

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, June 6, 2025, 9:00 a.m.  
Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida**

The 307<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia was held on the date and location shown above. President Ivy N. Cadle presided.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Governors Member Gillian B. Fierer, Atlanta Circuit, Post 38, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Board of Governors Member Tedra L. Cannella, DeKalb Circuit, Post 8, gave the invocation.

Security Update

Sgt. Dexter Harden gave a security update to the Board of Governors.

Special Recognition

President Ivy Cadle recognized the members of the judiciary, the past presidents of the State Bar, and other special guests in attendance.

Recognition of Retiring Executive Committee Members and Retiring Board Members

President Ivy Cadle recognized the following retiring Executive Committee and Board of Governors members: Hon. J. Antonio “Tony” DelCampo, Immediate Past President, 19 years; Brittanie D. Browning, YLD Immediate Past President, 3 years; Michael G. Geoffroy, Alcovy Circuit, Post 1, 7 years; Graham Elliott McDonald, Atlanta Circuit, Post 36, 5 years; Donna Stanaland Hix, Chattahoochee Circuit, Post 4, 14 years; Hon. Kathryn Lauranne “Katie” Powers, Clayton Circuit, Post 1, 5 years; Ronald Arthur Lowry, Cobb Circuit, Post 2, 18 years; Laura Joan Murphree, Cobb Circuit, Post 6, 12 years; Danny L. Durham, Columbia Circuit, 4 years; Rotsen Dara Diya “Chinny” Law, Member-at-Large, Post 2, 4 years; Edward R. Collier, Pataula Circuit, 12 years; Vernon L. Chambless, Waycross Circuit, Post 2, 2 years; Jason W. Swindle Sr., West Georgia Circuit, 8 years.

Resolution for G. “Pete” Donaldson III

Court of Appeals Judge Kenneth Hodges and Board Member Thomas Duck presented a resolution to Lea Donaldson, the wife of the late former Board Member Pete Donaldson, who passed away in December.

Roll Call

Secretary R. Javoyne Hicks circulated the roll for signature. The list of attendees is attached as Exhibit A.

Future Meetings Schedule

President-Elect Chris Twyman reviewed the Future Meetings Schedule.

Distinguished Service Award Presentation

President Ivy Cadle presented the 2025 Distinguished Service Award to former Chief Justice Michael Boggs for “conspicuous service to the cause of jurisprudence and to the advancement of the legal profession in the state of Georgia.” This award is the highest accolade bestowed on an individual lawyer by the State Bar of Georgia.

President’s Report

On behalf of President Ivy Cadle, Board Members Katie Powers and Bert Hummel delivered the President’s Address (Exhibit B).

State of the Supreme Court of Georgia

Hon. Nels S.D. Peterson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, delivered the State of the Supreme Court of Georgia address.

State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia

Hon. Amanda Mercier, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Georgia, delivered the State of the Court of Appeals of Georgia address.

State of the Office of the Governor

Executive Counsel Sam Hatcher delivered the State of the Office of the Governor on behalf of Gov. Brian Kemp.

Georgia General Assembly

Rep. Rob Leverett, House Judiciary Committee, reported on the activities of the House Judiciary Committee.

Young Lawyers Division

Young Lawyers Division President Kenneth Mitchell, Jr. reported on the activities of the YLD (Exhibit C).

Memorials

President Ivy Cadle presented the Memorials report.

Minutes of the 306<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held March 22, 2025, were approved by majority vote as presented.

*Board of Governors Meeting adjourned, Members' Meeting called to order.*

Establishment of the Senior Lawyers Division

1. Proposed Bylaw Changes to Article IX. Section 2. Senior Lawyers Division

The members of the State Bar of Georgia, by majority vote, approved the proposed bylaw change.

*Members' Meeting adjourned, Board of Governors Meeting called to order.*

2. Proposed Senior Lawyers Division Bylaws

The Board of Governors, by majority vote, approved the proposed division bylaws.

3. Proposed addition of Rule 1-707. Senior Lawyers Division

The Board of Governors, by majority vote, approved the proposed rule.

Proposed Amendments to the Rules of the State Bar of Georgia

Bar Rule 1-202. Membership Status.

This proposed change permits Non-Active Status members with at least five years of legal experience to provide pro bono legal services under specified conditions. The proposal also imposes new requirements on Emeritus Status members seeking to perform pro bono services. These requirements are set forth in a

new subsection (g) and include: (1) A minimum of five years of legal experience; and (2) Completion of a minimum of one hour of continuing legal education (CLE) relevant to the area of representation during each CLE renewal period. Inactive and Emeritus Status members may only represent clients referred through an approved pro bono organization. The revised rule vests in the Supreme Court the authority to approve pro bono organizations that Inactive and Emeritus Status members may provide pro bono services. Approved pro bono entities must supervise the services provided by Non-Active and Emeritus Status members to ensure the pro bono client receives legal services that are up to the standards imposed by these rules.

The Board of Governors, by majority vote, approved the proposed rule amendment.

#### Awards and Presentations

The following awards and presentations were made:

##### Marshall-Tuttle Award

Jay Elmore, chair of the Military Legal Assistance Program Committee, presented the Marshall-Tuttle Award to Bill Cassara.

##### Judge Willie Lovett Award for Advancing the Field of Juvenile Law

Supreme Court Justice Charles Bethel and Child Protection and Advocacy Section member Ira Foster presented the Judge Willie Lovett Award for Advancing the Field of Juvenile Law Award to Hon. Talia Johnson Nurse, associate judge, Douglas County Juvenile Court.

##### Chief Justice Harris Hines Award for Outstanding Advocacy for Children in Dependency Proceedings

Supreme Court Justice Charles Bethel and Child Protection and Advocacy Section member Ira Foster presented the Chief Justice Harris Hines Award for Outstanding Advocacy for Children in Dependency Proceedings Award to Quandula M. Wright, Worth County Division of Family and Children Services (case manager), and Ashley A. Stinson, Guardian Ad Litem Office, Child Advocacy and Juvenile Services, Gwinnett County Government (lawyer).

##### Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Awards

President Ivy Cadle presented the 24<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Awards to Hon. Hugh P. Thompson, retired, Supreme Court of Georgia, Milledgeville (judge); and Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Atlanta (lawyer).

##### Check Presentation to Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP)

President Ivy Cadle presented a \$488,608 check to Susan Coppedge, GLSP Executive Director, representing Bar members' contributions to the 2024 GLSP "And Justice for All" Campaign.

##### Recognition of Corporate Sponsors

President Ivy Cadle recognized the Bar's Five-Gavel Corporate Sponsors, i3 Verticals and Member Benefits, Inc.; One-Gavel Sponsor Milestone Reporting; and other section and company sponsors.

President Ivy Cadle presented the following Local and Voluntary Bar Awards:

Thomas R. Burnside Jr. Excellence in Bar Leadership Award: Angela Hsu, as nominated by the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association.

2025 Award of Merit: Newton County Bar Association (Under 50 members); Georgia Alliance of African American Attorneys (51 to 100 members); Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (251 to 500 members); Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (501 members or more).

2025 Law Day Award of Achievement: Newton County Bar Association (Under 50 members); Gwinnett County Bar Association (251 to 500 members); Cobb County Bar Association (501 members or more).

2025 Best New Entry Award: Georgia Alliance of African American Attorneys.

2025 Best Newsletter Award: Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (251 to 500 members); Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (501 members or more).

2025 Best Website Award: Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (251 to 500 members); Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (501 members or more).

2025 President's Cup Award: Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys.

President Ivy Cadle presented the following Section Awards:

Section of the Year: Alternative Dispute Resolution, Shan Momin, chair.

Section Awards of Achievement: Elder Law Section, Paul Hamilton, chair.

President Ivy Cadle recognized the 2025 Annual Georgia Legal Food Frenzy winners: Habachy Law (Attorney General's Cup); GreenbergTraurig LLP (Bar President's Award); BakerHostetler (Large Firm); Krevolin & Horst (Medium Firm); Durham Bray Law Firm (Small Firm); Law Offices of Nathan M. Jolles, PC (Sole Proprietor); Adam Law LLC (Sole Proprietor); Chick-Fil-A, Inc. (Corporate, In-House Counsel); Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC (Corporate, In-House Counsel); Magistrate Court of Fulton County (Judicial); Augusta Superior Court Judges (Judicial); Georgia Tech Office of the General Counsel (Legal Organization); and Mercer Law (Law School).

#### Old Business

There was no old business.

#### New Business

There was no new business.

#### Announcements

There were no announcements.

#### Executive Session

There was no executive session.

#### Remarks / Q&A / Comments / Suggestions

There were no remarks, Q&A, comments, or suggestions.

#### Adjournment

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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R. Javoyne Hicks, Secretary

Approved:

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Ivy N. Cadle, President