



STATE BAR RULES
As Amended June 2017

11. **“Ex Officio”** means by virtue or because of an office. Unless otherwise provided, one serving as an ex officio member of a body is entitled to vote.

12. **“Rules”** means the State Bar Rules.

13. **“Member”** means a member of the State Bar of Texas.

ARTICLE II GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Official Name

The official name of the State Bar is “State Bar of Texas.”

Section 2. Purposes of the Organization

The purposes of the State Bar are those as set out in the Act.

Section 3. Purposes of These Rules

These Rules are adopted for the operation, maintenance and conduct of the State Bar and for the disciplining of its members.

Section 4. Seal

The State Bar shall have a seal in the form of a five-pointed star, around the upper portion of which shall be written in capital letters, “STATE BAR OF TEXAS” and around the lower portion of which shall be written in capital letters, “CREATED IN 1939.” The seal may be used only for official business of the State Bar, its sections and committees.

Section 5. Principal Office of the State Bar

The principal office of the State Bar shall be maintained in Austin, Travis County, Texas.

Section 6. Service of Process

Service of citation or other process may be had upon the State Bar by serving either the executive director or the general counsel.

Section 7. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the State Bar shall be as determined by the board.

Section 8. Organizational Year

The organizational year of the State Bar shall be from time of adjournment of the annual meeting of the State Bar one year to the time of adjournment of the annual meeting of the State Bar of the next year.

Section 9. Oath of Office

Officers and directors of the State Bar, before entering upon the duties of office, shall take the official oath or affirmation set out in Art. 16, Sec. 1 of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

D. The board of directors may remove a director from the board at any regular meeting by resolution declaring the director's position vacant, pursuant to § 81.027(a) of the State Bar Act or Article IV, § 5 of these Rules.

Section 9. Executive Committee

A. The executive committee of the board shall consist of the president, president-elect, the chair of the board, the immediate past president of the State Bar, president of the Texas Young Lawyers Association and such other persons as the president may appoint. The president shall be chair, and the board chair shall be the vice-chair of the executive committee and shall preside in the chair's absence.

B. The general purpose of the executive committee shall be to perform between meetings of the board such functions, consistent with the Act or these Rules, as the board may assign to it from time to time.

C. The general counsel and the executive director of the State Bar shall be ex officio, non-voting members of the executive committee.

Section 10. Officers

A. The officers of the State Bar shall be the president, the president-elect and the immediate past president.

B. The president shall preside at all meetings of the State Bar, be the official representative and spokesperson for the State Bar in all public matters and have general responsibility for carrying out the policy of the State Bar.

C. The president-elect shall preside at meetings of the State Bar in the absence of the president and otherwise assist the president, as the president shall request, in carrying out the responsibilities of the office of president.

Section 11. President-Elect, Nominations and Elections

A. At its regular meeting next following the first day of each calendar year, the board of directors shall nominate two (2) or more members of the State Bar of Texas to stand for election to the office of president-elect for the ensuing bar year. Such nomination shall be by majority vote of the board.

B. Any other member of the State Bar of Texas shall also be privileged to stand for election to the office of president-elect when a written petition in form prescribed by the board of directors, signed by no fewer than five percent (5%) of the active members of the State Bar of Texas in good standing, is filed with the executive director or on before March 1 next preceding the election to be held for the office of president-elect for the ensuing year.

C. The names of all nominees for the office of president-elect shall be published in the *Texas Bar Journal* and otherwise publicized by such other practical means as the board shall determine.

D. In making nominations to the office of president-elect, both the board of directors and those persons who may be nominated by petition pursuant to Section 11(B) herein, shall be bound by the following geographical rotation:

interim president.

Section 14. Other Executive Positions

The executive director and general counsel shall be elected by the board and shall perform such duties as the Board may prescribe.

ARTICLE V FISCAL

Section 1. Budget Committee

There shall be a budget committee, comprised of the president of the State Bar, the president-elect, the chairperson of the board, and two (2) or more members of the board of directors appointed by the president. The president or his designee shall be chairperson of this committee.

Section 2. Public Hearing on Budget

A public hearing shall be held each year to consider the State Bar's proposed budget in accordance with the Act.

Section 3. Annual Budget

A. The budget committee shall consult with the executive director and the general counsel with respect to the annual budget for the State Bar for the fiscal year next after the committee's appointment. The proposed budget shall be prepared and submitted to the board at its first quarterly meeting each calendar year, and shall be acted on by the board at such meeting. After adoption by the board, the budget shall be submitted to the Court for approval.

B. The budget may be amended by majority vote of the board at any regular or special meeting in order to meet any unforeseen contingency, subject to the Court's approval.

Section 4. Expenses

The board may provide for the payment of necessary expenses incurred by the officers, directors, committee members, and employees of the State Bar in the discharge of their duties.

ARTICLE VI ADOPTING AND AMENDING THE STATE BAR RULES

New rules for the governance of the State Bar, and amendments to these Rules shall be adopted and promulgated by the Court as provided in the Act.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Section 1. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the State Bar shall be held during the month of June or July of each year at a time and place to be determined by the board.

Section 2. Special Meetings

A. Special meetings of the State Bar shall be called by the president upon two thirds (2/3) vote of the directors, or upon written petition of at least five hundred (500) members of the State Bar.

B. The time and place of such meeting shall be in accordance with the call.

C. Prior to any special meeting, the executive director shall mail to each member in good standing a notice of the time and place of the meeting and purposes for which the meeting is to be held. The notices shall be mailed sufficiently in advance of such meeting date so as to afford reasonable notice of the meeting.

Section 3. Procedure as to Proposed Resolutions

The board shall adopt a procedure by which resolutions may be proposed for adoption by the State Bar and for their review as to form in advance of presentation to the general assembly at the annual meeting. A brief resume of this procedure shall be published in the *Texas Bar Journal* prior to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES, SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS

Section 1. Creation, Membership, Officers; Vacancies

A. The board may create or dissolve from time to time such State Bar and board committees, sections and divisions as it may deem advisable. Their organizational structure, purpose and bylaws shall be subject to approval of the board. Membership of committees shall be comprised of presidential appointees. Membership of sections shall be comprised of members of the State Bar who pay the section dues and are otherwise qualified under the bylaws of the section. Membership of divisions shall be determined by their respective bylaws.

B. As soon as practicable after assuming office, and not later than the April board meeting of the calendar year in which the president-elect will assume the presidency, the president-elect shall prepare and present to the Board for its advice and consent a proposed roster of State Bar committees, committee chairpersons and committee members for the president-elect's term as president. The board at the April meeting shall approve the list of State Bar committees and the president-elect shall promptly notify the proposed chairpersons and members of their selection and obtain their consent to serve. Any necessary changes or additions in committee organization and personnel shall be reported by the president-elect to the retiring board at its June meeting and shall be finally approved by the incoming board at its first meeting of the new organizational year. Subsequent creation of special committees by the president and the appointment of the personnel thereof, shall be subject to approval by the executive committee or by the board at the earliest opportunity.

C. Officers of sections and divisions for the ensuing year shall be elected according to the respective bylaws at their annual meeting coinciding with the annual meeting of the Bar.

D. Vacancies occurring in membership of State Bar committees shall be filled by the president for the unexpired term and vacancies occurring in section committees shall be filled by the chairperson of the