



Alabama State Bar

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Alabama State Bar Building and Via Zoom
415 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104
March 5, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Fred Helmsing convened the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary, Terri Lovell, took roll wherein a quorum was established:

Present: Raymond Bell, Mark Boardman, Jeff Bowling, Devan Byrd, Joel Connally, Jana Garner, Fred Helmsing, Will Lee, George Parker, and Tom Perry along with staff members Terri Lovell, Roman Shaul, and Chad Coker.

Absent: Christen Butler

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- *A Motion to Approve the agenda of March 5, 2026, was made by Will Lee, seconded by Jeff Bowling, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.*
- *A Motion to Approve the minutes from the Executive Council Meeting of January 29, 2026, was made by Joel Connally, seconded by Jeff Bowling, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fred Helmsing provided the Executive Council a summary of his bar engagement since January. In early February he attended the National Conference of Bar Presidents meeting in San Antonio, Texas, wherein he led a breakout session of the Southern Conference of Bar Presidents. He highlighted the life and contributions of William Barrett Travis, a lawyer from Alabama who commanded the troops at the Alamo. Helmsing announced the final two

Tackle Box events will be held in Phenix City and Andalusia in April. Helmsing mentioned he was honored to attend the Judge's Mid-Winter Conference in February where he addressed the Women's Section of the ASB at their luncheon. Most recently Helmsing attended the investiture ceremony of Justice Will Parker at the Alabama Supreme Court and participated in the Leadership Forum Supreme Court luncheon on March 4, 2026, at the bar building.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Terri Lovell discussed the passage of the recent bar legislation. She discussed the recent successful administration of the February bar exam wherein 318 people were tested with 76 receiving special accommodations. The bar exam will return to the BJCC in July 2026. Last week Lovell was informed the Sunset Review audit by the Examiner of Public Accounts was complete. She stated the bar continues to work with the Court regarding the Alabama Rules Governing Admission in anticipation of changes relating to Next Gen bar exam implementation in addition to rules regarding military spouses. Lovell stated the election website is live and most commissioners have qualified. It was announced the annual meeting registration would open next week for BBC members and that Law Day registration would soon be available. Lovell concluded her report regarding the efforts of Devan Byrd and the Young Lawyers Section with their outreach and legal boot camps occurring in Montgomery, Huntsville, Birmingham, Mobile, and Baldwin County.

GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

General Counsel Roman Shaul informed the Executive Council that the BBC would be voting on multiple disciplinary member positions in the upcoming BBC meetings. Shaul informed the EC of four new lawsuits concerning the bar arising out of the disciplinary process and discussed the forthcoming issuance of two new formal opinions from his office regarding agency artificial intelligence matters and ethical obligations surrounding payments through online means.

REVIEW AND FINAL APPROVAL OF JANUARY 30, 2026, BOARD OF BAR COMMISSION AGENDA

Executive Director Lovell announced the ABA House of Delegates discussion item had been inadvertently left off the proposed agenda.

- *A Motion to Approve BBC agenda, as amended, was made by Joel Connally, seconded by Jeff Bowling, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.*

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Chad Coker provided Alabama State Bar section data indicating an increase of 1,858 members in 2025-2026.

Finance & Audit Chair George Parker informed the EC that a Finance & Audit meeting had been held this date. Parker reported that investment accounts of the ASB and ASB Foundation continue to remain stable and the bar remains on solid, financial footing.

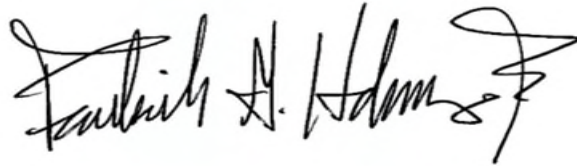
There was no old business.

MEETING ADJOURNED

President Helmsing asked if there was any further old or new business and there was none.

- *A Motion to Adjourn was made by Joel Connally, seconded by Will Lee, and approved by a unanimous vote.*

Helmsing adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.



Frederick G. Helmsing, Jr., Chair
Alabama State Bar

ATTEST:



Terri B. Lovell, Secretary
Alabama State Bar