

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, May 10, 2012
State Bar Building/Atlanta, GA**

Members Present:

Kenneth L. Shigley, President; S. Lester Tate, III, Immediate Past President; Jonathan B. Pannell, YLD President-elect (by phone); Michael G. Geoffroy, YLD Immediate Past President; Phyllis J. Holmen; Robert J. Kauffman; David S. Lipscomb; Brian D. Rogers; Rita A. Sheffey; and N. Harvey Weitz (by phone).

Members Absent:

Robin Frazer Clark, President-elect; Charles L. Ruffin, Treasurer; Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Secretary; and Stephanie J. Kirijan, YLD President.

Staff Participating:

Cliff Brashier, Executive Director; Sharon L. Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; and Bob McCormack, Deputy General Counsel.

Consent Agenda

President Shigley presented the Consent Agenda. After a request that the Approval of Members' Requests be removed from it, and there being no objections to any of the other items remaining on it, a motion was made and seconded to approve the remaining items:

- 1) Previous Executive Committee Minutes of April 19, 2012
- 2) Future Meetings Schedule (Current Version)
- 3) Approval of Members' Requests

The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved items 1) and 2) on the Consent Agenda.

Members' Requests

- 1) Waiver of Fitness Requirement for Reinstatement Appeal – Carol Chandler
Following a report by Harvey Weitz, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the appeal.
- 2) Military Waiver of Dues Appeal – Kevin R. Sanchez
Following a report by President Shigley, the Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, denied the appeal.
- 3) Waiver of Fitness Requirement for Late Enrollment Appeal – Phinna S. Gardner
Following a report by YLD Immediate Past President Michael Geoffroy, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved the appeal provided that she is a member in good standing with the Maryland and New York Bar Associations. If she is not a member in good standing with either of those bar associations, then her appeal is denied.

- 4) Late Fee Waiver Appeal – Andrea Spear
Following a report by YLD Immediate Past President Geoffroy, the Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, denied the appeal.
- 5) Resignation Requests
The two resignation requests (Poe and Naude) were previously approved at the April 19, 2012 Executive Committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Laine provided a report on the State Bar's finances and investments. The Executive Committee received the Income Statement by Department for the nine months ended March 31, 2012.

11th Circuit Judicial Conference Sponsorship Request

Following a request by Past President Gerald M. Edenfield, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a \$10,000 sponsorship request for the 11th Circuit Judicial Conference.

Executive Session

Upon motion and second, the Executive Committee voted to meet in Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation matters. A motion was made and seconded to leave Executive Session.

2012-13 Budget Recommendation

Cliff Brashier provided a report on the proposed 2012-2013 (3rd Draft) State Bar Budget approved by the Finance Committee. The State Bar Budget includes \$170,000 for the replacement of the Bar's 12-year-old phone system. The Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Board of Governors at the 2012 Annual Meeting 1) the proposed 2012-2013 State Bar Budget (Exhibit A), and 2) the proposed 2012-13 Bar Center Budget (Exhibit B).

President's Report

President Shigley congratulated the incoming 2012-13 slate of State Bar Officers.

President Shigley reported that while the metro Superior Court Clerks have been eager to move to e-filing, and planned to roll out the beta version e-filing system at the Annual Meeting and to install a beta site in one suburban county during the summer, those efforts have been blocked once again by two individuals at the Council of Superior Court Clerks Authority perpetuating an old turf battle. He anticipates that the Supreme Court of Georgia may appoint an e-filing steering committee in the near future.

President Shigley thanked the Executive Committee for its help and support to him this Bar year.

Future Financials

President Shigley suggested that it is time to address the pressing need for judicial pay increases and that the Bar consider commissioning an economist's study on the declining impact of judicial salaries in Georgia.

Phyllis Holmen reported that funding for GLSP in the last decade has either held steady or has fallen. GLSP's largest single provider of funding is the Legal Services Corporation. Its next biggest funding source comes from IOLTA funds. While there are other, smaller sources of funding (Older Americans Act, Domestic Violence Funding, United Way, etc.) those sources are not steady year-to-year. The 2012 GLSP budget is \$11.5 million and supports 60 lawyers. She announced that GLSP is asking the

Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency for an increase of \$2 for each CLE credit hour, the proceeds of which would support the activities of the GLSP.

The Executive Committee will discuss GLSP funding and Bar financial issues in a more strategic fashion at the next Executive Committee Retreat.

State Bar Elections Results

Rita Sheffey provided a report on the 2012 State Bar Elections, and the Executive Committee received a copy of the election results.

YLD Report

YLD President Stephanie Kirijan was unable to attend this meeting due to the YLD Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C. YLD Immediate Past President Geoffroy thanked everyone who attended the YLD Presidents Boardroom dedication on May 3, 2012. He reported that the results of the Legal Food Frenzy, which wrapped up on May 4, are being collected, and thanked Attorney General Sam Olens for bringing the program to Georgia. The Grady High School team placed second in the National High School Mock Trial Championship. The YLD Litigation Committee held the second part of its annual three-part "War Stories" Speaker Series luncheon on April 25, 2012, featuring Supreme Court Justice David Nahmias. He thanked everyone for their support and mentorship during his time on the Executive Committee.

Office of General Counsel

There was no report from the Office of General Counsel.

Committee Updates

There were no committee updates.

Georgia Diversity Program

The Executive Committee received information on Henderson Johnson, a GDP High School Pipeline Program student participant, who won a Bill Gates Scholarship. He is one of 1,000 students who was chosen from 24,000 applicants to have his entire education funded through graduate school.

Atlanta Bar's Lawyer Image Makeover

The Executive Committee received a copy of an *Atlanta Business Chronicle* article on the Atlanta Bar's initiative to improve attitudes toward lawyers that will include promoting lawyers' positive contributions to their communities and practice consumer tips on how to choose a lawyer.

Legislation

The Executive Committee received information on a request from W. Hansell Harris, Jr., to repeal O.C.G.A. §9-10-13, "Vouchment."

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment and Luncheon with the United States District Court – Northern District Judges

There being no further business, the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Luncheon with the Judges of United States District Court - Northern District

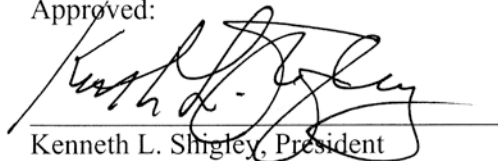
The Executive Committee held a luncheon meeting with the Judges of the United States District Court for the Northern District.



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Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, Secretary

Approved:



Handwritten signature of Kenneth L. Shigley in cursive script.

Kenneth L. Shigley, President