

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

April Term, A.D. 2003

*In the Matter of Amendments to
Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar*

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IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WYOMING
FILED

APR 22 2003

**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE
BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR**

JUDY PACHECO, CLERK
Candice Thompson
by DEPUTY

The Officers and Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar having recommended to the court amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar, attached hereto; and the court having examined the proposed amendments and deeming the amendments advisable; it is,

ORDERED that the amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar, attached hereto, be and hereby are adopted by the court to be effective July 1, 2003; and it is further

ORDERED that the amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar, attached hereto, shall be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter, the Wyoming Reporter, and in the Wyoming Court Rules; and that the amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar shall thereupon be spread at length upon the journal of the Court.

DATED this 22ND day of April, 2003.

BY THE COURT:

William U. Hill

**WILLIAM U. HILL
Chief Justice**

BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Enrollment.

Every person who becomes licensed to practice law in this state shall enroll in the State Bar by signing and filing in the State Bar office within ten (10) days after admission to practice, a registration card containing the registrant's:

- (a) Full name;
- (b) Residential address;
- (c) Office address, mailing address and location of principal office;

Section 3. Classes of Membership.

(a) The members of the State Bar shall be divided into four (4) classes known respectively as active, inactive, honorary and retired. An inactive member is one not practicing law in Wyoming and electing to pay the reduced license fee pursuant to Article I, Section 4 of these bylaws, and who has filed with the Executive Director of the State Bar written notice requesting enrollment in the class of inactive members. An honorary member is a Wyoming Supreme Court justice, district court judge, county circuit court judge, magistrate, judge of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming and any other federal judge resident of this state, and a justice or judge retired from such courts who has not resumed the practice of law. A retired member is one not engaged in the practice of law who has made a written request to the Executive Director of the State Bar to be enrolled as a retired member and has been engaged in the active practice of law as an active member of the Wyoming State Bar for a minimum of ten out of the fifteen years immediately preceding the date of the written request to be enrolled as a retired member. All other members are active members.

An honorable retired member is one who has retired from office as a judge of the state supreme court, a county, circuit or district court or federal court located in Wyoming and who has not resumed the active practice of law. Such a member may resume the active practice of law and be re-classified as honorable retired following retirement from the active practice of law.

Notwithstanding the above, any retired individual who serves as a magistrate or accepts an assignment for judicial duty from a circuit or district court, the state supreme court or a federal court will not be required to maintain his or her license under active status if he or she does not otherwise engage in the practice of law.

(d) Any inactive member in good standing and any honorary member who is no longer serving in a judicial office may change their classification to that of an active member by filing with the State Bar office a written request for transfer to the class of active members and by paying the annual license fee required of active members and completing the requirements for continuing legal education. No inactive member who has not actively practiced law in this state or in another state ~~during the last 10 years~~ for five (5) of the immediately preceding seven (7) years shall be transferred to active

membership until the transfer shall be approved by the State Board of Law Examiners, except an honorary member who is no longer serving in a judicial office shall be reclassified as an active member upon written request. A transfer of an inactive member to active status shall not be approved by the State Board of Law Examiners unless the inactive member demonstrates competence in the practice of law by proving: (1) the active practice of law in another jurisdiction for five of the seven years preceding the date of the requested transfer, and compliance with Rules for Continuing Legal Education of Members of the Wyoming State Bar; or (2) successful completion of the requirements for admission with examination as prescribed in Rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Wyoming and Regulations of the State Board of Law Examiners. A retired member may be transferred to active status within five years of that member's retirement, provided that the retired member demonstrates a compliance with the Rules for Continuing Legal Education of Members of the Wyoming State Bar, and pays the inactive annual license fee to the Wyoming State Bar for the years during which the member was retired.

Section 4. Annual License Fee.

(b) As soon as practicable after the second week in September of each year, the executive director shall send a written statement for the annual license fee and a change of information reporting form consistent with Article I, Section 2 to each member of the State Bar. *****

Article II. OFFICERS

Section 2. Duties.

(a) *President.* The president shall be the chief executive officer of the association, a member of the Executive Committee and a member-at-large of the Board of Commissioners. The president shall preside at all meetings of the association and of the Executive Committee. Additionally, this officer shall make the appointments to, and designate the chairpersons of, all standing boards and committees; create and appoint special committees; and be a member, ex-officio, of every committee.

(b) *President-Elect.* The president-elect shall be a member-at-large of the Board of Commissioners and a member of the Executive Committee; and perform all other duties assigned by the president or Board of Commissioners. The president-elect shall temporarily perform duties of the president in the event of temporary absence or disability of the president. In the event of the death, disqualification or permanent disability of the president elected, this officer shall temporarily serve until replaced in that function as provided hereafter in these by-laws.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Section 3. Terms; qualifications; nominations; election.

(a) The term of office of each elected member of the Board of Commissioners shall be three years, except that commissioners from the First, Fourth and Ninth State Bar Districts chosen in the first election under these by-laws shall serve only one year; and the commissioners from the Third, Seventh and Eighth State Bar Districts chosen in the first election under these by-laws shall serve only two years. No person shall be allowed to serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. The terms of office of commissioners shall commence at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the association next following their election. No person shall be eligible to vote in a district for commissioner or to serve on the Board of Commissioners from a district unless the voter is an active, ~~honorary, or retired~~ member of the association; provided, that the voter's primary office for the practice of law is in the district or the voter resides within the district. A voter may vote in only one district for a three-year term. The eligibility of any person to serve as a member of the Board of Commissioners from any State Bar District shall be contingent upon both maintenance of an active practice of law and actual residence in that area. The first election held under this rule shall be held in 1989, and all State Bar Districts shall hold elections.

Section 4. Duties.

(a) The Board of Commissioners shall have general charge of the affairs and activities of the association. It shall:

(i) Make appropriations, ~~and~~ authorize disbursements, and/or periodically monitor and ratify proper disbursements reviewed, approved and authorized by the Executive Director from the funds of the State Bar in payment of the necessary expenses of the association, its officers and committees;

ARTICLE VI. JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION MEMBERS

(a) Any active member who is a resident of Wyoming and maintains an office for the practice of law in this state and is otherwise qualified pursuant to Wyo. Const. Art. 5, § 4 and W.S. 5-1-102 may be nominated as a candidate for the Judicial Nominating Commission by nomination signed by at least two active resident members. Nominations shall be filed with the Wyoming State Bar by 5:00 p.m. on any regular business day at least 45 days before the election date which shall be the date of the annual business meeting of the Wyoming State Bar for the regular election and a date set by the Board of Commissioners for any special election. In the event that no member shall be nominated as commission member, the Board of Commissioners shall nominate one or more qualified candidates for such office at least 40 days before the date of the annual business meeting. Election of commission members shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for the election of officers. If a person eligible to vote in an election for commission member is unable to attend the annual meeting and vote in the election, that person may request an absentee ballot from the Executive Director of the Wyoming State Bar at least 15 days before the election date. Absentee ballots must be received by the Executive Director at the offices of the association at least ~~five~~ ten (10) days prior to the

election. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes cast shall be elected. Notice of election and voting under this rule will be published prior thereto in the *Wyoming Lawyer*.

ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- (f) Review, approve and authorize proper disbursements;
- (g) Perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board of Commissioners or officers, or as prescribed by the State Bar's rules or by these by-laws.

ARTICLE IX. STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Section 4. Standing Committees.

(a) There shall be the following standing committees of the Wyoming State Bar:

(i) ~~Alcohol and Substance Abuse Lawyers' Assistance Committee;~~

(vii) Legislative and Law Reform Committee;

(x) ~~Legislative Committee~~ Pattern Jury Instructions Committee - Civil;

(xi) Pattern Jury Instructions Committee - Criminal;

(xii) Public Information ~~and Communications~~ Committee;

(xiii) Resolution of Fee Disputes Committee; ~~and~~

(xiv) Law Office Practice Management Committee;

(xv) Computer and Technical Committee;

(xvi) Editorial Committee;

(xvii) Lawyer Mentoring Committee; and

(xviii) Lawyer Referral Committee.

ARTICLE X. SECTIONS AND OTHER COMMITTEES

B. Other Committees

Other committees may be established annually, for such duration as may be necessary to effectuate their purposes, as the president, with the advice of the Board of Commissioners, shall from time to time determine to be necessary to properly carry on the functions of the State Bar or to assist special committees of the American Bar Association. Appointments of the membership of these special committees shall be made by the president unless other provision is made in authenticating resolution or promulgating order.

ARTICLE XII. OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

(a) *The Wyoming Lawyer* shall be the publication of the Wyoming State Bar. Except as provided below in this section, all official notices shall be published therein and such publication shall constitute notice to all members. *The Wyoming Lawyer* shall be mailed to all members at their address of record.

Official notices and other materials or information, including minutes of Commission meetings, may, at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners, be published by electronic means, such as on the State Bar's website. Such publication shall constitute notice to all members when notification of such electronic publication is published in *The Wyoming Lawyer* advising members that printed copies of such materials will be mailed to them when requested.
