

CONSTITUTION FOR MERCER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Adopted December 29, 1960

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Article 1

The Association shall be called the MERCER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION.

Article 2

This Association is formed to cultivate the study of jurisprudence, to promote reform in the law, to facilitate the administration of justice, to maintain and elevate the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession, and to cherish a spirit of brotherhood among the members thereof.

Article 3

The Judges of all courts of record residing in Mercer County shall be honorary, voting members during their terms of office.

Any member of the legal profession, residing in Mercer County, Ohio, who has been admitted to practice in this State, and who is engaged in the full time, active, general practice of law for his livelihood, may become a voting member of this Association upon open nomination and the favorable vote of two thirds of those present at any regular or other meeting, provided that he shall accept the provisions of this constitution and the by-laws of this Association.

Any other member of the legal profession, residing in Mercer County, Ohio, who has been admitted to practice in this State, may become a non-voting member of this association, upon the same procedure provided above.

Article 4

The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the regular December meeting of each year, to hold their offices from the first day of January of the next year.

No President shall be elected to succeed himself. The election shall be by ballot. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall become President. In the event of vacancy in any other office, the President shall appoint a new officer for the remainder of the year.

#### Article 5

The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the Association. The President shall make all committee assignments as provided herein.

The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Association, conduct the correspondence of the Association, and perform all other necessary clerical duties.

The Treasurer shall collect and disburse the funds of the Association.

#### Article 6

The Committee on Admissions shall consist of three members. It shall process all applications and requests from the State Board of Bar Examiners, or from other State Bar Associations.

#### Article 7

The Committee on Grievances shall consist of three members. The terms of office for each member shall be three years, with one new member appointed each year. This Committee may receive and hear all complaints preferred by any member or other person against any member for misconduct in his relation to the Association, or in his professional relations to the public. All charges shall be in writing, signed by the complainant, and clearly specify the misconduct of the member. Upon a fair hearing, after prompt investigation by the committee and ten days notice to the member so charged, a majority of this committee may find that the charges are not sustained and make a suitable report to the Association. The actions of this committee shall be kept confidential, except in reporting their findings to the Association.

Where the majority of the Grievance Committee, under the provisions of Article 7, upon a fair and careful hearing of the

evidence, determines that the charges are sustained by the evidence, they shall forthwith notify the President, and make a report in writing of the evidence and their recommendations at the next meeting of the Association. After the member so charged has been given an opportunity to be heard in his own defense, at any meeting of the Association, the Association shall vote upon each separate charge. If two thirds of the members present shall vote to sustain the charge, or charges, then two thirds of the members present shall vote whether to expell or suspend the member, or otherwise discipline the member. No member shall vote on a charge made against himself.

Whenever directed by the Association, the Grievance Committee shall proceed in the proper tribunal for the discipline, suspension or removal from office of any attorney at law.

#### Article 8

Other committees or subcommittees may be appointed as required by the activities of the Association.

#### Article 9

The annual meeting shall be held at such place as the President shall select and shall be at the time of the regular December meeting. Special meetings may be called upon the request of the President, or upon the written request of any five members.

#### Article 10

At any meeting of the Association, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of the Association.

#### Article 11

This Constitution shall be amended only on the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any meeting, after filing the proposed amendment with the Secretary at least 30 days before such meeting. The Secretary shall give written or oral notice of such filing to all members at least ten days before such meeting.

B Y L A W S

Section One

All meetings of the Association or any committee, except as otherwise specifically provided, may be called by giving oral notice of the time and place to the members at least 24 hours prior to such meeting.

Section Two

The dues of all members shall be five dollars per annum. There shall be no admission fee.

Dues shall be payable in January each year. Any member who fails to pay dues one year shall be automatically suspended from membership, starting January first of the following year, until he shall pay his dues for the previous year, and the current year.

Section Three

The President may vote upon all matters.

Section Four

Regular monthly meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month, except during the summer months. When such date conflicts with a holiday, the President may select an alternate date for that month.

Section Five

Any of these By-Laws may be suspended by the two thirds vote of the members present at any meeting of the Association, for the duration of that meeting.

Section Six

The Minimum Fee Schedule, <sup>July 1, 1968 JWS</sup> ~~(as it exists in December, 1960,)~~ <sup>effective January 2, 1962</sup> ~~Amended 12-28-1961~~ is hereby incorporated by reference as a by-law of the Association.

Section Seven

Business will be conducted following Robert's Rule of Order, except as otherwise herein appears.

Section Eight

Any changes in these by-laws shall be made by a two thirds vote of those present at any regular or special meeting of the Association.

APPROVED:

Alvin Frost

President

William Meikle

Secretary

Alvin M. Furdy

Leslie D. Duvall

Dean James

Homer J. Henders

Dr. L. Myers

James W. Weyer

Mark V. Hesterman

John J. Henders

Raymond A. Young

Colton C. Reiss

Henry G. Knobel

Vice-President

Mark V. Hesterman

Treasurer

Walter R. Bernard

Fred L. King

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L. Dabbell  
D. Montgomery  
J. Myers  
R. Touville  
C. Stubbs