Avarita L. Hanson, *Pro Bono, Eureka Moments*
3. October 2015, Avarita L. Hanson, *Orienting Incoming Students to Professionalism at Georgia Law Schools*
4. December 2015, Kent E. Altom, *A Life Worth Living and A Gift Worth Giving: Becoming the Professional You Aspire to Be*
5. February 2016, Clark D. Cunningham, *Supreme Court of Georgia Dramatically Expands Student Practice*
6. April 2016, Avarita L. Hanson, *Outstanding Community Servants Honored: The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service*

Commission information is readily available on the State Bar's webpage and e-news to bar members, and on the Commission's Facebook and YouTube pages. The CJCP regularly reports to the Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency at its Fall and Spring meetings, through its designee to the CCLC and Executive

Director. Regular reports are made to the State Bar's Executive Committee and Board of Governors and to other bar groups with which we interact. Information is spread nationally and internationally through our membership with the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility and Consortium on Professionalism Initiatives.

## **X. STAFF AND RESOURCES**

The CJCP continues to operate with three (3) full-time staff members: Avarita L. Hanson, Esq. (Executive Director), Terie Latala (Assistant Director), and Nneka Harris-Daniel (Administrative Assistant). From time to time, the CJCP employs interns and others. The CJCP also reaches out to the legal community for volunteers; several attorneys and Georgia Bar staff volunteered to assist with the Benham Awards program.

The Commission performs its duties with a budget supported mainly by the \$15 surcharge per credit hour of Professionalism. With a stable fee and steady number of attorneys in compliance with their CLE requirements, the revenue has not experienced growth, despite inflation of expenses and increased activities including law school orientations and CLE programs. With oversight from the Commission's Finance and Personnel Committee, the Commission anticipates a future CLE fee adjustment, budget adjustments and will remain fiscally sound.

## **XI. CLOSING**

The Georgia Supreme Court's lead started an international professionalism movement among the judiciary, organized bar and law schools to support and encourage conduct that strengthens the dignity, honor and integrity of the legal profession. Our reputation for collaboration and civility for more than twenty-seven years is widely known and highly regarded. Today, our Commission remains a nationally and internationally esteemed leader of legal professionalism and continues to receive accolades for its thoughtful, excellent innovative programs.

We are thankful for the support the Commission receives from the President, Executive Committee and members of the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors, members and staff. Your support enables the Commission to fulfill its mission to support and encourage lawyers to exercise the highest levels of professional integrity in their relationships with their clients, other lawyers, the courts, and the public and to fulfill their obligations to improve the law and the legal system and to ensure access to that system.

With your help, the CJCP will continue to contribute to uplift legal professionalism in Georgia and elsewhere. Please do not hesitate to call upon the Commission members, me and our very dedicated and capable staff members, whenever we can assist you in advancing this important professional cause. Thank you.

ALH/tml

**ATTORNEY SIGN-UP FORM**



**Emory University School of Law**  
 Friday, August 12  
 9:00 - 12:30 - See link below for sign-up information:  
<https://emorylaw.wufoo.com/forms/professionalism-program-signup/>

**Atlanta's John Marshall Law School**  
 Saturday, August 13  
 9:40 - 12:15

**Georgia State University College of Law**  
 Tuesday, August 9  
 3:10 - 5:35

**Mercer University School of Law**  
 Friday, August 12  
 1:30 - 3:30

**Savannah Law School**  
 Saturday, August 13  
 10:15 - 12:45

**University of Georgia School of Law**  
 Friday, August 12  
 2:30 - 5:00

\*All times are tentative\*

Full Name (Mr./Ms./Judge) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: (Materials sent via USPS - please write clearly, include organization, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nickname (name badge) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Area(s) of Practice: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year admitted to Georgia Bar: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please pair me with: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Phone, fax numbers & email addresses may be shared with group leaders and law schools.)*  
 \* \* \* \* \*

**MCLE Fees: \$25 - 2.0 Regular Hours, including 1.0 Ethics and 1.0 Professionalism**  
**\$10 - 2.0 Regular Hours, including 1.0 Ethics**

**Make your check payable to CJCP (Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism):**  
**\$25.00** for 2.0 Regular Hours, including 1.0 Ethics and 1.0 Professionalism  
 or  
**\$10.00** for 2.0 Regular Hours, including 1.0 Ethics (no professionalism)  
 \* \* \* \* \*

**Return form to:** State Bar Committee on Professionalism: Attn: Nneka Harris-Daniel • Suite 620 • 104 Marietta Street, NW • Atlanta, GA 30303 • ph: (404) 225-5040 • fax: (404) 225-5041 • email: Nneka@cjcpga.org





**The State Bar of Georgia and The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism**



is seeking nominations for the  
**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service**

The State Bar of Georgia and the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism invite nominations for the 18th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service. Awards will be presented at a special ceremony on **Tuesday, February 28, 2017** at the Georgia Bar Center.

Judges and lawyers meet the criteria for these awards if they have combined a professional career with outstanding service and dedication to their communities through voluntary participation in community organizations, government-sponsored activities, or humanitarian work outside of their professional practice. Contributions may be made in any field, including but not limited to: social service, education, faith-based efforts, sports, youth and mentoring, recreation, the arts, or politics.

**Eligibility:** Nominees must: **1)** be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia; **2)** have a record of outstanding community service and continuous service over a period of time to one or more cause, organization or activity; **3)** not be a member of the Selection Committee, staff of the State Bar of Georgia or Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism; and **4)** not be in a judicial or political race for 2016 and 2017 .

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service Nomination Form**  
(You may submit more than one nomination)

**Nominee:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address:\* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(\* Please use either the nominee's work or home address that corresponds with the location of their most significant community service.)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator:**

Name:\*\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(\* For organizations, identify a contact person in addition to the name of the organization.)  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**In addition to this form, nominations must also be accompanied by:**

- A Nomination Narrative:** Explain how the nominee meets the award criteria described above. Specify the nature of the contributions and identify those who have benefited from the nominee's involvement. Specify when and how long the nominee participated in each identified activity.
- Biographical Information:** Attach a copy of the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae.
- Letters of Support:** Include 2 letters of support from individuals and/or organizations in the community that describe the nominee's work and the contributions made.

**Submission of Materials:** Send nominations to Nneka Harris-Daniel, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, Suite 620, 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30303 • Phone: (404) 225-5040 • Fax: (404) 225-5041 • Email: Nneka@jcpga.org. **All Nominations must be postmarked by November 18, 2016**

**JUSTICE ROBERT BENHAM AWARDS FOR  
COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Past Recipients**

**Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients**

Henry Troutman, *Atlanta*  
James C. Brim, Jr., *Camilla*  
Hon. Arthur M. Kaplan, *Dunwoody*  
Hon. Robert Benham, *Atlanta*  
John B. Miller, *Savannah*  
Upshaw C. Bentley, Jr., *Athens*  
Miles J. Alexander, *Atlanta*  
Willis A. DuVall, *Edison*  
C. Thompson Harley, *Augusta*  
Frank B. Strickland, *Atlanta*  
Hon. Griffin B. Bell, *Atlanta*  
George T. Brown, *Jonesboro*  
John F. Sweet, *Atlanta*  
David H. Gambrell, *Atlanta*  
Joseph R. Bankoff, *Atlanta*  
John S. Lewis, *Cartersville*  
Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver, *Decatur*  
Alan Tanenbaum, *Atlanta*  
Juanita Powell Baranco, *Lithonia*  
Edward J. Hardin, *Atlanta*

**District 1 Award Recipients**

Frederick D. Lee, *Ellabell*  
Albert Mazo, *Savannah*  
Lisa L. White, *Savannah*  
Elsie R. Chisholm, *Savannah*  
Hon. Louisa Abbott, *Savannah*  
Carlton A. DeVoght, *Brunswick*  
Michael L. Edwards, *Savannah*  
Hon. James F. Bass, Jr., *Savannah*  
Rebecca Crowley, *Waycross*  
Howard E. Spiva, *Savannah*  
Wanda Andrews, *Savannah*  
Lovett Bennett, Jr., *Statesboro*  
Christopher K. Middleton, *Savannah*  
T. Mills Fleming, *Savannah*

**District 2 Award Recipients**

Robert M. Ciyatt, *Valdosta*  
Cheryle Thompson Bryan, *Ashburn*  
Suzanne P. Mathis, *Lakeland*  
Kenneth B. Hodges, II, *Albany*  
Roy W. Copeland, *Valdosta*  
Michael S. Bennett, Sr., *Valdosta*  
Joseph K. Mulholland, *Bainbridge*  
Laverne L. Gaszins, *Valdosta*  
Hon. James E. Hardy, *Thomasville*  
Charles W. Lamb, Jr., *Albany*  
D. Bradley Folsom, *Valdosta*  
Michael S. Meyer von Bremen, *Albany*  
Hon. Joe C. Bishop, *Albany*  
John Randall Hicks, *Valdosta*

**District 3 Award Recipients**

George M. Peagler, Jr., *Americus*  
William C. Rumer, *Columbus*  
Ira L. Foster, *Macon*  
Rebecca C. Moody, *Warner Robins*  
Hon. William P. Adams, *Macon*  
Hon. Maureen C. Gottfried, *Columbus*  
Charles P. Taylor, *Warner Robins*  
William Lee Robinson, *Macon*  
Michael L. Childrest, *Byron*  
Tomieka R. Daniel, *Byron*  
Jonathan A. Alderman, *Macon*  
Sarah L. Gerwig-Moore, *Macon*  
Clarence Williams, III, *Warner Robins*

Ruth A. Knox, *Macon*  
J. Michael Cranford, *Macon*  
Nancy Terrill, *Macon*  
Carnille Hope, *Macon*

**District 4 Award Recipients**

Hon. Alvin T. Wang, *Decatur*  
Gloria L. Johnson, *Decatur*  
Guendolyn R. Keyes, *Decatur*  
Hon. Robin S. Nash, *Decatur*  
Hon. Gregory A. Adams, *Decatur*  
Nisha K. Karnani, *Dunwoody*  
Hon. Mark A. Scott, *Decatur*  
Hon. Johnny N. Panos, *Decatur*  
Hon. Nancy Nash Bills, *Conyers*  
Vivica M. Brown, *Stone Mountain*  
Hon. Asha F. Jackson, *Decatur*  
C. Talley Wells, *Decatur*  
Nora L. Polk, *Decatur*  
Thua Barlay, *Decatur*  
Hon. Dax E. Lopez, *Decatur*  
Michael Thurmond, *Stone Mountain*

**District 5 Award Recipients**

Hon. Marvin S. Arrington, Sr., *Atlanta*  
W. Terence Walsh, *Atlanta*  
Peter K. Dennis, *Atlanta*  
Don C. Keenan, *Atlanta*  
Donald P. Edwards, *Atlanta*  
Jesus A. Nerio, *Atlanta*  
Jeff D. Woodard, *Atlanta*  
Gregory N. Studdard, *Atlanta*  
Hon. T. Jackson Bedford, *Atlanta*  
Hon. Thelma Wyatt Cummings Moore, *Atlanta*  
Albert J. Bolet, III, *Atlanta*  
John A. Pichens, *Atlanta*  
F. Sheffield Hale, *Atlanta*  
Cynthia Hinrichs Clanton, *Atlanta*  
Jacquelyn H. Saylor, *Atlanta*  
David M. Zacks, *Atlanta*  
Christian F. Torgrimson, *Atlanta*  
Antavius M. Weems, *Atlanta*  
Hon. Herbert E. Phipps, *Atlanta*  
Luis A. Aguilar, *Atlanta*  
Douglas M. Towns, *Atlanta*  
Linda T. Muir, *Atlanta*  
Christopher Glenn Sawyer, *Atlanta*  
Julie M. T. Walker, *Atlanta*  
Denise Cleveland-Leggett, *Atlanta*  
Judith A. O'Brien, *Atlanta*  
William Barwick, *Atlanta*  
Michael Hobbs, Jr., *Atlanta*  
Amy J. Kolczak, *Atlanta*  
Nancy Whaley, *Atlanta*  
Anne W. Lewis, *Atlanta*  
William B. Hill, Jr., *Atlanta*  
Noni Southall Ellis, *Atlanta*  
Michael W. Tyler, *Atlanta*  
Hon. Kimberly Esmond Adams, *Atlanta*  
Peter J. Anderson, *Atlanta*  
Audra A. Dial, *Atlanta*  
Marquetta J. Bryan, *Atlanta*  
Charles T. Huddleston, *Atlanta*  
Hon. Patricia M. Killingsworth, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Ernest Lamont Greer, *Atlanta*  
Ms. Vanessa I. Hickey-Gales, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Philip E. Holladay, Jr., *Atlanta*  
Harold E. Franklin, Jr., *Atlanta*

**District 6 Award Recipients**

Denise F. Hemmann, *Jackson*  
Hon. Eugene E. Lawson, *Jonesboro*  
Hon. William H. Ison, *Jonesboro*

J. Byrd Garland, *Jackson*  
Hon. Stephen E. Boswell, *Jonesboro*  
James J. Dalton, II, *Jonesboro*  
Avery T. Salter, *Jonesboro*  
Hon. William Hal Craig, *McDonough*  
Hon. Christopher C. Edwards, *Fayetteville*  
Rudjard M. Hayes, *Tyrene*  
Angela M. Hinton, *Fayetteville*  
Hon. Robert M. Crawford, *Thomaston*  
Cindy S. Manning, *Peachtree City*  
Hon. A.J. Welch, Jr., *McDonough*

**District 7 Award Recipients**

J. Anderson Davis, *Rome*  
Richard J. Lundy, *Cedartown*  
Constance McManus, *Marietta*  
Hon. Adele L. Grubbs, *Marietta*  
W. Allen Separk, *Marietta*  
Robert A. Cowan, *Dalton*  
Candi L. Yeager, *Marietta*  
Nathan J. Wade, *Marietta*  
J. Kevin Moore, *Marietta*  
Justin B. O'Dell, *Marietta*  
William L. Lundy, Sr., *Cedartown*  
Maziar Mazloom, *Marietta*  
Hon. J. Lane Bearden, *Calhoun*  
John T. Longino, *Waleska*  
Rep. Christian A. Coomer, *Cartersville*  
Damon E. Elmore, *Lithia Springs*  
Thomas David Lyles, *Dallas*

**District 8 Award Recipients**

E. Roy Lambert, *Madison*  
Samantha F. Jacobs, *Metter*  
Jehan V. El-Jourbagy, *Monticello*  
Dexter M. Wimbish, *Madison*  
Hon. John J. Ellington, *Soperton*

**District 9 Award Recipients**

Leon Boling, *Cumming*  
Hon. Frank C. Mills, *Canton*  
Wendy J. Glasbrenner, *Gainesville*  
Hon. James E. Drane, *Canton*  
Hon. Kathleen F. Cozzalin, *Gainesville*  
Hon. Cliff L. Joliff, *Gainesville*  
Theresa G. Franzén, *Norcross*  
John Acklin Gram, *Gainesville*  
David L. Cannon, Jr., *Canton*  
Mark O. Shriver, IV, *Woodstock*  
Hon. M. Anthony Baker, *Canton*  
Eric A. Ballinger, *Canton*  
Hon. Chung Hun Lee, *Duluth*  
Peter A. Gleichman, *Woodstock*  
Ms. Nichi Noel Vaughan, *Gainesville*

**District 10 Award Recipients**

Hon. Steve C. Jones, *Athens*  
John M. Clark, *Elberton*  
Edward D. Tolley, *Athens*  
Dennis C. Sanders, *Thomson*  
Hon. Duncan D. Wheale, *Augusta*  
David B. Bell, *Augusta*  
Walter James Gordon, Sr., *Hartwell*  
David E. Hudson, *Augusta*  
Hon. Samuel D. Ozburn, *Covington*  
Victor V. Johnson, *Danielsville*  
Laura C. Nehf, *Athens*  
J. Edward Allen, Jr., *Athens*  
Hon. Lawton Stephens, *Athens*



## 2015-16 Media Report

PUBLISHED ARTICLES			Headline	Circulation
Date	Newspaper			
6/13/2015	Waycross Journal-Herald		Kay Carter Wins Praise	7,244
6/14/2015	Henry Daily Herald, McDonough		Kudos to Henry County Bar Association	2,352
6/17/2015	Chariton County Herald, Folkston		Congratulates Carter	1,970
6/17/2015	North Fulton Neighbor, Alpharetta		Congratulations to Northview mock trial team for placing second in the nation	17,739
6/17/2015	Rockdale Citizen, Conyers		Meyers' appointment a benefit to all of Rockdale County	3,091
6/17/2015	Newton Citizen, Covington		Meyers' appointment a benefit to all of Rockdale County	2,353
6/18/2015	Macon Telegraph		Lifetime of Service	29,220
6/24/2015	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville		David Lipscomb Re-Elected to Executive Committee of State Bar of Georgia	67,746
6/24/2015	Savannah Morning News		Savannah attorney named treasurer of Ga. State Bar	37,597
6/24/2015	Augusta Chronicle		Augusta attorney installed as president of young lawyers' group	47,177
6/25/2015	Madison County Journal, Danielsville		Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Lindsay Tise	2,983
6/25/2015	Hartwell Sun		Judge Tise mourned	5,271
6/27/2015	Houston Home Journal, Perry		Houston Co. Bar Association honored by State Bar	7,744
6/27/2015	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville		Yari Lawson reinstalled as State Bar Young Lawyers Division newsletter co-ed	67,746
6/28/2015	Albany Herald		Appeals Court Chief Judge Herbert Phipps given Marshall and Thrower awards	11,524
6/30/2015	Statesboro Herald		Cobb County Bar Association honored	13,393
6/30/2015	Brunswick News		Mock, Edenfield lead Georgia Young Lawyers	7,200
7/1/2015	Commerce News		District Court Judge receives award	13,929
7/1/2015	Jackson Herald, Jefferson		Piedmont Circuit Bar Association honored	1,415
7/1/2015	Rockdale Citizen, Conyers		Piedmont Circuit Bar Association honored by State Bar of Georgia	4,514
7/1/2015	Rockdale Citizen, Conyers		Covington attorney elected to State Bar's Board of Governors	3,091
7/1/2015	Savannah Herald		Brian Rogers named secretary of State Bar	3,091
7/2/2015	Courier-Herald, Dublin		Atty. Lester Johnson Receives State Bar of Georgia Professionalism Award	8,000
7/2/2015	Augusta Chronicle		Dublin attorney appointed to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	9,460
7/2/2015	Newton Citizen, Covington		Elected to serve in State Bar post	47,177
7/2/2015	Newton Citizen, Covington		Gregory Pope elected to policy-making position with State Bar	2,353
7/2/2015	Douglas County Sentinel, Douglasville		Covington resident named to officer position on State Bar of Georgia	2,353
7/3/2015	Atlanta Business Chronicle		Kaufman installed as organization's president	2,516
7/3/2015	Atlanta Business Chronicle		Achievements: Mary McAfee	37,000
7/4/2015	Albany Herald		Honors & Awards: Linda Klein	37,000
7/4/2015	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville		Business Portfolio: Joe Dent	11,524
7/5/2015	Savannah Morning News		Gwinnett County Bar Association honored by State Bar	67,746
7/6/2015	Macon Telegraph		Johnson receives professionalism award	37,597
7/6/2015	Daily Report		Macon attorneys honored by State Bar of Georgia	29,220
			Congratulations to New Chief Judge of Court of Appeals	3,247

## 2015-16 Media Report

7/7/2015	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Rawson Foreman	3,247
7/8/2015	Houston Home Journal, Perry	Congratulations to Judge Turner	7,744
7/8/2015	Early County News, Blakely	Congratulations to Judge Bishop	2,438
7/8/2015	Barrow Journal, Winder	Piedmont Circuit Bar Association honored by State Bar of Georgia	2,154
7/9/2015	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Well done	24,932
7/9/2015	Southern Tribune, Cuthbert	Congratulations to Judge Bishop on state appointment	1,200
7/12/2015	Covington News	Covington attorney elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	5,500
7/24/2015	Atlanta Business Chronicle	Facing the challenge of lawyer wellness	37,000
7/26/2015	Albany Herald	Albany attorneys, judges chosen for State Bar positions	11,524
7/26/2015	Athens Banner-Herald	ACC attorneys, judges named to State Bar of Georgia committees	12,129
7/27/2015	Islander, St. Simons Island	Local attorneys named to State Bar Committees	3,435
7/28/2015	Herald-Gazette, Barnesville	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Judge Thomas	4,956
7/29/2015	Northeast Georgian, Cornelia	Cornelia attorney named to State Bar Advisory Committee on Legislation	7,370
7/29/2015	Baxley News Banner	Johnson named to State Bar's Children and the Courts Committee	4,600
7/29/2015	Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth	Jenkins appointed to State Bar Committee	4,199
7/29/2015	Dodge County News, Eastman	State Bar names Calhoun attorney to UPL Committee for District 7	4,359
7/29/2015	Dade County Sentinel, Trenton	Eastman attorney is named to two State Bar of Georgia committees	4,693
7/29/2015	Peiham Journal	Congratulations to Judge Ellis	5,700
7/29/2015	Douglas Enterprise	Congratulations to new Pelham Municipal Court judge	2,500
7/30/2015	Dallas New Era	Douglas Attorney Named to State Bar of Georgia Member Benefits Committee	7,432
8/1/2015	Atlanta Inquirer	Dallas Attorney Named to State Bar of Georgia Committees	3,084
8/1/2015	Times, Gainesville	Twenty-seven Gwinnett attorneys, judges named to state bar committees	67,746
8/1/2015	Atlanta Inquirer	R. Gary Spencer Elected to Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	61,082
8/1/2015	Atlanta Inquirer	Johnson Receives State Bar of Georgia Leadership Award	61,082
8/2/2015	Times, Gainesville	5 Gainesville attorneys join State Bar committees	61,082
8/4/2015	Johnson Journal, Wrightsville	Sumner appointed to serve on Board of Governors of State Bar of Georgia	5,000
8/4/2015	Clayton Neighbor	Clayton County attorneys named to Georgia Bar Association committee	1,181
8/4/2015	Henry Daily Herald, McDonough	Henry County attorneys named to Bar committee	38,400
8/5/2015	Northside Neighbor, Atlanta	Congratulations to attorney on national office	2,352
8/5/2015	Towns County Herald, Hiwassee	Dehler ready for new challenge	16,619
8/5/2015	Milton Herald, Alpharetta	North Fulton attorneys appointed to Georgia Bar committees	3,846
8/5/2015	Daily Report	Congratulations to New JQC Director and Former Bar President	8,500
8/6/2015	Pickens County Progress, Jasper	Jasper Attorneys, Judge Named to State Bar of Georgia Committees	3,247
8/6/2015	Revue & News, Alpharetta/Roswell	NF attorneys appointed to Georgia Bar committees	6,040
8/7/2015	Daily Report	Young Georgia Lawyers Win Top ABA Honors	28,000
8/7/2015	Forsyth Herald, Cumming	North Fulton attorneys named to Georgia Bar committees	3,247
8/12/2015			17,000

## 2015-16 Media Report

8/12/2015	Newton Citizen, Covington	Covington Attorney Named to State Bar of Georgia Committees	2,353
8/12/2015	Milton Herald, Alpharetta	North Fulton attorneys named to Georgia Bar committees	8,500
8/12/2015	Fayette Citizen, Fayetteville	Attorneys named to bar committees	5,000
8/12/2015	Rockdale Citizen, Conyers	Covington Attorney Named to State Bar of Georgia Committees	3,091
8/12/2015	Fayette County News, Fayetteville	Fayette attorneys named to State Bar committees	2,473
8/12/2015	Camilla Enterprise	Judge Bell Named to State Bar of Georgia Advisory Committee on Legislation	1,418
8/12/2015	Pelham Journal	Judge Bell Named to State Bar of Georgia Advisory Committee on Legislation	2,500
8/13/2015	Revue & News, Alpharetta/Roswell	North Fulton attorneys named to Georgia Bar committees	28,000
8/13/2015	Revue & News, Alpharetta/Roswell	Roswell attorney appointed to board of governors of State Bar of Georgia	28,000
8/13/2015	Daily Report	3 Young Georgia Lawyers Chosen for ABA Mentoring	3,247
8/13/2015	Donalsonville News	Judge Bell named to Advisory Committee	3,925
8/13/2015	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Judge Harris Adams	3,247
8/14/2015	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Loss for state, legal profession (Morton Harris)	24,932
8/14/2015	Atlanta Business Chronicle	State Bar of Georgia's Young Lawyers Division Earns Top Awards	37,000
8/14/2015	Daily Report	Congratulations to New ABA President-Elect Linda Klein	3,247
8/17/2015	Macon Telegraph	Macon attorneys named to State Bar committees	29,220
8/18/2015	Statesboro Herald	Six Statesboro attorneys named to State Bar posts	7,200
8/19/2015	Metter Advertiser	Gross named to State Bar committee	2,033
8/26/2015	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Ga. State Bar remembers Gene Reeves	67,746
9/1/2015	Ft. Lauderdale (FL) Sun Sentinel	People on the Move: Enjolie Aytch (committees)	163,728
9/3/2015	Macon Telegraph	Congratulations (Tormeika Daniel)	29,220
9/10/2015	Daily Report	Congratulations to Legal Aid Director Steven Gottlieb on National Award	3,247
9/14/2015	Savannah Morning News	We are grateful for Sage Brown's lifetime of service	37,597
9/16/2015	Savannah Herald	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Sage Brown	8,000
9/18/2015	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Chuck Rice	3,247
9/23/2015	Marietta Daily Journal	7 to serve in YLD Leadership	13,393
9/23/2015	Sandersville Progress	Sandersville attorney named to serve in YLD leadership	4,074
9/24/2015	Daily Report	Congratulations to Perkins-Hooker on Receiving Diversity Award	3,247
9/24/2015	Summerville News	Summerville Attorney Named to Serve in YLD Leadership	6,034
9/26/2015	Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville	Liburn attorney named to serve in YLD Leadership	67,746
9/26/2015	Clayton News Daily, Jonesboro	Letter to the Editor: Judge Teske	1,688
9/27/2015	Albany Herald	Business Portfolio: Je'Nita Lane	11,524
9/27/2015	Athens Banner-Herald	Local attorneys named to State Bar Committees	12,129
9/28/2015	Macon Telegraph	Five Macon attorneys named to YLD leadership	29,220
9/30/2015	Clinch County News, Homerville	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Chuck Rice	1,448
9/30/2015	Cherokee Ledger News, Woodstock	Congratulations on appointment	40,000
9/30/2015	Savannah Herald	Congratulations to Judge LeRoy Burke on his State Appointment	8,000

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10/1/2015	Cobb Business Journal	Seven to serve in YLD Leadership	5,000
10/6/2015	Savannah Morning News	Congratulations to Judge Burke on state appointment	37,597
10/8/2015	Dallas New Era	Congratulations to District Attorney's Office on Work-Based Learning Success	3,084
10/15/2015	Georgia Asian Times	Georgia's first South Asian female judge officially appointed	20,000
10/18/2015	LaGrange Daily News	Courtroom portrait appropriate honor for Judge Keeble	3,837
10/20/2015	Daily Report	(State Bar honors four lawyers and a firm)	3,247
10/20/2015	Clayton News Daily, Jonesboro	Congratulations to local attorney on state appointment	1,688
10/21/2015	Commerce News	Commends public defender on appointment to standards council	1,415
10/21/2015	Jones County News, Gray	Bar president congratulates new DA Bradley	4,175
10/21/2015	Banks County News, Homer	Commends public defender on appointment to standards council	2,073
10/21/2015	Jackson Herald, Jefferson	Governor appoints Seagraves to state (council)	4,514
10/22/2015	Eatonton Messenger	Congratulations to Bradley on appointment as new DA	5,670
10/22/2015	Herald Journal, Greensboro	Congratulations to new Ocmulgee Circuit District Attorney	4,579
10/22/2015	Morgan County Citizen, Madison	Congrats Bradley	4,490
10/22/2015	Monticello News	Congrats! (Stephen Bradley)	2,700
10/23/2015	Lake Oconee News, Greensboro	Congratulations to new Ocmulgee Circuit DA	3,975
10/28/2015	Cairo Messenger	State Bar head congratulates Attorney Conger	6,120
10/28/2015	Savannah Tribune	Mance elected Port City Bar Association President	10,000
10/29/2015	Toccoa Record	Mance praised for lawyer post	4,893
11/1/2015	Savannah Morning News	Congratulations to new Port City Bar Association President	37,597
11/4/2015	Union Recorder, Milledgeville	Congratulations to Stephen Bradley on his appointment	5,162
11/12/2015	Clayton Tribune	Congratulations to Brian Rickman	5,123
11/12/2015	Henry Daily Herald, McDonough	State Bar honors life of attorney	2,352
11/15/2015	Coastal Courier, Hinesville	Legal community mourns loss of Gary Bacon	5,500
11/19/2015	Madison County Journal, Danielsville	Congratulations to Madison Co. native named to Court of Appeals	2,983
11/19/2015	Tribune & Georgian, St. Marys	State bar thanks Bacon for service	5,382
11/26/2015	Savannah Morning News	Congratulations to local attorney on state appointment	37,597
11/26/2015	Marietta Daily Journal	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Jack Mallard	13,393
12/1/2015	Daily Report	Georgia legal community mourns loss of Hal Clarke	3,247
12/7/2015	Savannah Morning News	Jurist in Residence program an appropriate honor for Judge Edenfield	37,597
12/8/2015	Athens Banner-Herald	UGA Jurist in Residence program is fitting honor to Edenfield	12,129
12/9/2015	Berrien Press, Nashville	Berrien County Courthouse included in New UGA Novel	4,221
12/13/2015	Statesboro Herald	An appropriate honor for Judge Edenfield	7,200
12/16/2015	Daily Report	On Behalf of the State Bar the Legal Community Mourns Loss of Harry Cashin	3,247
12/30/2015	Times Herald, Newnan	Kudos to Skandalakis	9,007
1/4/2016	Daily Report	State Bar President Congratulates Newly Selected Federal Magistrate Judge	4,359
1/6/2016	Calhoun Times	Letter to the Editor: Rex Garner	

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1/11/2016	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Robert Fory, Bar President Writes	3,247
1/15/2016	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Jack Turner, Bar President Says	3,247
1/19/2016	Johnson Journal, Wrightsville	Letter to the Editor: Judge Rowland	1,181
1/20/2016	Daily Report	Georgia Legal Community Mourns Loss of Michael Egan, Bar President Writes	3,247
1/23/2016	Valdosta Daily Times	Congratulations to Dennis	12,256
1/28/2016	The Times, Gainesville	Georgia's legal community mourns loss of attorney Summer	5,000
2/4/2016	Hartwell Sun	Congratulations (Walter Gordon)	5,027
2/6/2016	Houston Home Journal, Perry	Attorneys attend YLD academy	7,822
2/7/2016	Albany Herald	Business Portfolio: YLD Leadership Academy	10,793
2/7/2016	Coastal Courier, Hinesville	Congratulations, Judge Cavender	5,500
2/10/2016	Savannah Morning News	Pooler resident receives prestigious honor	30,841
2/11/2016	Tattnall Journal, Reidsville	Your View: Judge Cavender	3,803
2/11/2016	Bryan County News, Richmond Hill	Bar congratulates Judge Cavender	2,000
2/14/2016	The Times, Gainesville	News-makers in business (Leadership Academy)	5,000
2/18/2016	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Loss to city, legal profession	21,789
2/18/2016	Courier-Herald, Dublin	Letter to the Editor: Judge Gillis	9,555
2/18/2016	Lincoln Journal, Lincolnton	YLD contributes \$131,699 toward camp renovations	3,000
2/18/2016	Bryan County News, Richmond Hill	Bar congratulates new superior court judge	2,000
2/19/2016	Northeast Georgian, Cornelia	Congratulations to newly appointed district attorney	6,827
2/20/2016	CrossRoads News, DeKalb	Baranaco, Thurmond to get Benham Awards for service	1,000
2/20/2016	Waycross Journal-Herald	Local Attorneys Praised	6,828
2/21/2016	Coastal Courier, Hinesville	Bar congratulates new superior court judge	5,500
2/24/2016	Brunswick News	Georgia mourns passing of legal leader Henson	12,988
2/24/2016	Claxton Enterprise	Congratulations to new Superior Court Judge	4,156
2/25/2016	Clayton Tribune	Congratulations to new district attorney	4,981
2/26/2016	The Champion, Decatur	Local judge, two attorneys receive community service award	527
3/2/2016	Daily Report	Legal Community Mourns Rudolph Patterson, Past President of State Bar	3,055
3/5/2016	Macon Telegraph	Macon attorney recognized with award	29,220
3/11/2016	Clayton News Daily, Jonesboro	Former Clayton Co. District Attorney Wallace led a distinguished career	1,688
3/11/2016	CrossRoads News, DeKalb	Lopez receives Benham Award	1,000
3/11/2016	The Champion, Decatur	Saluting Judge Seeliger for donations to nonprofit groups	527
3/12/2016	Macon Telegraph	Patterson a legal leader	29,220
3/15/2016	Columbus Ledger-Enquirer	Outstanding Event	21,789
3/18/2016	Atlanta Jewish Times	Mourning Judge Feldman	6,553
3/18/2016	Henry Daily Herald, McDonough	Local attorney, judge receive award for community service	2,352
3/19/2016	Savannah Morning News	Juvenile judge gets state appointment	30,841
3/23/2016	Soperton News	Judge Ellington recognized with Justice Benham Award for Community Service	1,139

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4/2/2016	Macon Telegraph	Attorney Hope recognized with award for service	29,220
		<b>TOTAL CIRCULATION</b>	<b>2,567,996</b>

