

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

**Friday, May 12, 2022, at 1 p.m.
Hotel Indigo Columbus at Riverfront Place (hybrid meeting)**

Members Participating

Elizabeth L. Fite, President; Sally B. Akins, President-Elect; Tony DelCampo, Treasurer; Ivy N. Cadle, Secretary; Dawn M. Jones, Immediate Past President; Ronald E. Daniels, YLD President-Elect; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD Immediate Past President; William C. Gentry; Shiriki Jones; David S. Lipscomb; Martin Valbuena; and Nicki N. Vaughan.

Members Absent

Elissa B. Haynes, YLD President; R. Javoyné Hicks.

Staff Participating

Sarah Coole, Chief Operating Officer; Damon Elmore, 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

President Elizabeth L. Fite called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Future Meetings Schedule

President Elizabeth L. Fite reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

Executive Committee Minutes

Secretary Ivy Cadle presented for approval the minutes of the April 14, 2022, Executive Committee meeting, which were passed by unanimous voice vote as presented.

Members Requesting Resignation

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-208, the Executive Committee approved the following resignation requests by unanimous voice vote: Edward Matthew Shoemaker-609111, Jill P. Langberg- 628714, Robert Chase Deibel-863974, Linwood Neal Wheeler-751399, Nanne A. Gerrit Van't Riet-724110, Stacy Ann Malkin-467186, Daniel William Schenck-629079, Rebecca Garren Parker-562985, Steven Jay Ehlenbeck-242241, Jeanne Morton-142605.

Members Requesting Disability Status

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

Member Status Appeals

The Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, approved the staff recommendation to deny Marion Lewis's request to waive her late fees and the reinstatement fee.

Standing Executive Committee Policy 1000 (State Bar Elections)

Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith presented the Elections Committee's proposed changes to Section (h) *Questions and Appeals*, of Standing Executive Committee Policy 1000 (State Bar Elections). After discussing changes for clarification, a motion was made to approve the policy with revisions. The motion

was seconded and passed unanimously. This item will be given to the Board of Governors for informational purposes.

Officer and Executive Committee Expense and Reimbursement Policy

The Executive Committee reviewed the non-officer portion of the Officer and Executive Committee Expense Reimbursement Policy. After a motion and a second, the proposed changes were approved by unanimous vote. This item will go before the Board of Governors at their next meeting as an informational item and then be voted on at the Fall Meeting.

Revisions to Pending Rule Change, Rule 1.2 Comment 9

General Counsel Paula Frederick reported a request from the International Trade in Legal Services Committee regarding a proposed amendment to Comment 9 of Rule 1.2. The Board of Governors approved the proposed amendment to Comment 9 of Rule 1.2 at the Spring 2020 meeting. After publication, Bar Counsel filed the proposal with the Supreme Court of Georgia in November 2020. The Court has not yet approved the amendment, but Justice Peterson reached out to Bar Counsel to discuss the possibility of rewording it. He has twice met with representatives of the International Trade in Legal Regulation Committee (who originally proposed the amendment). The ITLS Committee has approved a revised version of the proposed amendment and would like to take the proposal to the Board at the Annual Meeting. Instead of returning to the Disciplinary Rules & Procedures Committee (which does not meet until June), ITLS asks that the Executive Committee approve this revised amendment so that it can go on the agenda for the Annual Meeting for Board approval. In the meantime, Bar Counsel will circulate this memo to the Disciplinary Rules Committee members so they can raise any objections at the Board level.

David Lipscomb made a motion to send this item back to the Rules Committee for consideration. The motion was seconded and failed. After a motion and second, the Executive Committee, by majority vote, approved the proposed changes. This item will go before the Board of Governors for a vote.

Standing Board Policy 600 (Conflicts of Interest)

General Counsel Paula Frederick presented proposed changes to Standing Board Policy 600 (Conflicts of Interest), which requires that volunteer leaders of the Bar (Volunteers) disclose conflicts in certain situations. The proposed policy would allow Volunteers who disclose a conflict to participate in discussion but would prohibit the Volunteer from voting. If the Volunteer is not willing to disclose the nature of the conflict, he or she would not be allowed to participate in discussions or vote on the issue. After a motion and second, the Executive Committee, by majority vote, approved the proposed changes. This will now go to the Board of Governors for a vote at the Annual Meeting in June.

President's Report

President Elizabeth L. Fite thanked Bar staff for working through the issues surrounding the unauthorized access of the State Bar network and servers. She thanked Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones for her participation and all her years of service, this being her last meeting. She also thanked YLD Immediate Past President Bert Hummel for his service to the YLD as it is his last meeting as well. President Fite thanked everyone for their support of her president's year. She said with the Executive Committee's support and help, they were able to accomplish a lot this year. She reported that Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner and Executive Director Damon Elmore are working on an unallocated cash policy and draft. She reminded those in attendance that many confidential topics are discussed at Executive Committee meetings, and those need to remain in confidence because some may have legal ramifications if they are shared.

Executive Director's Report

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

Executive Director Damon Elmore reported on the recent unauthorized access to the State Bar's servers (Exhibit A). He also presented the closing document for the 2016-2018 State Bar Strategic Plan (Exhibit B). He said ICLE is doing well with programming increasing monthly. There are two new program coordinators, and the ICLE team is focused on long-term planning. The search for a new ICLE director is a top priority.

Treasurer's Report

Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner presented the treasurer's report and the Bar's financials as of March 31, 2022. He reported that everything is in order regarding the finances of the Bar.

Office of the General Counsel Report

General Counsel Paula Frederick reported that although disciplinary investigations were temporarily on hold, everyone had been very understanding of the temporary outage due to the unauthorized access. The litigation report was discussed in the previous executive session. There were no additional updates from the Office of the General Counsel.

Legislative Report

Director of Governmental Affairs Christine Hayes reported on the Bar's legislative affairs.

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

YLD Report

YLD President-Elect Ron Daniels reported on behalf of President Elissa Haynes, who was attending a YLD Leadership Academy meeting in Augusta. He said there will be a new style of Leadership Academy graduation at the Annual Meeting, incorporating a more interactive format. He reported that after two years of not being able to have the YLD Signature Fundraiser, this year's event raised more than \$10,000 for Kate's Club. The Georgia Legal Food Frenzy did not quite meet its goal, but they did raise a significant amount of money for Georgia's food banks. He reported that the 11th Circuit Meeting was a great success. He said the YLD Fall Meeting will be held in Orlando, along with Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida's YLDs.

Lawyer Competency Task Force

President-Elect Sally Akins said that she is waiting for the date for the task force's final meeting after the Annual Meeting.

Committee Updates

The following committee updates were provided:

- Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones reported that the Committee to Promote Include in the Profession will hold their Commitment to Equality Awards on May 19 at the Bar Center. They are also sponsoring a CLE at the Annual Meeting on June 3.
- Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones reported that the Seeking Equal Justice and Addressing Racism and Racial Bias Committee will hold a Courageous Conversation about Critical Race Theory in June, preceded by a meet and greet with SEJ members.
- Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones reported that the Georgia Diversity Program will hold a judicial reception in June for summer associates. They will also hold their High School Pipeline Program in July.

- Executive Committee Member Shiriki Jones reported that the Local and Voluntary Bar Committee has concluded voting on the awards for presentation at the Annual Meeting.
- Executive Committee Member Nicki Vaughan reported Delivery of Legal Services in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic Committee Chair Paul Painter has agreed that the special committee has served its purpose and should be sunset.
- Executive Committee Member Nicki Vaughan reported the Access to Justice Committee, in conjunction with the Judicial Council, held a retreat in Montgomery at the Civil and Human Rights Museum that was very well received.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Announcements

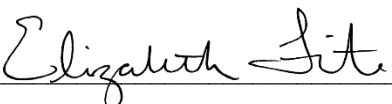
There were no announcements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.


Ivy Cadle, Secretary

Approved:


Elizabeth Sita