

BYLAWS OF THE
GENERAL PRACTICE SECTION
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR
Approved by Council June 12, 1986

ARTICLE I

Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name - The name of this Section shall be the Section on General Practice of the Virginia State Bar.

Section 2. Purposes - The purposes of the General Practice of Law Section are to plan and conduct programs, continuing legal education, publish and distribute educational and professional materials, and to undertake such other diverse activities as shall enhance the competence and skills of lawyers engaged in the general practice of law and improve their ability to deliver the most efficient and highest quality legal services to the community. The Section will strive to enhance the role and skills of the lawyer engaged in the general practice of law as members of the profession by providing a medium through which general practitioners may cooperate with, encourage and assist each other in the continuing resolution of the challenges in the general practice of law and in the administration of justice.

ARTICLE II

Membership and Dues

Section 1. Eligibility - Any member of the Virginia State Bar, upon request to the Secretary of this Section, shall be enrolled as a member of this Section and shall continue as a member so long as he remains a member in good standing of the Virginia State Bar and pays annual dues specified in Section 2 of this Article. Members so enrolled shall so constitute the membership of this Section.

Section 2. Dues - To further the work of the Section, each member shall pay to the Treasurer of the VSB Annual dues of \$20.00 (as of July 1, 2002), as approved by the Board of Governors of the Section and the Council of the VSB. New members enrolled during the last quarter of the calendar year shall have dues waived until the next calendar year.

Section 3. Meetings - The annual meeting of this Section shall be held during the annual meeting of the Virginia State Bar, in the same city or place, with such program and order of business as may be arranged by the Board of Governors. Special meetings of this Section may be called by the Chairman upon approval of a majority of the Board of Governors, at such time and

place as the Board of Governors may determine. The Secretary shall give notice to the members of the time and place of all meetings. The members of this Section present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all binding actions of this Section shall be by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE III

Board of Governors

Section 1. Number and Eligibility - There shall be a Board of Governors of this Section which shall consist of twelve (12) members. The initial Board of Governors shall be appointed by the President of the Virginia State Bar, and shall serve until the first annual meeting of this Section, at which time the Board of Governors shall be elected by the membership.

Section 2. Term - The appointed Board of Governors shall serve as the nominating committee at the initial annual membership meeting. Four (4) members of the Board of Governors shall be nominated and elected to serve for one (1) year; four (4) members for two (2) years; and four (4) members for three (3) years. "Year" designates a term beginning July 1 after the annual meeting and ending June 30 of the succeeding year. Thereafter, upon expiration of each of these initial terms, members of the Board of Governors shall be nominated and elected at each annual meeting of this Section for terms of three (3) years, beginning July 1 following the annual meeting at which they have been elected and ending June 30 three years later. Nominations at the initial annual meeting of the membership may be made from the floor at this Section meeting.

Section 3. Nomination - After the initial annual meeting and not less than sixty (60) days before each subsequent meeting, the Chairman shall appoint a nominating committee of at least five (5) members, not more than two of whom may be members of the Board of Governors. The nominating committee shall meet at the place of the annual meeting at a time designated by the Chairman of this Section and shall make and report to the Section nominations for any offices held by members whose terms expire on the 30th day of June following the annual meeting, or for any offices which are then vacant. Three members of the nominating committee shall constitute a quorum, and, if less than a quorum is present, the Chairman of this Section shall appoint new members sufficient to constitute a quorum. Other nominations may be made from the floor of this Section meeting.

Section 4. Election - All elections shall be by viva voce unless otherwise ordered by resolution duly adopted by this Section at the annual meeting at which the election is held.

Section 5. Duties and Powers - The Board of Governors shall have general supervision and control of the affairs of this Section, subject to the provisions of the Rules for Integration of the Virginia State Bar and the bylaws of the latter. It shall especially authorize all commitments or contracts which shall entail the payment of money and shall authorize the expenditures of all monies appropriated for the use or benefit of this Section. It shall not authorize commitments or contracts which shall entail the payment of more money during any fiscal year than the amount which shall have been previously appropriated to this Section for such fiscal year.

Section 6. Meetings - Regular meetings of the Board of Governors of this Section shall be held upon the call of the Chairman at least once in each quarter for the fiscal year of this Section, exact time and place of the meeting to be designated by the Chairman and the Secretary to give notice to each member of the Board. Special meetings of the Board of Governors shall be held at the request of the majority of the Board of Governors or at the call of the Chairman, and the Secretary shall give notice to the members of the Board. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum, and all binding actions of the Board shall be by majority vote. Absent members may communicate their vote in writing or by telegram to the Secretary and have it counted with the same effect as if it was cast personally.

Section 7. Vacancies - The Board of Governors, during the interim between annual meetings of this Section, may fill vacancies in its membership. Members of the Board of Governors and officers so selected shall serve until the next succeeding June 30 or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Section 8(a). Committees - The Board of Governors may designate committees and appoint the membership from Section members, to perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Board of Governors shall direct, subject to limitations of these bylaws and the bylaws of the Virginia State Bar.

(b). Ex Officio - The Board of Governors shall include as non-voting members the Immediate Past Chairman for the preceding two years of the Board of Governors and three judicial officers of the Commonwealth: one Circuit Court judge, one District Court judge and one Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judge. Initially, these judicial officers shall serve as follows: Circuit Court judge - three (3) years; General District Court judge - two (2) years;

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judge - one (1) year.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. Nomination and Election - The Board of Governors shall meet immediately following the annual Section meeting and shall elect from among their number a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, to hold office for a term beginning July 1 of each year and ending on June 30 of the next succeeding year, or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Section 2. Chairman - The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of this Section and of the Board of Governors. He shall formulate and present at each annual meeting of the Virginia State Bar a report of the work of this Section for the immediate past year. He shall perform such other duties and acts as usually pertain to his office.

Section 3. Vice-Chairman - Upon the death, resignation, or during the absence or disability of the Chairman, or upon his refusal to act, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman for the remainder of the Chairman's term except in the case of the Chairman's disability, in which event he shall perform the duties of the Chairman only so long as the disability continues.

Section 4. Secretary - The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, documents, and other property of this Section, except money. He shall give notice of all meetings of this Section and of the Board of Governors and keep a true record of the proceedings. He shall assist the Chairman in preparing a summary or digest of the proceedings of this Section at its annual meeting for publication in the Annual Report of the Virginia State Bar, after approval by the Executive Committee or the Council of the Virginia State Bar, or a committee designated by either.

Section 5. Vacancies - The Board of Governors shall fill any vacancy that may occur in the office of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Secretary.

ARTICLE V

Miscellaneous

Section 1. Fiscal Year - The fiscal year of this Section shall be the same as that of the Virginia State Bar.

Section 2. Expenses - All expenses incurred by this Section, before being forwarded to the Treasurer of the Virginia State Bar for payment, shall be approved by the Chairman or the Secretary, or, if the Board of Governors shall so direct, by both of them.

Section 3. Compensation - No salary or compensation shall be paid to any officer or member of the Board of Governors.

Section 4. Action of Section - Before any action of this Section becomes the action of the Virginia State Bar, it must be approved by the Council of the Virginia State Bar. Any resolution adopted or action taken by this Section may, on request of this Section, be reported by the Chairman of this Section to any meeting of the Council of the Virginia State Bar for the bar's action thereon.

Section 5. Printing - All printing for this Section or for the Board of Governors or by committees of this Section shall be done under the supervision of the headquarters office of the Virginia State Bar.

ARTICLE VI

Procedure

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the procedure at meetings of this Section and its Board of Governors.

ARTICLE VII

Effectiveness & Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1. Bylaws Effective - These bylaws shall become effective after approval by the Council upon recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Virginia State Bar and by this Section.

Section 2. Amendment - These bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of this Section by a vote of a majority of the members of this Section present and voting, provided such amendment shall first have been approved by a majority of the Board of Governors and provided, further, that no amendment so adopted shall become effective until approved by the Council upon recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Virginia State Bar.