

BYLAWS  
OF  
CUMBERLAND BAR ASSOCIATION

~~February 2005~~ January 2019

## BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I

#### Name and Seal

SEC. 1.1 This not for profit Association shall be called “Cumberland Bar Association”; it shall have a common seal bearing the name of the Association, place of location, and year of incorporation.

### ARTICLE II

#### Membership and Dues

SEC. 2.1 Any person licensed to practice law in the State of Maine may become a regular member of the Association upon application and approval of the General Committee and payment of the first year’s dues then applicable.

SEC. 2.2 Distinguished justices and judges shall be elected honorary members upon application and approval of the General Committee. Honorary members shall include those persons who have been licensed to practice law for fifty (50) or more years and who, at the time of application, are residing or working in Cumberland County. The General Committee may, in its discretion, approve honorary membership for other persons who have made a substantial contribution to the practice of law in Cumberland County.

SEC. 2.3 The General Committee shall set the annual dues for regular members, and may adjust the same from time to time by a three-fourths vote of such Committee. Dues are payable on or before the end of the first quarter of each year. Honorary members shall pay no dues. Members six months delinquent in dues may be suspended from membership, but payment of dues to date shall entitle such person to reinstatement. Members may resign from the Association if their dues are currently paid. Members who are in the military service of the United States shall be exempt from payment of dues, unless such service becomes a member’s permanent vocation.

SEC. 2.4 Any member who resigns from the practice of law or is disbarred shall without further proceedings be expelled from the Association; any member who is suspended from practice shall without further proceedings be suspended from the Association for a coterminous period.

SEC. 2.5 No member shall permit any reference to his membership in the Association to appear in any political advertisement wherein such member endorses any candidate for public office.

## ARTICLE III

### Officers and Elections

SEC. 3.1 The officers of the Association shall be members of the Association and shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Treasurer and a Secretary.

SEC. 3.2 The officers and ~~five~~ up to ten general members, together with the immediate past president, shall constitute the General Committee.

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SEC. 3.3 If the Executive Director of the Association is also a member of the Association, the Executive Director may serve as Secretary.

SEC. 3.4 One person may serve as both Treasurer and Secretary.

SEC. 3.5 The officers and the general members of the General Committee shall be elected from the membership of the Association by ballot at the annual meeting of the Association and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

## ARTICLE IV

### Duties of Officers

SEC. 4.1 Except as provided here, the President shall appoint all standing committees which shall consist of at least three members, and such special committees as the General Committee may direct. The President shall cause an audit to be made of the books of the Association not less than once every five years.

SEC. 4.2 The First Vice president shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President during the absence or disability of the President.

SEC. 4.3 The Treasurer shall serve as a member of the Finance Committee and shall receive the general funds of the Association and dispose of the same as directed by the General Committee. If so required by the General Committee, the Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount determined by the General Committee. All orders for withdrawals from the general funds by check or otherwise, shall be signed by the President or Treasurer or such other officers as designated by the General Committee.

SEC. 4.4 The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Association and of the General Committee, shall file all necessary reports on behalf of the Association with the Secretary of State, and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President or by the General Committee.

SEC. 4.5 The Officers shall possess the usual powers and perform the usual duties of the offices to which they are elected, in addition to such powers and duties as may be specified in these bylaws.

## ARTICLE V

### General Committee

SEC. 5.1 The General Committee of the Association shall have the duty, power and authority to plan the Association's activities, to represent the Association, and to manage its affairs during the intervals between meetings of the Association.

SEC. 5.2 The General Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancies, except that of the President or immediate Past President, occurring from any cause among the officers, General Committee and the Finance Committee of the Association, such appointees to hold office for the balance of any unexpired term.

SEC. 5.3 The General Committee shall annually hold at least ~~ten (10)~~six (6) monthly meetings, and additional meetings may be called by the President on his or her own initiative, upon written request of ten (10) members of the Association or upon written request of three (3) General Committee members. A majority of the members of the General Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A lesser number may meet and adjourn from time to time.

SEC. 5.4 The General Committee may appoint a liaison officer to represent the Association at meetings of the Maine State Bar Association.

## ARTICLE VI

### Committees

SEC. 6.1 Nominating Committee. This Committee shall consist of ~~five-three (53)~~ members of the Association appointed by the President with the approval of the General Committee. The Nominating Committee shall select candidates for the offices of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and ~~five-up to ten (510)~~ members of the General Committee, and shall present the names of the nominees at the Annual Meeting of the Association. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the Annual Meeting by any member of the Association in good standing.

SEC. 6.2 Finance Committee. This Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Association, appointed by the President, and the Treasurer. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for making recommendations to the General Committee concerning Association fees; shall cause to be prepared and submitted to the General Committee, within two months

immediately prior to the end of the fiscal year (which is a calendar year); a budget showing anticipated receipts, income and expenses for the ensuing fiscal year; shall ensure appropriate auditing of books and records; and shall be responsible for advising the General Committee regarding the investment of all endowment and trust funds.

SEC. 6.3 Grants Committee. This Committee shall consist of not less than three (3) members of the Association, including the President or First Vice President. The Grants Committee shall recommend to the Finance Committee each year an amount to include in the budget for grants and shall periodically award grants to individuals and organizations for purposes that fulfill the Mission Statement and Goals of the Association.

SEC. 6.4 Continuing Legal Education Committee. This Committee shall consist of not less than three (3) members of the Association and shall be responsible for organizing continuing legal education seminars to benefit members of the Association.

SEC. 6.5 Other Committees. The General Committee may establish other ad hoc or standing committees from time to time.

## ARTICLE VII

### Association Meetings

SEC. 7.1 There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Association at a time in the first quarter of each year to be designated by the General Committee. Notice of such meeting shall be given by the Secretary, or in the absence or disability of the Secretary by any member of the General Committee, by notices posted at the Cleaves Law Library and Court House and by any written means, including electronic, to each member at least five (5) days before said meeting. At this meeting, officers and members of the General Committee shall be elected and other business may be transacted.

SEC. 7.2 Special meetings may be called at any time by the President in the same manner as specified for the calling of an annual meeting, and shall be so called upon the written request of at least ten (10) members of the Association addressed to the President or Secretary, stating the purposes of such desired meeting.

SEC. 7.3 Twenty-five (25) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn from time to time.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Amendments

SEC. 8.1        These bylaws may be amended or rescinded by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any annual, regular or special meeting provided that notice of such a proposed action shall be given in writing to all members at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.