

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
June 7, 2014  
Omni Amelia Island Resort/Amelia Island, GA**

Members Present:

Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, President; Robert J. Kauffman, President-elect; Rita A. Sheffey, Treasurer; Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD President; John R.B. Long, YLD President-elect; Darrell L. Sutton, YLD Immediate Past President; Elizabeth Louise Fite (by phone); Kenneth B. Hodges, III; Phyllis Holmen; David S. Lipscomb; Brian D. Rogers and Nicki Vaughan.

Members Absent:

Charles L. Ruffin, Immediate Past President.

Staff Present:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer, and Bob McCormack, Bar Counsel.

Consent Agenda

President Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker presented the Consent Agenda. There being no objection or request for removal of the item, a motion was made and seconded to approve the following item on the Consent Agenda:

- a) Minutes of the May 19, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting

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

Participation in the State Bar/Georgia Law Schools Incubator Program

Bucky Askew and Dean Steve Kaminshine, Georgia State University School of Law, presented information on a proposed State Bar/Georgia Law Schools Incubator Program. The incubator program would be a post-graduate program designed to train and support recent law school graduates from Georgia's law schools who wish to engage in solo practice and provide services to under-represented communities. The plan is still in the developmental stages but funding would be sought from each of the Georgia law schools, the State Bar and the Atlanta Bar Association for this project.

Personnel Committee Recommendation for Insurance Coverage Eligibility Changes

Following a report by President Perkins-Hooker, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved Personnel Committee recommendations for changes in insurance cover eligibility (Exhibit A) for Bar staff.

Officers' Allowance Accounts Policy and Procedures

Following a report by President Perkins-Hooker, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved a proposed Utilization of Officer Allowance Accounts, as amended (Exhibit B), for the Bar Officers. In the meantime, Paula Frederick will meet with the YLD Officers to determine if any special provisions need to be added to the policy to meet their needs when serving in office.

### Proposed Amendments to Bylaw Article V - Officers

Following a report by President Perkins-Hooker on proposed amendments, as revised (Exhibit C), to Bylaw Article V concerning the installation, swearing-in, and the setting of the inaugural agenda at the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee, by unanimous voice vote, approved recommending the proposed amendments to the Board of Governors.

### President's Report and Discussion on Programmatic Plans for 2014-15

President Perkins-Hooker reported on her program of activities for the 2014-15 Bar year. She is working with YLD President Sharri Edenfield on an iCivics program that is a program developed by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to help social studies teachers throughout the country address the void created by the elimination of civics instruction in high schools. There will be pilot programs implemented in the Atlanta Public Schools, Decatur, Tifton, and hopefully Savannah. A resource lawyer will be on hand to serve as support to each teacher and reinforce the concepts presented through the computer-based iCivics curriculum. The program will be funded through the Cornerstones of Freedom budget, and will cover, among other things, the training expenses for the teachers in the schools implementing the program.

President Perkins-Hooker plans to fully support the Georgia Legal Services Program, Atlanta Legal Aid and other legal service agencies which are trying to fill the needs of the underserved. She will be working with the Access to Justice Committee and the Civil Legal Services Task Force to look at options and develop solutions to this problem. Lawyers will be asked to donate and raise funds for the institutions helping meet the needs of indigent citizens, and to provide hours of pro bono legal services personally and in their firms. She will implement a plan to ensure that there is a lawyer in every county in Georgia through a program similar to the placement of doctors in underserved areas that will be funded through debt-relief and community-based programs. Additionally, a State Bar/Georgia Law Schools Incubator Program is being developed. She has spoken with Chief Justice Hugh Thompson about these plans and has the Court's full support.

President Perkins-Hooker is appointing a task force to study and recommend the appropriate level of Bar reserves. Nancy Whaley, Chair of the Finance Committee, President-elect Bob Kauffman, and other lawyers with accounting, investment and financial expertise will be selected to serve on the task force.

President Perkins-Hooker announced that President-elect Bob Kauffman will chair the Real Estate Task Force this year and will provide an update on it at a future meeting.

### GLSP – 2014 Hodson Award for Public Service from the ABA

The Executive Committee received information on the ABA Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division awarding the Georgia Legal Services Program the 2014 Hodson Award for Public Service for providing an outstanding example of public service.

### Georgia Bar Examination – February 2014 – General Statistics Summary

The Executive Committee received a copy of the results of the February 2014 Georgia Bar Examination.

### Old Business

Bob McCormack reported that the brief and motion on IOLTA rate comparability was filed with the Supreme Court of Georgia on Wednesday. He also announced that he is retiring from the State Bar in late August or early September.

Phyllis Holmen referred the Executive Committee members to the map in their agenda materials that indicates the six counties in Georgia without lawyers. President Perkins-Hooker plans to meet with the local bars and county leaders in those circuits to discuss how the State Bar can assist with getting

attorneys in those areas. She thanked Bob McCormack and Paula Frederick for all of their work in support of the Civil Legal Services Task Force.

New Business

There was no new business.

Executive Session

Following a motion and second, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Thereafter, by unanimous voice vote, the Executive Committee moved out of Executive Session.

Adjournment

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



Patrick T. O'Connor, Secretary

Approved:

  
Patrie M. Perkins-Hooker, President