

MINUTES

ALABAMA STATE BAR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

**Alabama State Bar and via Zoom
March 6, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

President Tom Perry convened the meeting of the Alabama State Bar Executive Council at 2:00 p.m. at the Alabama State Bar.

ROLL CALL

The Secretary took the roll of the Executive Council, and the following were present:

Mark Boardman, Brannon Buck, Ryan Duplechin, Jana Garner, Tom Heflin, Fred Helmsing, Tom Perry, Pat Sefton, John Stamps, Ron Strawbridge, and Halron Turner

The following staff members were present: Terri Lovell, Roman Shaul, and Chad Coker.

The following members were absent: Aigner Kolom

QUORUM PRESENT

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGENDA and EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FROM JANUARY 9, 2025

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2025, WAS MADE BY PAT SEFTON, SECONDED BY RON STRAWBRIDGE, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2025, WAS MADE BY PAT SEFTON, SECONDED BY FRED HELMSING, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Tom Perry informed the committee of his participation in various events over the past two months. He attended the Investiture Ceremony of the Supreme Court justices in January. Perry stated he held a Harvesting Hope Task Force meeting and a section chair meeting. He also attended a UA Law tailgate function and was present, along with President-Elect Fred Helmsing and Vice-President John Stamps, at the ABA meeting in Phoenix.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Terri Lovell updated the committee on the recent success of the February bar exam wherein 325 examinees were tested. Lovell also addressed these additional matters: collaboration between the ASB and ALF regarding the IOLTA order issued by the Supreme Court; on-going efforts to review legislation pending before the legislature which might affect bar operations; grant issues affecting VLP funding and the decision to hold filling two vacancies until such time as funding is ascertained; notification from the Examiner of Public Accounts that an exit audit will be conducted on March 20, 2025; the hiring of a case manager employee for ALAP to begin on March 24, 2025; the creation of a Licensing Review task force to review the reciprocity rule; and provided an update on the HVAC installation along with the Fred Gray Courtyard progress.

GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

General Counsel Roman Shaul informed the committee his office had been busy with trials. He stated his office was planning a legal summit for April 22, 2025, and had provided to Chief Justice Stewart a Rule 7 memo. Shaul further informed the committee of a recommendation from the Client Security Fund Committee recommending a one-year moratorium on the collection of the \$25.00 client security fee from all members. He further stated there were various appointments which would need to be made for committees within the Office of General Counsel.

APPROVAL OF March 21, 2025, BOARD OF BAR COMMISSION AGENDA AS REVISED

A discussion was held regarding the approval of the revised agenda. The revisions would include a discussion regarding the employee state holiday schedule to coincide with the state holiday schedule and to further provide for appointments to various Office of General Counsel committee and commission positions.

MOTION BY PAT SEFTON TO APPROVE BBC AGENDA AS REVISED OF MARCH 21, 2025, WAS SECONDED BY BRANNON BUCK, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

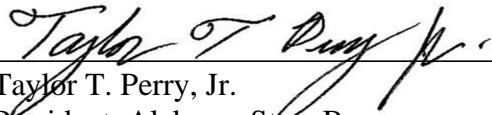
Ryan Duplechin discussed ideas brought to the Young Lawyers Association's board regarding efforts occurring in other jurisdictions concerning individuals completing legal internships in rural areas in order to gain licensure with their respective state bar associations. President Perry recounted how other jurisdictions were trying to address a lack of lawyers in their own rural areas.

A brief discussion was held regarding the progress of section membership. Executive Director Lovell informed the committee section membership had increased by 1,704 members reflecting a 19.7% increase over the previous year.

MEETING ADJOURNED

President Tom Perry asked if there was any further business to come before the Executive Council. There being no further business to come before the board, a MOTION BY RON STRAWBRIDGE TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY PAT SEFTON, WAS APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

Perry adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m.


Taylor T. Perry, Jr.
President, Alabama State Bar

ATTEST:



Terri B. Lovell, Secretary
Alabama State Bar