

**ALABAMA STATE BAR  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Alabama State Bar  
415 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104**

**Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Brannon Buck convened the meeting of the Alabama State Bar Executive Council at 1:32 p.m. at the Alabama State Bar building at 415 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama.

**ROLL CALL**

The Secretary took the roll of the members, and the following were present:

Brannon Buck (President)  
Felicia Long (Vice President)  
Tom Perry (President-Elect)  
John Smyth  
Raymond Bell  
Chris Driver (YLS President)  
Sam Ford (ALA President)  
Mark Boardman (Parliamentarian)  
Terri Lovell (Executive Director)  
Roman Shaul (General Counsel)

The following members were absent:

Gibson Vance (Past President)  
Josh Hayes

**QUORUM PRESENT**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 5, 2023, BY FELICIA LONG, SECONDED BY JOHN SMYTH, AND APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2023**

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2023, 2023, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MADE BY JOHN SMYTH, SECONDED BY FELICIA LONG, APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Buck shared with the Executive Council that plans are coming together for the regional ASB OutReach visits across the state. The first three events have been planned for November 8<sup>th</sup> in Brewton, November 15<sup>th</sup> in Jasper, and November 30<sup>th</sup> in Fort Payne. He also reminded the members that we are planning an ASB Leadership Summit to be held January 17-18, 2024, in Montgomery at the same time as the Judges Mid-Year Conference. He reminded the Executive Council to share the name and contact information for any other organizations that should be invited. President Buck informed the members that the Women's Section would also be holding events on January 17<sup>th</sup> to commemorate their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and asked Felicia Long to share more information. President Buck finally shared that he had the opportunity to speak to a joint meeting of the Federal Bar and the Montgomery County Bar that was well attended. He also shared that there has been a request to start a new section for National Guard members. The council members discussed the required procedure for starting a section and recommended several members for consideration to the task force that would be studying the proposal and making a recommendation to the EC and BBC. President Buck also reminded the members that there is a vacancy on the Securities Commission that will be an action item on October 27<sup>th</sup> and asked that they remind members that nominations are being accepted.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Terri Lovell reported on membership portal launch, work to prepare for the National Conference of Bar Examiners meeting with the Supreme Court, Bar Exam results, lawyer counseling plans, Pro Bono Month activities, Leadership Forum, and collaboration efforts on branch status issues related to the Supreme Court order of August 29. She asked Chad Coker to give the Executive Council an update on building maintenance and recent emergencies related to electrical and wiring. She concluded by indicating morale among staff is high, that the COLA increase was greatly appreciated, and that the staff has been supportive of each other during this busy season of dues renewals and membership database changes.

## **GENERAL COUNSELS REPORT**

General Counsel Roman Shaul updated the BBC on the dismissal of the pending civil lawsuit filed by a former employee on immunity grounds. He indicated that the Court had approved the proposed list of nominees for the Disciplinary Board that would be an action item on October 27<sup>th</sup>. He also discussed a rule change to the Rules Governing Admission related to the Alabama Online Course and a rule change proposed by the MCLE Commission clarifying that hearing officers must complete mandatory education.

## **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

Justice for All Task Force - Felicia Long shared information related to the task force's initial meeting, the subcommittee assignments, and the recent grant application in collaboration with the Alabama Law Foundation.

*The Alabama Lawyer* Review Task Force – John Smyth shared that the task force had met and divided into two working groups to address six focus areas.

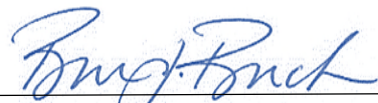
Legal Specialization Task Force – Sam Ford shared that he had met with the chairs of the task force and had also received valuable information from Cathy Sue McCurry about the history of specialization and the work that has occurred in recent years. He anticipates a meeting to be set in the near future.

## **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 27, 2023, BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE OCTOBER 27, 2023, BBC AGENDA MADE BY JOHN SMYTH, SECONDED BY RAYMOND BELL, AND APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

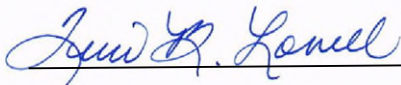
## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Buck thanked the members for their attendance and there being no further business before the Executive Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.



Brannon J. Buck, President  
Alabama State Bar Foundation

ATTEST:



Terri B. Lovell, Secretary  
Alabama State Bar