

**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. Triesmann-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.

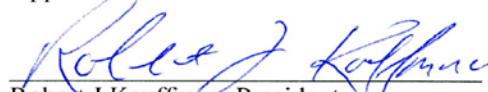
Nicki Vaughan announced that the Indigent Defense Committee symposium will be held on March 5 at the Georgia State University Law School.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

  
Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

Approved:

  
Robert J. Kauffman, President