



## THE FOURTH AMENDED BYLAWS OF THE FLORIDA GOVERNMENT BAR ASSOCIATION

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### ARTICLE I

#### **DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**

Section 1: PRESIDENT - The president shall preside at meetings of the membership and the Executive Council; shall organize and direct the work and activities of the association subject to general control and management of the Executive Council; shall sign, along with the Secretary or the Treasurer, all written contracts or obligations (other than financial instruments) of the association; and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Constitution of the association.

Section 2: VICE PRESIDENT - The vice president shall assist the president and perform the duties of the president upon the president's absence or disability; and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Constitution of the association, the president and the Executive Council.

Section 3: SECRETARY - The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the members of the association and of the Executive Council; shall conduct routine correspondence, including issuing notices of meetings of the members; shall be custodian of all the permanent records (except financial) of the association; shall maintain a current list of the members of the association; shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the association's social media presence; and shall perform

such other duties as directed by the Constitution of the association, the president and the Executive Council.

Section 4: TREASURER - The treasurer shall collect, manage, account for and disperse (within the limits of the Constitution and the Bylaws of the association) all monies of the association and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Constitution of the association, the president and the Executive Council.

Section 5: GENERAL AT LARGE MEMBERS – The four remaining at-large members of the Executive Council shall perform such duties as directed by the Constitution of the association, the president, and the Executive Council.

Section 6: The duties listed herein may be transferred between officers with the consent of both officers involved, or for a period of no more than 12 months upon affirmative vote of the Executive Council.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **DUES:**

Section 1: AMOUNT - Each member of the association shall pay annual dues in an amount to be determined by the Executive Council. The amount of dues should be designed to responsibly capture the costs associated with the maintenance of the association.

Section 2: TIME OF PAYMENT - Dues shall be payable annually, and are due on July 1 of each year. Any member who fails to pay dues by October 1 shall be declared delinquent and shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association. Between July 1 and October 1, individuals who were members in good standing but who have

not paid their dues may continue to identify themselves as members of the organization and participate as members but will not receive the membership cost for products, goods, or services offered by the association if the cost is different for members of the public. Upon payment of delinquent dues during the year of delinquency, a member shall automatically be restored to membership.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **ANNUAL MEETING:**

The annual meeting of the association shall be held during the month of June.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **TRAVEL:**

Section 1: AUTHORIZATION - The Executive Council may authorize the officers or members to attend meetings for the good of the association. A maximum authorized reimbursement amount shall be given in writing to the individual who is traveling prior to undertaking travel; the association shall not be bound to reimburse amounts exceeding the maximum authorized reimbursement though the Executive Council may reimburse such amounts for good cause shown at their discretion. In keeping with accepted accounting practices, the treasurer may require usual and customary documentation from a traveler to issue a reimbursement.

Section 2: REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES - The following expenses, if not otherwise reimbursed by the state or another source, may be reimbursed by the association:

- (a) registration.

- (b) cost of a single room at the meeting hotel.
- (c) cost of special luncheons directly related to association purposes.
- (d) State rate for other meals.
- (e) roundtrip airfare if destination is south of a line drawn between the southernmost points in St. Petersburg and Melbourne, or out of state and more than a four hour drive from Tallahassee; State rate for roundtrip mileage to all other locations, unless airfare would be less costly.
- (f) parking fees
- (g) tolls
- (h) taxi rides or other ground transit related service fees.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Section 1: REGULAR MEMBERSHIP- Applications for regular membership shall be submitted on a form designated by the Secretary with the concurrence of the President. The form shall be submitted along with an appropriate dues payment. The form shall, at minimum, request the name of the applicant, the applicant's contact information, and the applicant's Florida Bar number. All individuals who submit a completed membership application along with their dues and otherwise meet the criteria outlined in the constitution for regular members will be accepted as regular members of the association.

Section 2: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP- Honorary membership is an accolade bestowed upon deserving individuals who have contributed significantly towards the betterment of government lawyers as a group. It is open to any member of The Florida Bar in good standing who is a justice, judge, elected or appointed official in the State of Florida, or who has retired from employment in Florida government. Honorary membership is also open to members of any other Bar Association other than The Florida Bar. Nominations for honorary membership may be made by any member of the association. Nominees must be or have been an attorney employed by a state, local, or federal government entity. The nominating individual shall complete a form designated by the Secretary with the concurrence of the President. The form shall, at minimum, request the name of the nominee, the nominee's contact information, the nominee's Florida Bar number (if applicable), and an explanation of the significant contribution made by the nominee. The unanimous consent of the officers of the association shall be required for honorary membership to be granted. Honorary membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the membership of the association.

Section 3: AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP- Affiliate membership is bestowed upon deserving individuals who make significant contributions to the betterment of government lawyers as a group and the law as a profession. Nominations for such memberships may be made by any member of the association. Nominees may work directly with an attorney employed by a state, local, or federal government entity. The nominating individual shall complete a form designated by the Secretary with the concurrence of the President. The form shall, at minimum, request the name of the

nominee, the nominee's contact information, and a statement indicating whether the nominee works directly with a member of the Florida Bar employed by a state, local, or federal government entity. The unanimous consent of the officers of the association shall be required for affiliate membership to be granted. Affiliate membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the membership of the association.

Section 4: LAW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP- Law student membership is bestowed on deserving individuals who wish to become government lawyers and to foster closer connections between current and future members of the Florida Bar. Nominations for such memberships may be made by any member of the association. Nominees must be enrolled in and attending an accredited law school, or a law school graduate awaiting admission to the Florida Bar. The nominating individual shall complete a form designated by the Secretary with the concurrence of the President. The form shall, at minimum, request the name of the nominee, the nominee's contact information, and name of the accredited law school attended by the nominee. The unanimous consent of the officers of the association shall be required for law student membership to be granted. Law student membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the membership of the association. Any law student member who is subsequently accepted to the Florida Bar may, upon receipt of a valid Florida Bar number, apply for regular membership pursuant to Section 1 of this article.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **AMENDMENTS:**

These Bylaws may be amended pursuant to the constitution of the Association.

Amended by vote of Association, on January 28, 2004.

Amended by vote of the Association on the 19th day of October, 2016.

Amended by vote of the Association on January 27, 2021.

Amended by vote of the Association on May 26, 2021.

Amended by vote of the Association on June 27, 2023.