# STATE BAR OF GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

# Tuesday, May 21, 2019/2:00 p.m. Conference Call

## Members Participating:

Kenneth B. Hodges, III, President; Darrell L. Sutton, President-elect; Dawn M. Jones, Treasurer; Elizabeth Louise Fite, Secretary; Buck Rogers, Immediate Past President; Rizza O'Connor, YLD President; William T. Davis, YLD President-elect; Nicole C. Leet, YLD Immediate Past President; Frank Strickland; Amy V. Howell; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughan.

### Members Absent:

Sally B. Akins; and Tony DelCampo.

#### **Staff Participating:**

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Sarah Coole, Director of Communications; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Christine Butcher Hayes, Director of Governmental Affairs; Bill NeSmith, Deputy General Counsel; and Ron Turner, Chief Financial Officer.

#### Call to Order

Upon obtaining approval in advance for a specially called meeting of the Executive Committee by unanimous email vote, and after establishing a quorum, President Ken Hodges called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

#### Request for Disability Status

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved one member's request for disabled status.

# Access to Justice Committee LSC Funding Resolution

Following a report by President Ken Hodges, the Executive Committee 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 majority voice vote, determined that immediate action was necessary since the Board of Governors will not be meeting until June 7, 2019; and
- 3) By a roll call vote of 7 in favor to 4 opposed, adopted the Access to Justice Committee LSC Funding Resolution (Exhibit A), subject to checking the validity of the statistics referred therein.

In discussions on the above, Amy Howell stated that the Executive Committee is being asked to vote on a number of matters without having clarity on the Bar's position in light of *Fleck* and other issues. General Counsel Paula Frederick stated that she believed the funding request meets *Keller* because it would improve the quality of legal services for people in Georgia. Paula also reported that the Unified Bar Committee has asked for a more in depth discussion on *Keller* when considering action requiring a *Keller* vote.

### Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) Rules

Following a report by President Ken Hodges, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors proposed rules changes, as amended, to the CAP. The proposed new rules read as follows:

Part XII – Client Assistance Program

### Preamble.

The purpose of the Client Assistance Program is to respond to inquiries from the public regarding State Bar members and to assist the public through informal methods including the resolution of inquiries that may involve minor violations of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct.

### Rule 12-101. Client Assistance Committee

The advisory responsibility for this program will be vested in the General Counsel Overview Committee.

# Rule 12-102. Supervision

The Client Assistance Program shall operate under the supervision of the General Counsel of the State Bar of Georgia. Program staff may be used to help clients understand their rights, obligations, and options.

## Moving Professional Liability Insurance Committee to a Standing Committee

No action taken on this matter.

### Georgia Department of Corrections Legal Visit Policy

Nicki Vaughan reported that she contacted Jennifer Ammons at the Georgia Department of Corrections to discuss its recently adopted policy creating new limits on attorney visits and was told that there would no changes made to the policy. Nicki said she also talked with other people who spoke with Ms. Ammons and they all reached the same conclusion.

#### Old Business

There was no new old business.

### New Business

Paula Frederick requested up to \$500 for a retirement party for Deputy General Counsel Bill Cobb, which was unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

### Adjournment

Approved;

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Elizabeth 2. Fite, Secretary

Kenneth B. Hodges, III, President