The 248th meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held at the date and location shown above. Charles L. Ruffin, President, presided.

**Special Recognition**
President Ruffin recognized the Past Presidents of the State Bar, members of the judiciary and other special guests in attendance, and the new Officers and members of the Board of Governors.

**Roll Call**
Secretary Rita A. Sheffey circulated the attached roll (Exhibit A) for signature.

**Future Meetings Schedule**
The Board of Governors received a copy of the Future Meetings Schedule.

**Consent Agenda**
President Ruffin presented the Consent Agenda. There being no objection or request for removal of any of the items, a motion was made and seconded to approve the following items:

1) **Approval of President’s Appointments to the State Disciplinary Boards**
   Investigative Panel:
   - District 8: Donald W. Huskins (2016)
   - District 9: Ramon Alvarado (2016)
   - District 10: Larry I. Smith (2016)
   At-Large: Dan Reinhardt (2016)

   Review Panel:
   - Northern District: Brad Marsh (2016)
   - Middle District: Rusty Simpson (2016)
   - Southern District: Sarah Brown Akins (2016)

   Formal Advisory Opinion Board:
   - Georgia Defense Lawyers Assoc.: Evelyn Fletcher Davis (2015)
   - Young Lawyers Division: Christopher R. Abrego (2015)
   - University of Georgia: Lonnie Brown, Jr. (2015)
     Travis Sakrison (2015)
     Jeffrey Schneider (fills unexpired term of Ed Carriere) (2014)

2) **Approval of 2013-14 Standing, Special, Program Committees and Boards**
Copies were distributed at the meeting.
3) **Executive Director Election (2013-14)**
   Cliff Brashier

4) **Georgia Legal Services Appointments**
   Appointments of Damon Elmore; Albert Reichart, Jr.; and Jill Pryor for two-year terms (6/13-6/15).

5) **Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism Appointment**
   Reappointment of Jennifer Davis for a three-year term (7/13-6/16).

6) **2013-14 State Bar Election Schedule**

7) **Authorization for President to Secure Blanket Bonds for Officers and Staff**
   As required by Article V, Section 8 of the Bylaws, to authorize the President to secure blanket fidelity bonds for the Bar’s Officers and staff handling State Bar funds.

8) **Designation of Depositories for General Operations of State Bar of Georgia**
   Pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the Bylaws, to direct the State Bar and related entities to open appropriate accounts with such banks in Atlanta, Georgia, but excluding any banks that do not participate in the IOLTA Program, and other such depositories as may be recommended by the Finance Committee and designated by the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia, said depository currently being Merrill Lynch, and that the persons whose titles are listed below are authorized to sign an agreement to be provided by such banks and customary signature cards, and that the said banks are hereby authorized to pay or otherwise honor any check drafts, or other orders issued from time to time for debit to said accounts when signed by two of the following: Treasurer, Secretary, President, Immediate Past President, President-elect, Executive Director, General Counsel, and Officer Manager provided either the President, Secretary, or Treasurer shall sign all checks or vouchers, and that said accounts can be reconciled from time to time by said persons or their designees. The authority herein given is to remain irrevocable so as said banks are concerned until they are notified in writing, acknowledge receipt thereof.

9) **Employment of Independent Auditing Firm to Audit Financial Records of State Bar for FY 2012**
   Pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the Bylaws, to designate that Cherry Bekaert & Holland be designated as the independent auditing firm to audit the financial records of the State Bar for the fiscal year 2011-2012.

10) **Executive Committee Minutes**
    The minutes of the February 21, 2013, and April 26, 2013, Executive Committee Minutes, as presented.

The Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved all of the above items on the Consent Agenda.

**Report of the President**
President Ruffin addressed the Board of Governors and presented an overview of his proposed program of activities for the 2013-2014 Bar year (Exhibit B).
Executive Committee Election
The Executive Committee election was held with the following results:

Election 1:
Nominations:  
Candidate:  John Flanders Kennedy
Nominator:  Thomas W. Herman
Seconded:  Catherine Koura

Candidate:  Kenneth B. Hodges, III
Nominator:  S. Lester Tate, III
Seconded:  Hon. Lawton E. Stephens

Candidate:  Eric Alvin Ballinger
Nominator:  Martin Enrique Valbuena
Seconded:  Lester B. Johnson, III

Elected by majority ballot vote (to fill the unexpired term of Rita A. Sheffey) for a one-year term

Election 2:
Nominations:
Candidate:  Eric Alvin Ballinger
Nominator:  Martin Enrique Valbuena
Seconded:  Lester B. Johnson, III

Candidate:  David S. Lipscomb
Nominator:  N. Harvey Weitz
Seconded:  Nancy J. Whaley

Candidate:  Brian D. Rogers
Nominator:  Stephanie J. Kirijan
Seconded:  H. Craig Stafford

Candidate:  John Flanders Kennedy
Nominator:  Thomas W. Herman
Seconded:  Catherine Koura

Candidate:  Elizabeth Louise Fite
Nominator:  Elena Kaplan
Seconded:  R. Chris Phelps

Elected by majority ballot vote for a two-year term

Suicide Prevention Video
Immediate Past President Robin Clark presented the Suicide Prevention and Awareness video. She also announced that several PSA’s have been developed in conjunction with this effort to educate Bar members, their families, and business associates how to recognize the symptoms of suicide and where to seek help.

Treasurer’s Report and 2013-2014 State Bar Budget with Board Restrictions
Treasurer Bob Kauffman, after recognizing the hard work done last year by former Treasurer Patrise Perkins-Hooker, provided a report on the Bar’s finances and investments. Following that, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved the proposed 2013-2014 State Bar Operating and Bar Center Budgets as presented (Exhibit C).
The Board of Governors received a copy of the Revenue and Expenditures, Income Statement YTD, Balance Sheet, and Bar Center Revenue and Expenditures for the ten months ended April 30, 2013.

Rule 4-228, Receiverships
Following a report by Paula Frederick, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia proposed amendments (Exhibit D) to Rule 4-228, Receiverships. The proposed amendments will be published for members’ comments before being forwarded to the Court.

Rule 7.3, Advertising Rule Amendments
Following a report by Paula Frederick, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending to the Supreme Court of Georgia proposed amendments (Exhibit E) to Rule 7.3, Advertising Rules. The proposed amendments will be published for members’ comments before being forwarded to the Court.

Next Generation Courts Commission
Following a report by Judge Lawton Stephens, the Board of Governors, by unanimous voice vote, approved the recommendations (Exhibit F) of the Next Generation Courts Commission as outlined in its Executive Summary. The Commission heard from a variety of respondents about issues currently facing the courts, and looked at trends likely to affect the courts in the next ten to fifteen years. The Commission will next develop a long-term strategy and proposed action plan based on the recommendations.

YLD Report
YLD President Darrell Sutton addressed the Board of Governors and presented an overview of his proposed program of activities for the 2013-2014 Bar year. He thanked former YLD President Jon Pannell for all of his accomplishments as President. This year will be characterized by service to the YLD members around the state who have been impacted by the downturn in the economy. He will be taking the YLD on the road to meet with and visit all of the 12 local YLD affiliates around the state. He will be reaching out to the law schools to start a fellows program wherein a 3L from each of Georgia’s law schools will be named a fellow and serve on the YLD Executive Council. He will continue to strengthen the Bar’s legislative program, and has invited State Bar legislative consultant Jim Collins and grassroots coordinator Zack Johnson to attend each YLD meeting to inform young lawyers about the legislative process and encourage them to run for office. Lastly, he will continue with and seek permanent funding for the YLD Public Interest Internship Program. The Board of Governors also received a written report on the YLD Committees, Programs and Projects.

2014 Legislation Preview
Rusty Sewell provided a recap of the Bar’s 2012-13 legislative program and a preview of the 2014 legislative session. President Ruffin recognized the Bar’s legislative consultants and thanked them for their work during this year’s legislative session: Rusty Sewell, Jim Collins, Meredith Weaver, Roy Robinson, and grass roots coordinator Zach Johnson.

ABA
Paula Frederick announced that the ABA House of Delegates will be meeting in August and that she will be providing Board members with copies of the proposals the Delegates will be considering at that meeting.

Office of General Counsel
The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Office of General Counsel.
Fee Arbitration Program
The Board of Governors received a written annual report on the activities of the Fee Arbitration Program.

Law Practice Management Program
The Board of Governors received a written annual report on the activities of the Fee Arbitration Program.

Military Legal Assistance Program
The Board of Governors received a written report on the Status of the Military Legal Assistance Program.

Professionalism Committee
The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Committee on Professionalism.

Unlicensed Practice of Law Program
The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Unlicensed Practice of Law Program.

Transition into Law Practice Program
The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Transition into Law Practice Program.

Real Estate Task Force
The Board of Governors received a written report on the activities of the Real Estate Task Force.

Section Annual Reports

Old Business
There was no old business.

New Business
There was no new business.

Remarks, Questions/Answers, Comments and Suggestions
The President opened up the meeting for questions and comments.

Adjournment
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

Rita A. Sheffey, Secretary

Charles L. Ruffin, President