

BYLAWS OF THE  
FAMILY LAW SECTION  
STATE BAR OF NEVADA

ARTICLE I  
NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Section 1. Name

This organization shall be known as the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Nevada (hereinafter referred to as the “Section”).

Section 2. Principal Office

The principal office of the Section shall be the State Bar of Nevada, 600 East Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104. The Executive Council of the Section may change the location of the principal office at any time.

ARTICLE II  
PURPOSE

The purpose of the Section shall be:

- A. To provide a forum for the improvement of law and procedure in the field of family law.
- B. To provide a forum addressed to the problems and interest of the family law practitioner.
- C. To provide a forum to further the knowledge of the members of the Section through development and administration of continuing legal education seminars in the area of family law.
- D. To promote the sound development of ethical and professional litigation practices and procedures in the area of family law.
- E. To assist the judiciary in enhancing the administration of justice in the area of family law.
- F. To provide for and distribute publications dedicated to the area of family law.
- G. To support and enhance the art of trial and appellate advocacy in the area of family law.

- H. To act upon all matters germane to its purpose as so described or referred to by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE III  
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Qualifications

Any Nevada licensed attorney who is a member in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada may qualify for membership upon payment of the Section dues.

Section 2. The Membership

The membership of the Section shall be members so enrolled and whose dues are paid pursuant to the provisions of this section.

Section 3. Membership Rights

Members have the following rights:

- A. To attend meetings, including meetings of the Executive Council;
- B. To vote;
- C. To hold office; and
- D. To participate in all activities of the Section not prohibited or assigned in accordance with the Bylaws.

Section 4. Term

The terms of membership in the Section shall be for a period of one (1) year, corresponding to the membership year established by payment of the State Bar dues.

Section 5. Membership Dues

Dues for membership in the Section shall be in an amount set by the Section and approved by the Board of Governors, payable upon enrollment and thereafter annually in advance each year; at the beginning of the State Bar's fiscal year succeeding each enrollment. Fees shall be paid to the State Bar of Nevada, along with all other funds generated by this Section, and appropriately accounted for by the Accounting Department of the State Bar of Nevada in conjunction with the Financial Officer of the Section and shall be used for the purposes of defraying costs and expenses of this Section or such other purposes as the Board of Governors may designate. The dues shall be as determined by the Board of Governors in consultation with the Executive Council.

Section 6. Delinquency

Any member of the Section whose annual dues are not paid by the time the Section holds its annual meeting at its continuing legal education seminar in the Spring of each year shall thereupon cease to be a member of this Section. Reinstatement as a member of the Section shall commence upon compliance with the membership qualifications stated in this section.

ARTICLE IV  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting

The Section shall hold its annual meeting at least annually. Presently the annual meeting shall occur during the Section's continuing legal education seminar in the Spring of each year. The Executive Council is authorized to change the date, time, and location of the annual meeting upon thirty (30) days notice to the Section membership.

Section 2. Notice

- A. Written notice of any general membership meeting specifying the date, time and location shall be distributed to the Section membership by mail, email, facsimile, or other means not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- B. Written notice shall include an agenda with the action items indicated.

Section 3. Quorum

The Section members present at any general membership meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. Voting

- A. Any member of the Section whose good standing can be certified by official State Bar records at the time of a general membership meeting shall be eligible to vote.
- B. Each member in good standing shall have one (1) vote.
- C. A majority vote of the quorum is necessary to take action.

Section 5. Agenda

The agenda for any general membership meeting shall comprise of any matters raised by the membership to a member of the Executive Council. Among the matters of business to be

transacted at the annual meeting shall be the election of Executive Council members and confirmation of Section Officers.

Section 6.      Alternative Forms of Voting.

The Executive Council is authorized to direct that a matter be submitted to the membership for a vote by alternate means, including mail, email, facsimile, or other means. In that event, binding action of the Section shall be by a majority of the votes received from the membership as recorded by the Section Secretary, in accordance with any rules fixed by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE V  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1.      Powers

The policies, programs, business and property of the Section shall be controlled and managed by its Executive Council. The Executive Council shall be vested with the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Section. The policy of the Executive Council shall be consistent with the policies set by the Board of Governors. The Executive Council shall:

- A.      At least annually review the mission and the goals, objectives and priorities of the Executive Council and make recommendations for change, if any, to the General Membership.
- B.      Adopt procedures for establishing, implementing and reviewing priorities in the allocation of resources.
- C.      Establish and appoint officers and members to appropriate sub-committees, as the Executive Council shall from time to time determine as appropriate or necessary.
- D.      Elect officers from among its members.

Section 2.      Executive Council Meetings and Action Without a Meeting

The Executive Council shall hold at least four (4) meetings each year to dispatch any necessary business, at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Council. Currently quarterly meetings are held in January, March, June and September. Written notice of such meetings shall be made to the members of the Executive Council at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. At any meeting of the Executive Council the majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chairperson may, upon the request of three (3) members of the Executive Council, call special meetings of the Executive Council between scheduled quarterly meetings, inclusive of meetings by teleconference.

The Executive Council may act without a meeting. In matters which cannot be tabled until the next scheduled Executive Council meeting, the Chairperson may, on his/her own accord, or upon the request of any other Executive Council member, call for consideration of and action upon an issue without a meeting. For any such vote, the majority of the membership of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority vote of the quorum is necessary to take action. All such voting situations shall be recorded by the Executive Council Secretary.

### Section 3.      Composition and Members

The Executive Council shall be composed of fourteen voting Executive Council members (including the members elected as Officers with the exception of the Chairperson who shall only have a vote in the event of a tie situation ), each of whom shall serve two (2) year terms. The fourteen voting members shall be comprised of six (6) members from the North and eight (8) members from the South. The terms of Executive Council members shall be staggered into odd-year and even-year seats.

Election of Section members to the Executive Council shall occur at the annual meeting from among those nominated by the Section. Nominations for such appointments may be made by the existing Executive Council members or by any other Section member in good standing. Eligible Section members may vote for their representatives to the Executive Council through completion of a ballot at the annual meeting.

### Section 4.      Term of Office

Members of the Executive Council shall be elected at the Section's annual meeting. Members of the Council serve from the day of their election for a term of two (2) years. Each member may serve four (4) consecutive terms. In no case may a member of the Executive Council serve more than eight (8) consecutive years. The time served in filling any vacancy of a council seat for a partial term shall not be included in computing the eight (8) year term limit, nor shall the eight (8) year term limit preclude a member of the Executive Council who serves as Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson elect during his/her eighth year from thereafter serving as Chairperson.

### Section 5.      Election and Succession of Executive Council Members and Officers

- A. Officers of the Section shall be elected at the Executive Council meeting occurring during the Section's annual meeting. Officers of the Executive Council serve from the day of their election for a term of two (2) years. Election of Officers shall be by secret ballot from among the membership of the Executive Council at the annual meeting. In the event of a tie vote that cannot be resolved in three (3) successive ballots, the Section membership shall be asked to vote to break the tie. Officers may be re-elected to the same office more than once, but may not serve more than eight (8) consecutive years in any one office.

- B. Between annual meetings of the Section, the Executive Council may fill vacancies to its membership, or to the offices of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, or Financial Officer. Members of the Executive Council and Officers so elected shall serve until the next annual meeting of the Section at which time the membership of the Section shall elect Officers or Executive Council members to fill any unexpired terms existing at that time. Officers and Executive Council members may succeed themselves.
- C. Any member of the Executive Council or Office may resign by giving notice to the Chairperson.
- D. Upon prior written notice and just cause as found by at least two (2) members of the Executive Council, a member of the Executive Council or Office may be removed from his/her position, following a majority vote of the Section membership.

Section 6. Duties of Executive Council Members

Executive Council members are expected to attend and participate at all quarterly Executive Council meetings. In-person attendance at scheduled meetings is preferred. Unless excused for good cause accepted by the majority of the members of the Executive Council, if any Executive Council member shall fail to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of the Executive Council, or more than three (3) meetings of the Executive Council during any elected term, his/her office shall be automatically vacated. Each Executive Council member is expected to contribute to the goals of the Section and shall timely complete all tasks to which he/she is appointed during his/her term.

Section 7. No Compensation

No salary or compensation for services shall be paid to or by any Officer, member of the Executive Council, or member of any committee, except as may be specifically authorized by the Board of Governors.

Section 8. Council Authority

Between meetings of the Section, the Executive Council shall have full power to do and perform all acts and functions which the Section itself might perform. Any such action taken by the Executive Council shall be reported to the Section at the next annual meeting.

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ARTICLE VI  
OFFICERS

Section 1.      Officers

The Officers of the Section shall be the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Financial Officer.

Section 2.      Chairperson

The Chairperson shall:

- A.      Preside at all meetings of the Section and of the Executive Council.
- B.      Plan and superintend the programs of the Section during his/her term, subject to the direction and approval of the Executive Council membership.
- C.      Superintend the performance of all duties of the Section.
- D.      Keep the Executive Council duly informed of all matters or issues pertinent to the administration of the Section and carry out all decisions of the Section.
- E.      Perform such other duties and acts as are necessary and proper to the office or as may be designated by the Executive Council or Board of Governors.
- F.      Be vested with any and all powers and duties necessary to fulfill the office of Vice-Chairperson.
- G.      Make an annual report to the Board of Governors.

Section 3.      Vice-Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson shall aid the Chairperson in the performance of the responsibilities of office in the manner and to the extent the Chairperson may request, and shall perform such further duties and have such further powers as usually pertain to this office, or as may be designated by the Chairperson or the Council. In case of death, resignation, or disability of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson for the remainder of the Chairperson's term or disability, as the case may be. In the event of the Chairperson is temporarily unavailable, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume and perform all duties of the Chairperson.

The Vice-Chairperson shall:

- A. Plan and superintend all programs of the Section dedicated toward the education of paralegal and/or legal assistants during his/her term, subject to the direction and approval of the Executive Council membership.
- B. Be vested with any and all powers and duties necessary to fulfill the office of Vice-Chairperson.

Section 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- A. Record and maintain, or cause to be recorded and maintained, minutes of all meetings;
- B. Record and maintain, or cause to be recorded and maintained, record of all action taken by the Section or Executive Council;
- C. Send or cause to be sent, written notice of all meetings of the membership;
- D. Keep and maintain copies of notices, agenda, minutes, attendance and other written records inclusive of Section Bylaws, Membership Rolls, List of Executive Council Members and Officers, and any other items from meetings;
- E. Consult and assist all other Officers of the Section;
- F. Act as liaison between the Section and the State Bar staff;
- G. Be vested with any and all powers and duties necessary to fulfill the office of Secretary.

Section 5. Financial Officer.

The Financial Officer shall:

- A. Monitor all accounts, reports and other documents prepared as to Section funds, revenues, and expenditures and seek to make certain that all such accounts, reports, and other documents are at all times accurate and correct;
- B. Report of the Section's present and projected financial condition at each meeting of the Executive Council and Section;
- C. Advise the Officers and Executive Council members as to the financial impact of any proposed action by the Officers, Executive Council, or Section which, in the



judgment of the Financial Officer, would have a significant impact on the financial condition of the Section;

- D. At least once a year, prepare and submit a projected budget to the Executive Council for approval or modification at such time as shall be expressly fixed by the Executive Council, which shall be completed with sufficient time to submit the same to the Section membership and the State Bar Board of Governors for approval;
- E. Maintain the Section budget following its approval by the Board of Governors;
- F. Render or cause to be rendered, to the Section membership at the annual meeting, or upon request, an account of the financial status of the Section.
- G. Prepare such other recommendations and special reports on the financial affairs of the Section as may be requested by the Chairperson of the Section.
- H. Be vested with any and all powers and duties necessary to fulfill the office of Financial Officer.

## ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

### Section 1. Standing Committees

The Section shall have the following standing committees:

- A. Nevada Family Law Reporter
- B. Family Law Practice Manual
- C. Military Affairs
- D. Continuing Legal Education
- E. Pro Bono Affairs/Mentoring
- F. Specialization
- G. List Serve
- H. Amicus Brief
- I. Legislative Affairs
- J. Nominations - Pillar Award

The Executive Council shall have the power to create other committees from time to time, or to dissolve a standing committee, as appears necessary.

Section 2. Members of the Committees

The members of the standing and any ad hoc committees shall be elected by the Executive Council from members of the Council or the Section with the exception of the committee chairperson which must be a member of the Executive Council.

Section 3. Meetings

The Executive Council or committee chairperson shall call all necessary committee meetings. Meetings may be held in person or via teleconference.

ARTICLE VIII  
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

All continuing legal education projects of the Section for which CLE credit shall be sought must be submitted to the State Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee for approval. The State Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee will administer and coordinate all such projects with the Section. Net profits or losses of all such projects shall be divided in a manner considered appropriate by the State Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee and Section, subject to approval by the State Bar Board of Governors.

ARTICLE IX  
LEGISLATION

This Section may draft legislation for the Nevada State Legislature, or propose to support or oppose the adoption of legislation by the Nevada State Legislature, provided the Section's proposed legislation or position on legislation is consistent with its purpose and (1) relates closely and directly to the administration of justice; (2) involves matters which are not primarily political and as to which evaluation by lawyers would have particular relevance if not related closely and directly to the administration of justice; or (3) comes within the Section's special expertise and jurisdiction. Any proposed legislative position must be adopted by the Section pursuant to this Section 8 and Section 7.10 of the State Bar of Nevada Bylaws. Any committee of this Section, including the Legislative Affairs Committee, may draft or propose to support or oppose the adoption of legislation by the Nevada State Legislature. Any such draft legislation or proposal must be approved by the Legislative Affairs Committee and Executive Council of this Section. If the Legislative Affairs Committee approves the draft legislation or the taking of the position pursuant to these Bylaws, the Legislative Affairs Committee or the Executive Council, by and through the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson, must present the draft legislation or legislative position to the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Nevada for review pursuant to Section 7.10 of the State Bar of Nevada Bylaws. No other committee of this Section is permitted to present the draft legislation or the proposal to the Board of Governors; only the Legislative Affairs Committee or Executive Council may do so and only after the draft legislation or proposal is approved by the Executive Council and Legislative Affairs Committees.

ARTICLE X  
AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Section by a majority vote of the members of the Section present and voting, provided such proposed amendment shall first have been approved by a majority of the Council. They shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE XI  
MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1.      Action of the State Bar of Nevada

No action of the Section shall be represented or construed as the action of the State Bar of Nevada until the same has been approved by the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Nevada.

Section 2.      Financial Obligations

The Executive Council is authorized to approve the payment of all financial obligations of the Executive Council and the Section.

Section 3.      Compensation of Expenses

No salary or other compensation shall be paid to any member of the Section for performance of services to the Section. However, the members may be reimbursed for such reasonable and necessary telephone expenses, reproduction expenses and any other out-of-pocket expenses which are incurred as a result of the performance of such services and are specifically authorized by the Chairperson and Financial Officers of the Section.