

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**Friday and Saturday, March 15-16, 2019/12:00 p.m.
Callaway Gardens/Pine Mountain, GA**

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; Sally B. Akins; Tony DelCampo; Amy V. Howell; David S. Lipscomb; Frank Strickland; and Nicki Vaughan.

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

President Ken Hodges called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Members of the Executive Committee in attendance are indicated above.

Future Meetings

President Ken Hodges reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

Executive Committee Minutes

By unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on February 20, 2019.

Members Requesting Resignation

Pursuant to State Bar Rule 1-208, the Executive Committee approved the following resignation requests by unanimous voice vote: Emilie K. Petrovich-427630, Tracy Lynn Eggleston-242242.

Members Requesting Disabled Status

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

Proposed Investment Policy

Following a report by Executive Director Jeff Davis on a Statement of Investment Policy from Greystone Consulting, based on the Bar's current investment policy and input from the Investment Committee and Finance Committee Chair Nancy Whaley, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending the proposed Investment Policy (Exhibit A) to the Board of Governors.

Approval of the Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) Guidelines

Following a report by Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved proposed changes to the MLAP Guidelines for Attorneys Providing Legal Assistance to Veterans and Military Service Members (Exhibit B). The proposed changes clarify the eligibility requirement, substantive law case type exclusions, and eligibility to receive reduced fee cases and definition of a pro bono case.

Request for Sponsorship

Following a request by YLD President-elect Will Davis for a \$4,000 sponsorship for the YLD 13th Annual Signature Fundraiser on April 13, 2019, the Executive Committee took the following action:

- 1) By unanimous voice vote, determined that the State Bar's financial sponsorship is Keller-permissible, and
- 2) By unanimous voice vote, determined that the State Bar's participation as a financial sponsor advances the goals of the Bar, and
- 3) By unanimous voice vote, determined that the proposed expenditure has been budgeted and does not exceed 10% of the budgeted amount for sponsorships in any given year, and
- 4) By unanimous voice vote, approved the \$4,000 sponsorship request.

State Bar Employee of the Year Award

General Counsel Paula Frederick discussed the Employee of the Year Award.

Distinguished Service Award

President Ken Hodges discussed the Distinguished Service Award.

President's Report

After President Ken Hodges reported on the format of the joint meeting of the Executive Committee and Supreme Court of Georgia on Saturday morning, March 16, the Executive Committee discussed the topics on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dawn Jones reported on the Bar's finances. Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner reported on the new format for the consolidated revenues and expenditures report to provide clarity between the State Bar Budget and the Bar Center Budget, the definitions of reserves/surplus/restricted and unrestricted funds, a summary of reserves for Bar operations, a summary of reserves for the Bar Center, a summary of reserves information Bar operations only of cash, investments and near cash, reserve information for the Bar Center fixed assets, and summary of reserve information for Bar, Bar Center and Litigation. Treasurer Dawn Jones reported that Chief Financial Officer Ron Turner presented the same report to the Finance Committee at its March 12 meeting, and at its April 17 meeting the Finance Committee will recommend the 2019-2020 State Bar and Bar Center budgets.

The Executive Committee received copies of the Consolidated (Operational and Bar Center) Revenues and Expenditures Report as of January 31, 2019; Income Statement YTD-Operations for the Seven Months Ended January 31, 2019; Bar Center Revenues and Expenditures Report for the Seven Months Ended January 31, 2019; Summary of Dues and Voluntary Contributions at January 31, 2019; Legislative Fund and Cornerstones of Freedom Fund Activity Reports through January 31, 2019; and an Investment Performance Comparison 2005-2019.

YLD Report

YLD President Rizza O'Connor reported on the activities of the YLD. She thanked the Executive Committee for its financial contribution to the Annual Signature Fundraiser, which will benefit The Lawyers For Equal Justice incubator program. The event will feature *A Decades Theme Night*. The YLD Spring Meeting will take place April 25-29 in Washington D.C. Activities include a U.S. Supreme Court Swearing-in Ceremony and an audience with U.S. Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Brett

Kavanaugh. Lastly, Rizza announced that the Georgia Build a Better Day statewide community service project will take place on May 4, and the Legal Food Frenzy begins on April 22.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Jeff Davis provided no additional report other than matters previously reported in this meeting.

ACL/Legislative Report

Director of Governmental Affairs Christine Butcher Hayes reported that the two of the Bar's bills (H.B. 70 and S.B. 190) managed to crossover by the March 7 deadline. There are only seven legislative days left in the session. Christine also reported that there are two competing bills pertaining to the statewide business court.

President Ken Hodges reported that Christine has done a good job coordinating the dinners with the Judiciary Committees and it is important for the Executive committee to have the interaction with those legislators. Christine announced that the dinner with the Judiciary (Non-Civil) Committee will take place on March 20.

Office of General Counsel Report

General Counsel Paula Frederick reported that she will have a comprehensive written report in the Spring Board of Governors agenda.

Civics Committee

The Executive Committee received a copy of the iCivics Newsletter outlining the activities of the iCivics Committee.

Old Business

General Counsel Paula Frederick reported that she and Tony DelCampo have been looking at the issue of adding demographic information to the dues statement.

New Business

Following a report by Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, reinstated an individual who failed to join the Bar by the allotted time after being sworn-in after the individual provided a background check and paid back dues.

Deputy General Counsel Bill NeSmith reported on a Bar member, who opted out of CloudLawyers, and who does not want either his city or state identified in his Membership record. The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, denied the request.

Adjournment

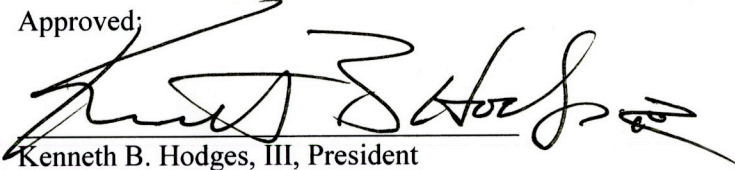
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Executive Committee/Supreme Court Joint Meeting

The Executive Committee and Justices of the Supreme Court of Georgia conducted a joint meeting on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss pending issues and developments affecting the administration of justice and the regulation of the legal profession. Those present for the meeting from the Supreme Court of Georgia were Chief Justice Harold Melton, Presiding Justice David Nahmias, Justice Keith Blackwell, Justice Nels Peterson, Justice Sarah Hawkins Warren, Justice Charles J. Bethel, and Justice John J. Ellington. Members absent from the court were Justice Robert Benham and Justice Michael P. Boggs. Executive Committee members present were President Ken Hodges, III, President-elect Darrell Sutton, Secretary Elizabeth Fite, Treasurer Dawn Jones, Immediate Past President Buck Rogers, YLD

President Rizza O'Connor, YLD President-elect William T. Davis, YLD Immediate Past President Nicole Leet, Sally B. Akins, Tony DelCampo, David S. Lipscomb, Frank Strickland, and Nicki Vaughan. Members absent from the Executive Committee were Amy Howell. State Bar staff in attendance were Sharon Bryant, Sarah Coole, Jeff Davis, Christine Butcher Hayes, Paula Frederick, Bill NeSmith, and Ron Turner.


Elizabeth D. Fite, Secretary

Approved:

Kenneth B. Hodges, III, President