

***IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING***

*October Term, A.D. 2023*

*In the Matter of the* )  
*Amendments to the* )  
*Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar* )

# ORDER AMENDING THE BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

**The Officers and Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar** have recommended that the Wyoming Supreme Court amend the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar. This Court finds the proposed amendments should be adopted. It is, therefore,

**ORDERED** that the amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar, attached hereto, be, and hereby are, adopted by the Court to be effective January 1, 2024; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this order and the attached amendments be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter; the attached amendments be published in the Wyoming Court Rules Volume; and this order and the attached amendments be published online at the Wyoming Judicial Branch's website, <http://www.courts.state.wy.us>. The amendments shall also be recorded in the journal of this Court.

**DATED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2023.

**BY THE COURT:**

/s/

**KATE M. FOX**  
Chief Justice

# BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

## ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

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### Section 2. Member Contact Information.

Each member shall furnish the following information to the Wyoming State Bar, and shall promptly advise the Wyoming State Bar in writing or by email of any changes, along with supporting documentation as appropriate:

- (a) Full name;
- (b) Residential address;
- (c) Physical and mailing address of office;
- (d) E-mail address;
- (e) Telephone number; and
- (f) Other jurisdictions in which the member is licensed to practice law.

Communications from the Wyoming State Bar to a member shall be sent to the most recent mailing address of record or e-mail address furnished by the member. Communications sent by either method shall be deemed received subject to challenge only upon clear and convincing evidence to the contrary.

### Section 3. Status of Membership.

The members of the Wyoming State Bar shall hold one of the following eight (8) statuses:

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#### (e) Honorary Retired:

(1) Is a former Wyoming Supreme Court justice, district court judge, chancery court judge, circuit court judge, judge or full-time magistrate of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, or any other federal judge residing in Wyoming.

(2) Is not authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming, but may provide mentoring to members of the Wyoming State Bar and to law students.

(3) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(4) Is not required to complete any CLE.

#### (f) Retired:

(1) A member in good standing who has reached the age of 65 years or has 25 years of membership in the Wyoming State Bar.

(2) Is not authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming, but may provide mentoring to members of the Wyoming State Bar and to law students.

(3) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(4) Is not required to complete any CLE.

(5) Submits to the executive director a written request to be placed on retired status.

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### Section 5. Annual License Fee.

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(b) During the first week of October of each year, the executive director shall send notification via email that the annual license fee is due. The annual license fee is due November 30 and delinquent December 1. If any member is in default for the payment of the annual license

fee on December 1, the executive director shall ~~send~~ mail a notice of delinquency and notice of late fee to any such member to the member's mailing address of record. If any member remains in default on December 15, the executive director shall certify to the Wyoming Supreme Court the name of such member. The Wyoming Supreme Court shall, within 30 days of the notice by the Wyoming State Bar, issue against such member an order returnable 30 days from the date thereof, to show cause why membership in the Wyoming State Bar should not be suspended. The order to show cause shall be ~~mailed by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to the attorney's address on file~~ sent by United States mail and by email addressed to the attorney at the attorney's mailing address of record and email address listed with the Wyoming State Bar. Upon receipt of the order to show cause, the member shall either pay the delinquent fees to the Wyoming State Bar or shall file a response to the order to show cause, along with six copies, with the Wyoming Supreme Court. A copy of the response shall also be provided to the executive director. If the member fails to pay the delinquent fees and the Wyoming Supreme Court finds that good cause is not shown in response to such order, an order of suspension from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year shall issue from the Wyoming Supreme Court. If the Wyoming Supreme Court finds that the member in default is unable for good cause to pay the annual license fee, the payment of such annual license fee for that year may be remitted or suspended in whole or in part by order duly entered by the Wyoming Supreme Court.

(c) When a person is first admitted to practice law in Wyoming, the annual license fee, which shall be prorated on a monthly basis beginning with the month of admission (based upon the Wyoming State Bar's fiscal year), shall be due 60 days after the date of admission. If any newly-admitted member fails to pay the annual license fee by 60 days after the date of admission, the executive director shall ~~send~~ mail a notice of delinquency and notice of late fee to any such member to the member's mailing address of record. If such member remains in default 75 days after the date of admission, the executive director shall certify to the Wyoming Supreme Court the name of such member. The Wyoming Supreme Court shall, within 30 days of the notice by the Wyoming State Bar, issue against such member an order returnable 30 days from the date thereof, to show cause why membership in the Wyoming State Bar should not be suspended. The order to show cause shall be ~~mailed by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to the attorney's address on file~~ sent by United States mail and by email addressed to the attorney at the attorney's mailing address of record and email address listed with the Wyoming State Bar. Upon receipt of the order to show cause, the member shall either pay the delinquent fees to the Wyoming State Bar or shall file a response to the order to show cause, along with six copies, with the Wyoming Supreme Court. A copy of the response shall also be provided to the executive director. If the member fails to pay the delinquent fees and the Wyoming Supreme Court finds that good cause is not shown in response to such order, an order of suspension from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year shall issue from the Wyoming Supreme Court. If the Wyoming Supreme Court finds that the member in default is unable for good cause to pay the annual license fee, the payment of such annual license fee for that year may be remitted or suspended in whole or in part by order duly entered by the Wyoming Supreme Court.

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(m) The suspended member may be reinstated upon the filing of a petition for reinstatement within one (1) year of the date of the order of suspension, which petition, along with six copies, shall be filed with the Wyoming Supreme Court. A copy of the petition shall also be served on the executive director. The petition shall include copies of the records required by subsection (j) and shall be supported by an affidavit which shows: (1) that all past annual license fees, the current year's

annual license fee and any late charges have been paid in full, in addition to all past and current fees for CLE; (2) that the attorney is current on all mandatory CLE requirements; (3) that there have been no claims or awards made in regard to an attorney on the Client Protection Fund for which the fund has not been reimbursed; and (4) the attorney has complied with all other applicable conditions for reinstatement. The petition shall be accompanied by ~~all appropriate fees for applicants for admission on motion~~ a \$300.00 fee either by check made payable to the Wyoming Supreme Court or paid to the Wyoming Supreme Court using the Court's online payment portal. A response by the executive director may be filed within 20 days of the date of service of the petition for reinstatement. The member shall not be eligible to practice unless and until the Wyoming Supreme Court issues an order of reinstatement.

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## ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

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### Section 2. Duties.

(a) *President.* - The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Wyoming State Bar, a member of the Executive Committee and a member-at-large of the Board of Officers and Commissioners. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Board of Officers and Commissioners, and the Wyoming State Bar annual business meeting. Additionally, this officer shall make recommendations to the Wyoming Supreme Court regarding appointments to all standing committees; and may create and appoint special committees; ~~and be a member, ex-officio, of every committee.~~

(b) *President-elect.* The president-elect shall be a member-at-large of the Board of Officers and Commissioners and a member of the Executive Committee; and perform all other duties assigned by the president or Board of Officers and Commissioners. The president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the event of the president's absence, ~~disability~~ incapacity, inability or refusal to act, or death.

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## ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

(a) Vacancies for the positions of president-elect, vice president, treasurer, commissioner, ABA delegate, and membership on the Judicial Nominating Commission, which vacancies arise by virtue of the expiration of the applicable term of office or membership, shall be filled as follows:

(1) Nominations must be signed by at least two active members and submitted to the executive director on or before July 1 for vacancies occurring in the coming twelve-month period. Nominations for commissioners must be signed by at least two active members who reside or maintain a practice within the applicable judicial district.

(2) In the event that no member is nominated for a given vacancy, the Board of Officers and Commissioners shall nominate one or more qualified candidates.

(3) The executive director shall provide an electronic ballot for all contested offices to all eligible voters on or before August 1 of each year. Only active members who have provided email addresses to the Wyoming State Bar shall be eligible to vote. Voters for vacant commissioner seats

must be active, resident members of the applicable district, and no member may vote for a commissioner in more than one district.

(4) Each candidate may submit a written statement containing 200 words or less in support of his or her candidacy, which the executive director shall publish with the electronic ballot.

(5) All voting will be electronic. All voting must be completed by August 31 of the applicable year.

(6) The candidate receiving the most votes for a ~~given~~ contested vacancy shall fill the vacancy for the following term. In the event of a tie for the most votes, a run-off election will be held among the candidates who tied for the most votes.

(7) Advance notice of upcoming vacancies and the procedure for nominating candidates and voting will be published in the *Wyoming Lawyer*.

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