# ALABAMA STATE BAR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

# Alabama State Bar 415 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Brannon Buck convened the meeting of the Alabama State Bar Executive Council at 4:10 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)
Chris Driver (YLS President)
Sam Ford (ALA President)
Mark Boardman (Parliamentarian)
Raymond Bell
Josh Hayes
Terri Lovell (Executive Director)
Roman Shaul (General Counsel)

The following members were absent:

Gibson Vance (Past President) John Smyth

**QUORUM PRESENT** 

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2023, BY FELICIA LONG, SECONDED BY RAYMOND BELL, AND APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE RETREAT AUGUST 22-23, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 22-23, 2023, EXECUTIVE RETREAT MADE BY RAYMOND BELL, SECONDED BY FELICIAL LONG, APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Buck shared with the Executive Council that all the Orders of Appointments for all but one committee have been issued. He indicated that three task forces have been created: 1) Justice for All Task Force, 2) The Alabama Lawyer Review Task Force, and 3) Specialization Task Force. President Buck reported on the collaborative efforts of the Alabama Law Foundation, the Volunteer Lawyer Program, Legal Services, and the ASB to receive approval from the ABA Foundation on a Letter of Inquiry to make application for an access to justice grant. President Buck informed the Executive Council that Retired Judge Scott Donaldson has agreed to chair the Bench and Bar Committee and will be assisting in developing an educational series and a standalone CLE on civility. A proposed Leadership Summit to bring practice area groups and bar leaders from across the state to Montgomery in conjunction with the Mid-Year Judges Conference was discussed. He then shared that planning has begun on Regional CLE events that will take place around the state. He concluded by sharing that the Supreme Court entered an Order on August 25 finding that the Alabama State Bar conducts its regulatory activities (admission, licensing, and discipline) as an agency of the judicial branch. He explained that he and the Executive Director had been working with the Court over the past year to identify areas that are causing issues with the new procurement law and executive orders caused by not knowing the the ASB's branch status.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Terri Lovell reported on the Law School orientations, Membership Portal launch, and the recent building issues and repairs that are underway.

#### **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. The General Counsel also mentioned two new civil lawsuits filed in Montgomery County against the bar related to pending disciplinary matters. He also discussed the proposed amendment to Rule 26, Alabama Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and the nominations of members to the Disciplinary Board.

# **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

Felicia Long shared a report from the Justice for All Task Force and Sam Ford shared his effort to familiarize himself with the Specialization Board and the activity that will be involved with the Specialization Task Force.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

President Buck thanked the members for their attendance and there being no further business before the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Brannon J. Buck, President Alabama State Bar Foundation

ATTEST:

Terri B. Lovell, Secretary Alabama State Bar