

**BYLAWS OF THE
LAW STUDENT SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

SECTION 1.00. NAME. This organization shall be known as the "State Bar of Michigan Law Student Section."

SECTION 2.00. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Law Student Section (Section) shall be to promote and encourage active participation by law students in the program and activities of the State Bar of Michigan, to promote communication both among law students, and between law students and the active members of the State Bar of Michigan, to render public service, and to advance the legal profession.

SECTION 3.00. MEMBERSHIP. Every student while in good standing at a Michigan law school approved by the State Board of Law Examiners, or a resident of the State of Michigan while in good standing at an American Bar Association-approved law school outside Michigan may become a member of the Law Student Section upon filing an application stating his/her eligibility and paying the annual dues to the State Bar of Michigan. A member of the Section may continue his or her membership after graduation from law school, as long as dues are paid, until the date when the results of the first Michigan Bar examination offered after the member's graduation are released. A membership may not be renewed after that date, but may continue until the end of the period for which dues have been paid, or until the member is licensed to practice law, whichever occurs first. Membership shall not be denied on the basis of age, color, disabled status, gender, height, marital status, national origin, political persuasion, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, or weight.

SECTION 3.10. TERMINATION. Section membership shall terminate automatically if a member ceases to possess the above membership qualifications.

SECTION 3.20. GRADUATION. Governing Council members who graduate prior to expiration of their terms of office shall be permitted to serve the balance of their terms.

SECTION 4.00. GOVERNING COUNCIL.

SECTION 4.10. PURPOSE. There shall be a Law Student Section Governing Council (Council) which shall formulate Section policy, advise and aid the Chairperson in any matters which may arise, and perform other acts as provided in the bylaws.

SECTION 4.20. MEMBERSHIP. The Council shall be composed of three elected members, plus, optionally, 1 to 3 alternates, from each qualifying Michigan law school, to include University of Toledo, in addition to the Section Chairperson. One elected member from each school must be eligible to fill the Chairperson-Elect position as set forth in 5.00 OFFICERS below.

SECTION 4.30. ELECTIONS

SECTION 4.31. An election for the Council and Section officers shall take place each spring. A secret ballot may be requested by any voting member of the Council. The

Chairperson-Elect is responsible for seeing that the election takes place in conformity with the bylaws. By the end of February of each year, a letter shall be sent to all Section members announcing the election, and containing information including the deadline for filing, and the duties and responsibilities of the position of Council Member. A notice containing the same information may be prominently posted at each school.

SECTION 4.32. Any Section member may nominate himself/herself or any other Section member from the member's school for the position of Council Member by filing an application and resume with the Chairperson by the third Friday in March. Sitting Council members who are still eligible for membership are deemed automatically re-nominated.

SECTION 4.33. From among the nominated candidates, no later than the Sunday immediately following April 15, the Council shall, if a sufficient number of candidates are available, elect 3 members and, at least one alternate from each qualified school. The three candidates from each school receiving the most votes shall be elected members of the Council. All other candidates from each school shall be designated alternates.

SECTION 4.34. The Council members so elected shall serve a term of one year or until their successors shall have qualified, whichever occurs later.

SECTION 4.35. In the event of a tie vote between Council Member candidates, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote. The Chair shall only vote in an election of Council members in case of a tie.

SECTION 4.36. The Chairperson-Elect shall be elected automatically at the spring election to the Council for another term.

SECTION 4.40. VACANCIES

SECTION 4.41. When a vacancy occurs among the elected Council Members from a school, notice shall be sent to all Section members at that school announcing the vacancy and process and date by which an interested member may file to fill the position.

SECTION 4.42. Any Section member may nominate himself/herself or any other Section member from that school for the vacant Council position by filing a qualification statement with the Council outlining the nominee's qualifications for the position.

SECTION 4.43. The Chairperson shall, with confirmation of a majority of the remaining Council members, no later than the next scheduled Council meeting following the deadline for receiving nominations, fill the vacancy by appointment from among the nominees submitted, and cause notice to be given to those not appointed.

SECTION 4.50. MEETINGS

SECTION 4.51. The Annual Meeting of the Section shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan.

SECTION 4.52. A Governing Council meeting shall be held on the same date and at the same place immediately following the Section's Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4.53. Regular Council meetings shall be held at least six times each year at the times and places the Council designates.

SECTION 4.54. Special meetings shall be called and held by the Chairperson, either upon his/her initiative or upon written request of two-thirds of the Council and shall be held at a reasonable time and place designated by the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall provide three days notice to all Council Members.

SECTION 4.55. A quorum of the Council shall consist of a majority of its elected members. Once a quorum is established during a meeting, it shall be in effect, de jure, until adjournment of the meeting. In the absence of a quorum at any meeting, the members present may conduct the business of the meeting as if a quorum were present, but no action at that meeting shall become effective until ratified at a subsequent Council meeting where a de facto quorum is present.

SECTION 4.56. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, all regular and special Council meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (Latest Edition).

SECTION 4.60. ATTENDANCE POLICY

SECTION 4.61. Each Council Member shall attend all regular and special Council meetings.

SECTION 4.62. Any Council Member who is absent from regular meetings twice during a single term of office may be removed from the Council upon a motion approved by three-quarters of the Council Members present at a subsequent meeting of the Council. The position shall be declared vacant and the position filled pursuant to 4.40 above.

SECTION 4.70. BUDGET. The Council shall, at its Annual Meeting, approve a balanced budget of revenues and disbursements for the next fiscal year.

SECTION 4.71. The Treasurer shall prepare a Draft Budget and shall distribute copies of the Draft Budget and an explanation of the assumptions and estimates used in preparing it to all Council Members no later than five days before the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4.72. The Council shall review the Draft Budget at its Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4.73. The Council shall adopt a Budget for the fiscal year beginning the next October 1, at the Annual Meeting, by vote of a majority of Council Members present.

SECTION 4.74. If a quorum of the Council is not present at the Annual Meeting, the Council shall adopt a Budget, at the next Council meeting at which a quorum is present.

SECTION 4.75. The Budget may be amended at any Council meeting at which a quorum is present, by vote of a majority of Council Members present.

SECTION 4.80. DISBURSEMENTS OF SECTION FUNDS

SECTION 4.81. Council Members shall be reimbursed from Section funds for expenses incurred in the conduct of the business of the Council and the Section, except as otherwise provided by these bylaws or by State Bar of Michigan rules, regulations, or restrictions.

SECTION 4.82. Council Members shall not be reimbursed for any type of expense not included in the Budget for that fiscal year without the approving vote of a majority of Council Members at a Council meeting.

SECTION 4.83. A reimbursement limit shall be established by majority vote of the Council from time to time. Council Members shall not be reimbursed for any expenditure in excess of the reimbursement limit without the approving vote of a majority of Council Members at a Council meeting.

SECTION 4.84. The Council shall not approve any disbursement not included in the Budget, as adopted or amended.

SECTION 4.85. Disbursements to payees other than Council Members shall be approved by the Chairperson and the Treasurer. Disbursements shall not be approved for any type of expense not included in the Budget for that fiscal year without the approving vote of a majority of Council Members at a Council meeting. Such disbursements shall not be approved by the Chairperson or Treasurer in excess of the reimbursement limit described in Section 4.83 without the approving vote of a majority of Council Members at a Council meeting.

SECTION 5.00. OFFICERS

SECTION 5.10. TITLES. The officers of the Law Student Section shall be: Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. No officer shall hold the same office for two full consecutive terms.

SECTION 5.11. If two nominees for the same office prefer to run for that office together, the Council may elect them to fill that office as co-officers.

SECTION 5.12. If the Chairperson's office is filled by co-officers, the co-officers shall decide and announce prior to the start of each Council meeting which of them will preside at that meeting. In the event of a tied Council vote, the Chairperson presiding shall have one vote. The other co-chairperson may participate at that meeting without a vote.

SECTION 5.20. ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE. All officers shall be elected by Council Members from their own number.

SECTION 5.21. The Chairperson-Elect shall automatically become the Chairperson after the first Council meeting following the spring elections.

SECTION 5.22. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Council at the first Council meeting following the spring elections.

SECTION 5.22a. The Secretary shall be elected by the Council at the Council meeting following the spring elections.

SECTION 5.23. The Chairperson-Elect shall be elected by the Council at the Council meeting held immediately following the Section's Annual Meeting. In order to be eligible for the office of Chairperson-Elect, a candidate must have sufficient academic requirements remaining to assure that he/she will be a law student during his/her term as Chairperson.

SECTION 5.24. The Chairperson and Secretary and Treasurer shall serve a term of one year or until the conclusion of the first Council meeting following spring elections, whichever comes first. The Chairperson-Elect shall serve until he/she automatically becomes the Chairperson at the conclusion of the first Council meeting following spring elections. In the event the Chairperson-Elect succeeds as the Chairperson prior to having served his/her full term as Chairperson-Elect, he/she shall, upon completion of the term of office to which he/she so succeeded continue automatically as the Chairperson for an additional full term of office.

SECTION 5.25. If a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the normal term of any office, except the office of Chairperson where a Chairperson-Elect is available to automatically succeed, that office shall be filled by election at the next regular Council meeting. The tenure of officers so elected shall be for the remainder of the predecessor's unexpired term.

SECTION 5.30. DUTIES

SECTION 5.31. The Chairperson shall automatically be a member of the Council during his/her term and shall be chief executive officer of the Section. The Chairperson shall appoint the members of all standing committees and such other committees as he/she may deem necessary or as the Council may recommend or create. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, the Chairperson shall call and preside at all meetings of the Council. The Chairperson shall also call and preside at the Annual Meeting of the Section.

SECTION 5.32. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records of all meetings of the Council and the Section.

SECTION 5.32a. The Treasurer shall maintain current information about the financial affairs of the Section.

SECTION 5.33. In the Chairperson's absence, the Chairperson-Elect shall assume all of the Chairperson's duties. In addition to these duties, and any other duties that shall from time to time be placed upon the office of the Chairperson-Elect, it shall be his/her duty to assist the Chairperson in planning, correlating, and coordinating the projects and activities of the Section.

SECTION 5.34. In the absence of the Chairperson and the Chairperson-Elect, the Treasurer shall preside over Section and Council meetings.

SECTION 5.35. The immediate past Chairperson shall serve as a non-voting ex officio officer of the Governing Council for one year subsequent to his/her term as Chairperson. S/he shall not count in calculation of a quorum.

SECTION 6.00. COMMITTEES

SECTION 6.10. APPOINTMENTS. The Council shall create necessary standing and other committees.

SECTION 6.20. FUNCTIONS. Each committee shall perform the functions and duties assigned by the Council.

SECTION 6.30. REMOVAL. The Council may remove any member of any committee if the Council has given that member ten days written notice of its intent to remove and an opportunity to be heard. After removal, the Council shall immediately fill the vacancy.

SECTION 7.00. CAMPUS ASSOCIATED GROUPS

SECTION 7.1. CREATION. Any two (2) or more Council Members of the Law Student Section may form a Campus Associated Group. However, no Campus Associated Group shall be recognized by the Law Student Section or State Bar unless approved by the relevant law school's Dean of Students, or equivalent officer.

SECTION 7.2. PURPOSE. The purpose of Campus Associated Groups shall be to advance the agenda of the State Bar and the Law Student Section.

SECTION 7.3. ACTIVITIES. Each Campus Associated Group shall meet at least twice per year. All activities of a Campus Associated Group, except regular meetings, must be approved in advance by the Council. Use of alcoholic beverages at activities of Campus Associated Groups must be approved, in advance, by the Council.

SECTION 7.4. POLICY. No Campus Associated Group may express any collective opinion on any issue not already considered by the State Bar's Board of Commissioners, and then may only express the official position of the State Bar. Further, no Campus Associated Group may express any collective opinion on any issue not already considered by the Governing Council of the Law Student Section, and then may only express the official position of the Governing Council of the Law Student Section as long as said position is in compliance with the policy of the State Bar of Michigan and its Board of Commissioners.

SECTION 8.00. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

SECTION 8.10. PROCEDURE. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of Council Members present and voting at two consecutive regular Council meetings, and Council approved amendments shall be effective when approved by the State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners.

SECTION 8.20. NOTICE. The Chairperson must give at least five days written or electronic notice to all Council Members of the intent to amend bylaws at the next regular Council meeting.

SECTION 9.00. EFFECT OF HEADINGS. Headings of sections and subsections have no effect, and shall not be used to enlarge or narrow the scope of any section or subsection.

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