

## PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this committee is to maintain a meaningful relationship between the organized bar and the active duty judge advocate legal offices in this state. The committee should make itself available to the military communities in Alabama and the lawyers who are providing services for this substantial group of clients. It should serve as the vehicle for improving the professional relationship between the lawyers inside the gate at military installations and those outside the gate, so that each group can better serve its clients and the military and civilian communities as a whole. In addition, the committee should sponsor the annual Military Law Symposium, the goals of which are to offer attendees continuing legal education that will be of assistance to them in their military and civilian legal practices and to provide an opportunity for active duty, reserve, and National Guard personnel of services to interact.

The committee has an additional continuing goal to establish a good network of National Guard, Reserve, active and civilian attorneys to provide legal assistance in Alabama on military issues. The “Legal Assistance Program to Families When Soldiers are Deployed” shall be on-going.

The committee should recommend to the Bar ways more civilian-pro bono assistance can be carried out.

In addition, the committee should consider any or all of the following, as appropriate:

- (1) maintain liaison with each active duty judge advocate legal office in Alabama;
- (2) plan a meeting or gathering of staff judge advocates for discussion of specific military matters, e.g. garnishment of military pay, claims against the government, administrative discharge actions, and court martial rules and procedures; and suggest ways to improve the relationship between the military community and the Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service;
- (3) look for ways to provide more free legal seminars for military service members and their families;
- (4) conduct the Annual Military Law Symposium;
- (5) study and make recommendations whether to implement a “wounded warriors” program;
- (6) study and make recommendations for adequate legal assistance to soldiers and their families.

The committee shall elect from its membership a secretary who shall be responsible for a written record of its actions. The secretary, or a designee, shall keep minutes of all meetings of the committee, or of a subcommittee. The original of the minutes shall be filed with the Alabama State Bar within 14 days after the meetings to be made a part of the committee’s permanent file. The committee may divide itself into such subcommittees as may be necessary to effectively carry out its functions. The chairperson shall appoint sub-chairs for any subcommittee.

The committee shall meet at the call of the chair or co-vice chairs. The committee as a whole shall meet no less than two times during the year. The Alabama State Bar, through its designated staff liaison, will assist the committee in carrying out its purpose.

Done this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2020.



Robert G. Methvin, Jr., President  
Alabama State Bar