

**BYLAWS OF THE
JUDICIAL SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE**

SECTION 1. This organization shall be known as the Judicial Section of the State Bar of Michigan. The Section is comprised of three divisions: one consisting of the judges of Circuit Court, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court; one consisting of judges of the Probate Court; and one consisting of the judges of the District Court and municipal courts.

SECTION 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to join all judges of courts of record into one group to improve the efficient administration of justice in the various courts of this State and to further the relationship between the Bench and the State Bar.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. All judges of courts of records in this State, who are active members of the State Bar, shall automatically become members of the Judicial Section.

SECTION 2. Any judge desiring to withdraw from membership in the Section may do so by request in writing to the Secretary.

SECTION 3. All former judges of courts of record in this State who are members of the State Bar shall be included as life members upon written request made to the Secretary. Life members shall not have the right to vote.

SECTION 4. Members of the Section shall not be required to pay dues. The Section shall be funded by appropriation authorized by the Board of Commissioners from the funds of the State Bar of Michigan.

**ARTICLE III
JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

SECTION 1. There shall be a Judicial Council of this Section consisting of 27 members, nine from each division.

SECTION 2. All Judicial Council members shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in accordance with Rules and Regulations adopted by this Section and

shall serve three-year terms to commence on October 1 following such Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IV ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. At the Annual Meeting of the Judicial Section, the newly elected Judicial Council shall, by call of the President, meet for the purpose of election of officers. The Judicial Council shall, by a majority vote of those members present, elect a Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer from among the members of the Judicial Council. Each officer serves for a one-year term of office beginning October 1 following the election.

SECTION 2. There shall be three Nominating Committees, one for each division. The Nominating Committees shall consist of three Judicial Council members selected by the Chairperson for each division.

SECTION 3. Vacancies in the executive leadership shall be filled by succession to office in rotation (Circuit et al, District, Probate), with election of a Vice Chairperson by the Judicial Council from the membership of the appropriate bench. Vacancies in the offices of Secretary and Treasurer shall be filled by election of the Judicial Council.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. CHAIRPERSON. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Judicial Council of the Judicial Section. The Chairperson shall formulate and present at each Annual Meeting of the Section a report of the work of the Section for the past year; shall perform such other duties and acts as usually pertain to that office; shall have the power to appoint and remove the chairperson and members of all committees of the Section who are to hold office during that term and shall remove any chairperson or member of any committee when directed to do so by the Judicial Council; shall plan and superintend the programs of the Section at Annual Meetings during that term, subject to the direction and approval of the Judicial Council; and shall perform such other duties and acts as may be assigned by the Judicial Council.

SECTION 2. CHAIRPERSON-ELECT. The Chairperson-Elect shall aid and assist the Chairperson in the performance of his or her responsibilities in such manner and to such an extent as the Chairperson may request. Upon the death, resignation or during the disability or absence of the Chairperson, the Chairperson-Elect shall perform the duties of the Chairperson.

SECTION 3. VICE CHAIRPERSON. The Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson and Chairperson-Elect in the event

of their absence or inability to act and shall further be responsible for maintaining close and direct contact with the members of the Section.

SECTION 4. SECRETARY. The Secretary shall be custodian of all papers, documents and other property of the Section except money and financial records, and shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Section and the Judicial Council; shall prepare summaries or digests as directed by the Judicial Council; and shall preside at meetings of the Judicial Council in the absence of the Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect and Vice Chairperson.

SECTION 5. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall keep a true record of all money received and disbursed and report thereon to the Judicial Council whenever requested; shall submit a financial report for presentation to the members of the Section at the Annual Meeting; and shall prepare the budget request for submission to the Treasurer of the Board of Commissioners.

ARTICLE VI DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The Judicial Council shall have the general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section, subject to the Michigan Court Rules, Code of Judicial Conduct, the Bylaws and resolutions adopted by the Judicial Council and the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan.

SECTION 2. The Chairperson shall appoint such standing committee members as the Chairperson and the Judicial Council shall authorize from among the membership of the Council.

SECTION 3. The Judicial Council may request the Chairperson of each of the Section's committees to present to the Judicial Council, prior to the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan, a complete report of each committee's activities as these activities pertain to this Section. The Judicial Council may request to be advised throughout the year of the activities of the various committees of this Section.

SECTION 4. Ten of the members of the Judicial Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the event that less than ten members of the Judicial Council attend a meeting, those present shall have the right to adjourn the meeting to a later time, and if quorum is present at the adjourned time, the Judicial Council may proceed with action at such time without further call or notice.

SECTION 5. The Judicial Council's action shall be by majority vote of those present.

SECTION 6. The Judicial Council shall designate the time and place of its regular meetings. Special meetings shall be called by the Chairperson or upon written request to the Secretary of any five (5) members of the Judicial Council. Seven (7) days notice of special meetings shall be given.

ARTICLE VII ANNUAL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Annual Meeting of this Section, unless otherwise ordered by the Judicial Council, shall be held during the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan in the same city or place as such Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan, with such program and order of business as may be arranged by the Judicial Council.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of the Section may be called by the Chairperson upon approval of the Judicial Council at such time and place as the Judicial Council may determine.

SECTION 3. Those attending any regularly called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VIII MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Council from each division. Any proposed amendments shall be in writing and submitted, in hard copy or electronic form to the Judicial Council in the form of a petition signed, or affirmed electronically, by at least ten (10) members of this - Section at least sixty (60) days before the Council or Annual Meeting at which it is to be voted on. The Judicial Council shall consider the proposed amendment and shall prepare the recommendations thereon, which recommendations together with a complete and accurate text of said proposed amendments shall be published in written communication as to all Section members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.

Any amendment of the Section's Bylaws is subject to approval of the Board of Commissioners.

SECTION 2. No position may be taken by the Judicial Council or the Section unless agreed to by the majority of the voting members present from each division.

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