

BALTIMORE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
CONSTITUTION

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

This Association shall be known as “The Baltimore County Bar Association, Inc.”

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES**

The Association is formed for the purpose of maintaining the honor and integrity of the profession of law, cultivating better understanding among its members, maintaining its usefulness in promoting the due administration of justice, educating its members to a high standard of professional knowledge and professional ethics, participating actively in all matters pertaining to the Bench and Bar, and promoting good relationship and understanding between the Association and the general public.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section A. Regular Membership**

- 1) Attorneys  
Attorneys engaged in the practice of law who have been admitted to practice before the Court of Appeals of Maryland and who maintain good standing with the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland.
- 2) Judges  
A judge of the District Court of Maryland, of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, or any County in Maryland, of the Court of Appeals, of the Court of Special Appeals, of the Orphans’ Court of Baltimore County who is also an attorney, or a Maryland State or Federal Administrative Law Judge who is also an attorney.
- 3) Non-Attorney Member  
A Non-Attorney member is a law student who is attending or has graduated within the last year from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association, but is not yet admitted to practice before the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Non-Attorney members shall not have the right to vote at the Stated Meetings and may only attend such functions as designated by the Executive Council.

**Section B. Honorary Membership**

Honorary membership in the Association may be granted to an active member who has retired from the practice of law or the judiciary or in recognition of the extraordinary service to the legal profession having significance to the county, state or nation. An honorary member shall be entitled to the full privileges and benefits of membership in the Association without being required to pay dues. Honorary membership may be considered upon the request of a member to the Executive Council or by the Executive

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Council on its own initiative. If the Executive Council approves honorary membership, it shall submit its recommendation to the membership to be voted upon at an annual or stated meeting of the Association.

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section A. Officers**

- 1) The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a President-Elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Immediate Past President.
- 2) The term of each officer shall be for one (1) year. No person may serve for more than one (1) year in a particular office except as Secretary or Treasurer.
- 3) The officers, with the exception of the President and the Immediate Past President, shall be elected annually at the Stated Meeting.
- 4) The President-Elect shall automatically serve as the next President of the Association without challenge by competitive election.
- 5) No person may serve as an officer of the Association who has not served as an elected member of the Executive Council.

**Section B. Executive Council**

- 1) The Executive Council shall consist of the Officers of the Association, the Chair of the Young Lawyers Committee, and six (6) members, to be elected at large from the Association who have been members in good standing for a period of not less than five (5) years. The President and the Secretary of the Association shall be the Chair and the Secretary of the Executive Council. The Executive Council shall manage the affairs of the Association for the benefit of its members.
- 2) The six (6) At Large Members of the Executive Council shall be elected annually at the Stated Meeting.
- 3) The six (6) At Large Members elected to the Executive Council shall serve a one-year term.

**Section C. Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

**Section D. Indemnifications**

Each person, or such person's personal representative, made or threatened to be made a party to an action, suit or proceeding, civil, criminal or administrative, by reason of the fact that such person is serving or has served as a member of the Executive Council or Officer of the Association, shall be indemnified by the Association, to the extent indemnification is not otherwise provided by insurance, to the full extent against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement

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actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the action, suit or proceeding, or any threat thereof or any appeal thereon, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be within the scope of his or her duties and authority as an Officer or member of the Executive Council of the Association, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe such person's conduct was unlawful. Without limiting in any way the Association's obligation to provide indemnification, the Executive Council may obtain such insurance coverage as may be necessary to carry out the provisions for indemnification herein.

**ARTICLE V - VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS**

In case of a vacancy in an elective office, it shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Council until the next annual election, except in the case of a vacancy occurring in the office of the President, which shall be filled by the President-Elect of the Association.

**ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

**Section A. Annual and Stated Meetings**

There shall be an annual meeting of the Association in June each year, and stated meetings in February and October of each year. At the annual and stated meetings, and at any regular adjourned meeting thereof, all the powers of the Association may be exercised.

**Section B. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called (on such notice as shall be provided in the By Laws) at any time by the Executive Council, and shall be called, upon like notice, upon the written request of thirty-five (35) members of the Association. At such special meeting, no business shall be transacted except that specified in the call thereof.

**Section C. Quorum**

The presence of thirty-five (35) members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Association.

**ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

**Section A. Standing Committees**

The Association shall have the following standing committees:

1. Advocate Committee
2. Bench/Bar Committee
3. Budget and Finance Committee

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4. Constitution and By Laws Committee
5. Continuing Legal Education Committee
6. Entertainment Committee
7. Fee Arbitration Committee
8. Law Day Committee
9. Lawyer Assistance Committee
10. Lawyer Referral Committee
11. Long Range Planning Committee
12. Membership and Admissions Committee
13. Memorial & Recognition Committee
14. Nominating-Elections Committee
15. Pro Bono Committee
16. Professionalism Committee
17. Young Lawyers Committee

**Section B. Special Committee**

The Association shall have such other committees to be known as Special Committees as may be determined necessary and expedient for the efficient operation of the Association by the Executive Council.

**Section C. Constitution of Committees**

The number of members serving on a committee and their terms shall be determined by the Executive Council.

**ARTICLE VIII - ASSOCIATION DUES**

**Section A. Establishment**

The dues of the Association shall be established by the Executive Council from time to time, subject to approval by the membership.

**Section B. Regular Annual Payment**

Dues shall be payable in full in advance on or before the first day of January of each year, except as hereinafter provided.

**Section C. Payment by New Member**

The dues of any person approved for membership shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days of notice of approval of membership. Any person receiving approval for membership between January 1 and June 30 in any year shall be entitled to membership for the remainder of that fiscal year upon the payment of the annual dues.

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**Section D. Special Provisions**

The Association shall waive the 1st year of annual dues for any member who has been admitted to practice by the Court of Appeals of Maryland for less than one year.

Upon the recommendation of the Membership Committee the Association, upon a majority vote at a Stated Meeting, may confer honorary membership status upon a member and waive all future annual dues.

Non-Attorney members shall pay dues of \$25.00 annually.

**ARTICLE IX - SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS**

Any member of the Association may be suspended or expelled for non-payment of Association dues or assessments, for misconduct in his or her relation to this Association or for misconduct in his or her profession, as prescribed by the By Laws.

**ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any stated or annual meeting of the Association. In order for a proposed amendment to be considered, the following prerequisite must have been met.

- 1) The proposed amendment shall be subscribed to by thirty (30) members of the Association.
- 2) The Secretary shall have notified the members of the Association in writing that the proposed amendment would be voted upon at the meeting at least thirty (30) days prior thereto.
- 3) The Secretary's notice shall enclose a copy of the proposed change and the subscription thereto.