# Proposed Section Bylaw Amendments

# Bylaws of the Social Security Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan

# ARTICLE II **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION 2. MEMBERS**

- 2.1 ACTIVE MEMBERS of the State Bar of Michigan may join the Section by paying annual dues to the State Bar of Michigan in the amount of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), or an amount as determined by the Council.
- 2.2 LAW STUDENTS. Students currently enrolled in an accredited law school in the State of Michigan will may become law student members.

# ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

SECTION 2. SELECTION OF OFFICERS. The Chair-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be nominated and elected by the Council members at each annual meeting of the Section, to hold office for a term beginning at the close of the Annual Meeting at which he/she has been elected, and ending at the close of the next succeeding annual meeting of the Section, when the successors shall have been qualified and elected.

SECTION 3. VACANCIES. The Council shall elect any active member of the Section as an Officer or Council member, to act until the next election in the event of death, disability, removal or resignation of any Officer or Council member.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

SECTION 43. COUNCIL. There shall be a council of the Section, consisting of the Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer and Immediate Past Chair, together with ten members for each district to be elected by the active members as otherwise provided in the bylaws. The Immediate Past Chair shall also remain as a member of the Council for the year following his/her service as Chair of the Section. The Immediate Past Chair shall be included in determining whether a quorum is present at any meeting of the Council and shall have the right to vote on all matters brought before the Council. All Council members must be active members of the Section.

SECTION 5. DISTRICTS FOR COUNCIL SEATS. There shall be at least five (5) Council members of the Section corresponding to 5 district[s] which comprise the service areas of the 5 Social Security hearings offices in Detroit, Oak Park, Lansing, Grand Rapids, and Flint. Each member of the Section shall belong to the geographic district corresponding to the service area for the primary business address of his/her office/firm. A district shall be granted an additional seat(s) on the Council when district membership exceeds 30 or other multiples of 30. These districts are created to maintain geographic diversity and minority representation on the Council. These districts roughly comprise the areas as follows: 1) Detroit: Detroit, Ann Arbor, Monroe, Port Huron; 2) Oak Park: Oakland, Macomb, and Northern Wayne Counties; 3) Lansing: Lansing, Jackson, Mt. Pleasant, Battle Creek, and Alpena; 4) Grand Rapids: Grand Rapids, Benton Harbor, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, and Traverse City; 5) Flint: Flint, Bay City, Saginaw. These districts are well known to Social Security practitioners. All membership lists to the State Bar of Michigan will include the district.

SECTION 64. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office for an Officer shall be one year. No Officer shall hold the same office for more than 2 years. The term of office for each member of the Council shall be 2 years. However, for the term commencing with the creation of this Section, terms will be staggered with 2 districts serving through the Annual Meeting in September 1997 and 3 districts serving through the Annual Meeting in September 1998. If a district, upon organization of the Section, shall have 2 seats, one shall run through September 1997 and the other through September 1998. The extra seat(s) created for a district when membership shall exceed 30, arises with the next annual meeting of the Section. No Council member shall hold the same seat for more than 2 full 2-year terms. Upon organization of this Section, the Oak Park District has approximately 42 members and is entitled to a second seat. Upper Peninsula members shall be assigned to the Grand Rapids District. The terms of the second seat for Oak Park, as well as the seats for Detroit and Flint, shall initially expire in September 1997. The terms of the basic seat for Oak Park, Grand Rapids, and Lansing shall initially expire in September 1998.

# ARTICLE ¥ IV DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

### ARTICLE ₩ V **ELECTIONS**

SECTION 1. NOMINATIONS. At the last scheduled meeting of the Section prior to the Annual Meeting, or at such other time as shall be convenient, but not later than three (3) months prior to the Annual Meeting, the Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) three (3) members of the Section. One of the members of the Nominating Committee shall be an Officer of the Section who shall chair the Committee. The other 4 members shall consist of 2 members of the Council and 2 other members of the Section. The Nominating Committee shall nominate the candidates for the Council. This Nominating Committee shall meet in person or by conference call, as practical and appropriate, at least three (3) one months prior to the Annual Meeting, to nominate at least two (2) candidates for each vacant Council seat. Upon written petition of at least ten (10) active members, Additional candidate(s) may be nominated for a Council seat as a "write-in" candidate. The nominating committee will nominate members for council membership with a focus on fostering geographic and racial diversity. Nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. ELECTIONS. All elections for the Council shall be by voice vote written ballot unless otherwise ordered by resolution duly adopted by the Section at the Annual Meeting at which the Election is held. A majority vote of those members <u>present</u> shall be sufficient.

ARTICLE <del>VII</del> <u>VI</u> DUTIES OF OFFICERS

ARTICLE VIII VII COMMITTEES

ARTICLE <del>IX</del> <u>VIII</u> SECTION MEETINGS

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Section shall be held in October of each year during the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan, in the same city or place, with such programs and order of business as may be arranged by the Council. This meeting shall not conflict with the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan.

# ARTICLE X IX MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**SECTION 3. COMPENSATION.** No salary or compensation shall be paid to any Officer, Council or Committee member; however <u>any section</u>, Officers, Council, and Committee members may be reimbursed for actual expenses for Section business.

# ARTICLE XI X AMENDMENTS

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT FORM. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the Section in the form of a petition by at least ten (10) members of the Section. The Council shall consider the proposed amendment, prepare recommendations, and publish a complete and accurate text of the proposed amendment to the Section members in the Michigan Bar Journal at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the Section at which it is to be considered.

Created 1997

Current as of 3/2000

Amendment proposed 7/2010 Petitioned by: Elizabeth Warren Gregory Frye Aaron Sumrall

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