

**Judicial Division
Lawyers Conference Bylaws**

**ARTICLE I
Name and Affiliation**

1.01 The name of this organization is the “Lawyers Conference”. The Conference shall be a part of the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association (ABA).

**ARTICLE II
Objects**

2.01 The objects of the Conference are to be the ABA’s dominant voice for attorneys in judicial administration, to provide a forum for lawyers and others interested in the improvement of the administration of justice and to collect, study and disseminate information and recommendations to solve critical problems in the administration of justice.

**ARTICLE III
Members and Associates**

3.01 Membership shall be open to all members of the Judicial Division.

3.02 Any Associate of the Judicial Division who otherwise meets the criteria of Section 3.01 shall be eligible to become an Associate of this Conference. Associates may participate in the affairs of the Conference, but may not vote or be an officer, delegate or Executive Committee member.

**ARTICLE IV
Meetings and Voting**

4.01 The annual meeting of the Conference shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Judicial Division of the ABA at a time to be fixed by the Executive Committee. It shall be for the purpose of electing officers, for receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

4.02 Special meetings may be held at such time and place as may be designated by the Executive Committee.

4.03 Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of any meeting of members shall be delivered either personally or by mail to each member entitled to vote at such meeting. Said notice shall be given a reasonable period of time prior to said meeting. Publication of such notice in any regular publication of the Conference or the Judicial Division shall constitute compliance with this provision.

4.04 All matters coming before any meeting of the Conference shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE V

Officers

5.01 The officers of the Conference shall be a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary. The Chair shall be a principal executive officer of the Conference, and shall supervise and control the affairs of the Conference, subject to the Executive Committee and the Conference. The Chair shall serve as the Lawyers Conference delegate to the Judicial Division Council.

5.02 The officers shall serve until the close of the annual meeting following that in which they have been elected or succeeded to the office.

5.03 The Chair-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chair at the expiration of the term as Chair-Elect. The Vice-Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair-Elect at the expiration of the term as Vice-Chair. At each annual meeting, the Vice-Chair and the Secretary shall be elected by a vote of a majority of the members present. In case of death, resignation, or other disability of the Chair, the Chair-Elect shall succeed to such office and the Vice-Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair-Elect, and both shall serve for the unexpired term and for the following year.

5.04 In case of death, resignation, or other disability of the Chair-Elect, the Vice-Chair shall succeed to such office and shall serve for the unexpired term and for the following year.

5.05 In case of death, resignation, or other disability of Vice-Chair or Secretary, the Executive Committee shall choose a replacement from among their number who shall serve until the close of the next annual meeting. A Vice-Chair so chosen shall not succeed to the office of Chair-Elect at the expiration of the term unless elected at the annual meeting.

5.06 A member of the Lawyers Conference who is an active judge or justice shall not be eligible for the officer positions of either Vice Chair or Secretary, except in such cases where a lawyer member of the Conference becomes a judge or justice during his or her term as Vice Chair.

ARTICLE VI

Delegate to the House of Delegates

6.01 The Division Delegate to the House of Delegates shall be appointed to a 3-year term by the Division pursuant to nomination by the Lawyers Conference to the Division Nominating Committee for so long as the Judicial Division determines that its Delegate will be recommended by the Lawyers Conference.

ARTICLE VII

Governance

7.01 The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, the Division Delegate to the House of Delegates, the immediate past chair, and nine members of the Conference to be elected by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting. In addition, any Lawyers Conference member who is serving as an officer of the Judicial Division shall be a member of the Executive Committee ex officio. The nine elected members of the Executive committee shall serve terms of three years.

The Executive Committee shall consider for membership representatives of allied organizations such as the National Center for state Courts, the National Association for Court Management, American Association of Law Librarians, American Judicature society, and others.

7.02 The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Conference between its meetings, make recommendations to the members and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these Bylaws.

7.03 All matters before the Executive Committee shall be determined by a majority vote of those present. A majority of the whole number of the Executive Committee present shall constitute a quorum.

When in the opinion of the Chair, by reason of emergency or other good cause, it is impractical for a meeting of the Executive Committee to be held, the Chair may, in the chair's discretion, obtain a decision of Executive Committee by mail, or other acceptable form of communication, and such decision shall have the same force and effect as a decision at a regularly held meeting.

7.04 Any member who, without prior approval, fails to attend three consecutive Executive Committee meetings shall be removed from the Executive Committee.

7.05 In case of death, resignation, removal or other disability during the term of an Executive Committee member, the Executive Committee shall designate a successor who shall serve until the close of the next annual meeting, at which time the vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the term by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

7.05 The Leadership Council of the Executive Committee shall be the four officers. The Leadership Council shall meet from time to time at the call of the Chair during the course of the year and may make decisions for the Executive Committee between Executive Committee meetings.

ARTICLE VII

Other Committees

8.01 The members of the Executive Committee may authorize the appointment of committees to accomplish the purposes of the Conference. Committee members, other than those serving on the Executive Committee, shall be appointed by the Chair.

8.02 The Chair shall appoint, not later than 90 days after the closing assembly of the ABA Annual Meeting, a Nominating Committee of no less than three Conference members, which shall report at each Annual Meeting its recommendations to fill the vacancies for officers, Judicial Division Delegate to the House of Delegates, and members of the Executive Committee. The names and mailing addresses of the members of the Nominating Committee shall likewise be published in any regular publication of the Conference or the Judicial Division no less than 90 calendar days prior to the opening assembly at the Annual Meeting.

The report of the Nominating committee shall either be sent to all members or published in any regular publication of the Conference or Judicial Division no less than 60 days prior to the opening assembly at the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations may be made by nominating petition signed by at least nine voting members and received by the Conference Administrator at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Staff

9.01 A Director and such assistants as necessary to provide support in the administration of the Conference will be provided by the American Bar Association.

ARTICLE X

Miscellaneous

10.01 The Lawyers Conference shall support the Division Diversity Plan and will seek to further fulfill its goals and objectives.

10.02 “Year” or “Years” as used in these Bylaws with reference to term of office shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which the holder of the office shall have been elected.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments

11.01 These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Conference by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided that no amendment so adopted shall become effective until approved by the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association.

(As amended, with approval of Board of Governors November, 1990, November, 1991, October, 1997, May 2005 and June 2010)