

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Friday, February 18, 2022, at 1 p.m.
Zoom 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; Elissa B. Haynes, YLD President; Bert D. Hummel, IV, YLD Immediate Past President; William C. Gentry; R. Javoyne Hicks; Shiriki Jones; David S. Lipscomb; Martin Valbuena; and Nicki N. Vaughan.

Members Absent

All were present.

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 1:02 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Future Meetings Schedule

President Elizabeth L. Fite reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule. She said details for the Tifton Executive Committee meeting on March 11 will be sent in the next few days and if there is anyone in the area they would like to invite to the reception and dinner, to please let her know.

Executive Committee Minutes

Secretary Ivy Cadle presented for approval the minutes of the December 10, 2021, 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: Jane Stebbins-705405, William P. Davis-213370, Frank O. Brown-087475, Amanda Jensen-391221, Matthew Moffitt-289132, Eugene Terk-591547, Ronald McBay-480840, Dennis Bouxsein-070375, James R Wyche-337700, David Harrison-331950, Kelly Kirkland-573590, Michele Merkel-502519, Clay Karwisch-945372, Grace Hanson-595319, Richard Klopper-425216, Armin Naghashzadeh-113145, Carole Cox-192266, Mary F. O'Toole-555316, Lauren Schreeder Sundberg-629845, Christopher Alan Potts-430927, John Walker Chidsey III-124417, Laura D. Duston-948658, James Henry Wynn-779520, Krista Hardwick-836441.

Disability Status

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

Member Status Appeals

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the staff recommendation for Eun A. Park to waive the reinstatement fee, but require her to pay the late fee. The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, denied waiving inactive or late fees for William Davis, but approved removing the dues delinquency status from his status on the Bar's website and instead reflect that he has resigned.

Investment Policy Statement Proposed Changes

Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner presented the Investment Policy Statement proposed changes that were discussed at the previous Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, approved the proposed changes to the policy as presented. The proposed changes will now be considered by the Board of Governors at the 2022 Spring Meeting.

2022-2023 Dues Recommendation to the Board of Governors

President Elizabeth L. Fite presented the 2022-2023 dues recommendation. The motion to submit the following recommendation to the Board of Governors for approval passed by majority vote:

1. Dues at \$260 for active members and \$130 for inactive and provisional members;
2. Section dues to be reflected on the dues statement ranging from \$10-\$40;
3. In accordance with Bar Rule 1-506 regarding the Clients' Security Fund, each member is assessed a fee of \$15. This assessment shall be used only to fund the Clients' Security Fund;
4. Professionalism Fee (\$11) mandated by the Supreme Court;
5. Continuation of a \$100 opt-out contribution for the Legislative and Public Education Fund; and
6. A suggested \$400 opt-in provision for individual contributions (\$100 for younger lawyers) for the Georgia Legal Services Program.

Legislative Proposals

Per Standing Board Policy 100, Legislative Policy and Procedure, the Executive Committee considered a request by the Real Property Law Section to oppose HB 974 so long as it does not allow for mail-in or in-person filing. Rob Brannen presented the Real Law Property Section's request and answered questions from the committee. Following a motion, second, and unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss this request. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee emerged from Executive Session. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, determined that the request is *Keller* compliant and meets the criteria of not being able to go before the Board of Governors due to timing. By majority vote, the Executive Committee voted to not take a formal position on HB 974.

The Georgia Association of Solicitors-General and the District Attorneys Association requested that the State Bar oppose HB 411. Following a motion, second, and unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss this request. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee emerged from Executive Session. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, determined that the request is *Keller* compliant and meets the criteria of not being able to go before the Board of Governors due to timing. A motion and a second to oppose HB 411 failed because it did not receive the required two-thirds vote of approval of the members of the Executive Committee, and no further action was taken.

ACL/Legislative Report

Legislative and Governmental Affairs Director Christine Hayes reported that the Legislature was on Day 16. She said that she and the lobbyist team are continuing to watch the funding proposals for legal services. She also reported there have been a lot of fiduciary and real property bills, and those sections have been very active.

Committee Updates

This item will be held for the March 11 Executive Committee meeting. President Elizabeth L. Fite said to send updates to Chief Operating Officer Sarah Coole if they need to go out prior to the next meeting.

State Bar of Georgia and Related Organizations Flow of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

This item will be held for the March 11 Executive Committee meeting.

Officer and Executive Committee Expense and Reimbursement Policy

This item will be held for the March 11 Executive Committee meeting.

Executive Director's Report

This item will be held for the March 11 Executive Committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tony DelCampo reported that everything is in order regarding the finances of the Bar. He noted a variance in the budget regarding updating space on the second floor to accommodate a current tenant.

Office of the General Counsel Report

General Counsel Paula Frederick reported on a request to file a proposed amicus brief and gave background information regarding the case that was involved. While it was a discussion item and not an official vote, the Executive Committee did not feel like it would be approved. General Counsel Frederick will contact the requesting parties and let them know the outcome of the discussion.

ICLE Update

This item will be held for the March 11 Executive Committee meeting.

YLD Report

YLD President Elissa Haynes reported that the YLD Spring Meeting will be held March 17-20 at the Westin Chattanooga, and there will be a joint networking event with Tennessee Young Lawyers Division. They continue to work on planning for the YLD Signature Fundraiser on April 30, with Kate's Club as the beneficiary. YLD President Haynes said that the Legal Food Frenzy sign-up is now open and encouraged Executive Committee members to register their firms.

Lawyer Competency Task Force

President Elizabeth L. Fite reported that the Lawyer Competency Task Force will host a town hall at the Spring Meeting with task force members present to answer questions (rescheduled from the Midyear Meeting).

President's Report

President Elizabeth Fite congratulated Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones for receiving an honorable mention for the 2022 NCBP President's Page Award for her column, "The Rule of Law: Liberty and Justice for All" appearing in the February 2021 issue of the *Georgia Bar Journal*. President Fite confirmed that Gov. Brian Kemp's appointment of Judge Andrew Pinson to the Supreme Court of Georgia to the seat vacated by Chief Justice David Nahmias ended her judicial race for Judge Pinson's seat on the Court of Appeals of Georgia.

Board of Governors Minutes

The Executive Committee was provided a draft of the 2022 Midyear Meeting Minutes.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Announcements

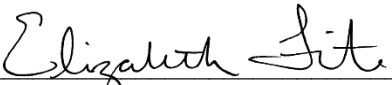
- Executive Committee Member Javoyne Hicks announced she has a new job as senior attorney at Lawrence & Bundy LLC.
- Immediate Past President Dawn M. Jones announced she is receiving Georgia State College of Law's Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award, the college's highest honor.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.


Ivy Cadle, Secretary

Approved:


Elizabeth D. Fite, President