

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 19, 2014
State Bar Building/Atlanta, GA**

Members Present:

Charles L. Ruffin, President; Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President-elect; Robert J. Kauffman, Treasurer; Rita A. Sheffey, Secretary; Robin Frazer Clark, Immediate Past President; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD President; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President-elect; Jonathan B. Pannell, YLD Immediate Past President (by phone) ; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Kenneth B. Hodges, III (by phone); Phyllis Holmen (by phone); David S. Lipscomb; Patrick T. O'Connor (via video conference); and Brian D. Rogers (by phone).

Staff Present:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Bob McCormack, Bar Counsel; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer, and Thomas Worthy, Governmental Affairs Director.

Retiring Executive Committee Members

President Buck Ruffin recognized two outgoing Executive Committee members, Immediate Past President Robin Frazer Clark and YLD Immediate Past President Jonathan B. Pannell, and thanked them for their service.

Consent Agenda

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

- a) Minutes of April 16 and April 24, 2014 Executive Committee Meetings
- b) Approval of Member's Request:
 - 1) Stacie Guthrie (approve resignation with no dues deficiency subject to doctor's confirmation of health condition)
 - 2) J. Wayne Crosby (approve waiver of Fitness but require payment of all fees)
- c) Members Requesting Resignation (approve): Mark W. Nickerson (544050); James Kraska (419129); Thomas F. Borchert (068312); Stephen Logue (456274); Tony B. Griffin (311450); Deborah B. DePalo (218830); Mary Bauer (142213); Williams A. Aileo (005950); Howard B. Slocumb (652790); Rita Jo Kummer (429979); Chris R. Johnson (392931); Donald Harold Nichols (450212)
- d) Members Requesting Disability (approve): David A. Clark (126650); Patrick F. Gomes (300520)

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

Disciplinary Rules & Procedures Committee

Paula Frederick reported on proposed rules changes recommended by the Disciplinary Rules & Procedures Committee, most of which are housekeeping in nature, to Bar Rules 4-110 and 4-204.1, Rule 4-111, Rules 4-217 and 4-219, Rule 1.6, Rule 4-208.3, Rule 4-213, and Rule 7.3. The Executive Committee, by majority voice vote, recommended the proposed changes to the Supreme Court of Georgia

for Bar Rules 4-110, 4-204.1, 4-111, 4-217, 4-219, 1.6, and 4-208.3 (Exhibit A). Rules 4-213 and 7.3 will be studied further.

Executive Session

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, with President-elect Patrise Perkins-Hooker abstaining, met in Executive Session to discuss the State Bar's 2014-15 legislative representation. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, moved out of Executive Session.

Review Panel Matter

Paula Frederick informed the Executive Committee that the Supreme Court had issued an order of Review Panel reprimand in a disciplinary matter involving an interesting social media issue.

YLD Leadership Academy

YLD President Darrell Sutton complimented Jenny Mittleman of the Office of General Counsel and Nicole Iannarone, on behalf of the Atlanta Bar Reputation and Public Trust Committee, who presented the Ethics and Professionalism program for the YLD Leadership Academy in Charlotte last week. The focus of much of the program was social media.

Real Property Law Institute

President-elect Perkins-Hooker and Paula Frederick reported on their attendance at the recent Real Property Law Institute program.

Executive Committee Session

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, met in Executive Session to discuss the State Bar's parking needs. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, moved out of Executive Session.

Spring Street Viaduct Project

Sharon Bryant reported that Phase 1 of the Spring Street Viaduct Project is expected to begin on September 1, 2014, at which time Spring Street will be closed from Marietta Street to Alabama Street. Phase 1 is expected to take one year to complete. During that phase, the Spring Street entrance to the State Bar's parking deck will be closed and the only entrance to the deck will be from Marietta Street. The State Bar's bays on Lower Wall Street will remain accessible.

Presidents Report

President Ruffin announced he had nothing new to report.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bob Kauffman provided a report on the Bar's finances and investments. The Executive Committee received copies of the combined Operations and Bar Center Consolidated Revenue and Expenditures Report as of March 31, 2014, the Operations Only and Bar Center Only Revenues and Expenditures Report as of March 31, 2014, the Summary of Selected Payment Information for the Periods of March 31, 2012-2014, and the Balance Sheet for March 31, 2014.

Elections

The Executive Committee received a copy of the 2014 Election Final Vote Summary – May 5, 2014. There was one request for a recount in a contested race, but the request was withdrawn.

Legal Zoom Article

The Executive Committee received an *ABA Journal* article about a settlement agreement between LegalZoom and the South Carolina Supreme Court wherein the Court agreed that LegalZoom's self-help documents do not provide legal advice and the company does not provide legal services to customers in creating the document, and thus do not engage in the unauthorized practice of law.

Walmart Article

The Executive Committee received an *ABA Journal* article announcing that Walmart stores in the Toronto area can consult with lawyers who offices are conveniently located on site. The retail sites will offer services in real estate law and powers of attorney, and uncontested divorces will be added in the fall.

Old Business

Following a report by Pat O'Connor on a \$20,000 premier sponsorship request by UGA Press for a new book on *Courthouse in Georgia*, the Executive Committee, by a hand vote of 5 in favor to 4 opposed, approved the sponsorship. The sponsorship may be paid this Bar year or next.

New Business

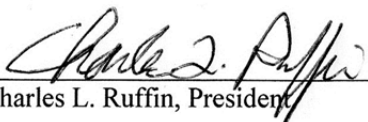
President Ruffin thanked each member of the Executive Committee and presented them with a token of appreciation.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned.


Rita A. Sheffey, Secretary

Approved:


Charles L. Ruffin, President