



Camden County Bar Association  
Revised Constitution & Bylaws  
as Amended December 2016

**CAMDEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
AS AMENDED DECEMBER 2016**

**ARTICLE I  
NAME AND MISSION STATEMENT**

The name and mission of this Association as stated in these Articles of Incorporation are:

The name assumed and adopted by us to designate this Association and to be used in its dealings and business is “The Camden County Bar Association.” The mission for which this Association is formed is to maintain the honor and dignity of the legal profession, to cultivate social relations among its members, to promote and encourage the more profound study of the law, to promote better relations and understanding of the law by and with the public, the due administration of justice, and reformation of the law, to liaison and cooperate with the Courts toward efficient operation and speedy trials, mindful of the primary right of equal justice to all, and to create foundation or funds for scholarships and beneficent activities on behalf of the Community, be it local, state or national.

**ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP & TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Association shall consist of five (5) classes of members, and the mention of gender anywhere in these By-laws shall be interpreted to refer to male or female, as appropriate: Regular, Affiliated, Student, Faculty, and Public Sector. The Board of Trustees may create classes of non-voting membership and shall establish procedures for the application and admittance to all classes of membership. An eligible voting member is defined herein as a “Regular Member” whose dues are paid in full for the fiscal year in which the election or vote is being held, and who has retained the qualifications of a “Regular Member” as set forth in Article II, Section 1 of these By-Laws in accordance with voting and/or election procedures set forth in these By-laws.

**Regular Members**

1. Any member of the Bar of New Jersey in good standing, and in good standing in all jurisdiction of licensure; upon payment of the annual dues at the time payable, and subscribing to the Bylaws, shall, upon approval by the Board of Trustees, be eligible for regular membership and shall continue to be a regular member in good standing upon payment of periodic dues. Regular members have the right to participate in and vote at meetings and at the annual meeting of this Association.

**Affiliated Members**

2. The Board of Trustees may from time to time admit to membership as Affiliated Members, without right to vote at meetings or at the annual meeting, individuals engaged in paralegal activity, Court Appointed personnel and other individuals whose daily and principal activity is with the Courts and administration of justice.

### **Student Members**

3. Any law student affiliated with an accredited law school or law school graduate who has not yet been admitted to the Bar of any State may, upon approval by the Board of Trustees, be admitted as a Student Member of the Association, without right to vote at meetings or at the annual meeting. Upon admission to the Bar of any State, the Student Member may become a Regular member of the Association upon subscribing to the Bylaws without payment of dues until the expiration of the calendar year of his admission to the Bar of New Jersey.

### **Faculty Members**

4. Full-time faculty members of any accredited law school may, upon written application, be admitted as Faculty Member of this Association without right to vote at meetings or at the annual meeting, during such period of time that such applicants are faculty members of such law school.

### **Public Sector Members**

5. Any full-time attorney who is employed by an agency of the state, federal, or local government, or employed full-time by a legal services corporation may be admitted as a Public Sector member of this Association without right to vote at meetings or at the annual meeting. (This category is intended for full-time staff members of the Prosecutor's Office – both state and federal, the Public Defender's Office – both state and federal, other members of the Attorney General's Office and South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.).

### **Inactive Members**

6. The Board of Trustees may from time to time, upon written application, convert the membership of any member who, due to reason of illness, infirmity or for other good cause, seeks to become an inactive member of the Association without the right to vote at meetings or at the annual meeting.

### **Fees and Dues of Members**

7.
  - (a) The annual dues for all types of memberships, shall be fixed by the Board of Trustees, payable in advance, and in such amounts and installments and on such dates as fixed by the Board of Trustees not later than the April meeting next preceding the month of June, based upon budgeted expenditures. The fiscal year of the Association shall commence June 1st of each year.
  - (b) The Board of Trustees annually may adjust the said dues based upon the length of time of admission to the Bar.

(1) Members on active military service shall be exempt from payment of dues during such period of time.

(2) Student Members shall be exempt from the payment of dues during the period of time that they qualify as Student members of this Association.

(3) Inactive Members shall pay one-half of the Regular Member dues rate during the period of time that they continue as Inactive members of this Association.

- (c) Members of this Association who become medically unable to practice law upon a full-time basis shall, upon written request, and approval by the Board of Trustees, be exempt from payment of dues during such period of time.

### **Non-payment of Dues**

8. If any member of the Association is in default in the payment of dues, for more than ninety (90) days after the deadline for payment of such dues, all rights and benefits of membership shall be suspended. If the annual dues are not paid in full by December 1 for that membership year, the Board of Trustees may vote to remove that individual from membership in the Association, subject to reinstatement only upon written application for membership.

### **Misconduct of Members**

9. The Board of Trustees may vote to suspend, censure or expel a member of this Association as the result of unethical conduct or misconduct in his relations to this Association or in his profession, or by virtue of being disbarred or suspended from the practice of law by the Supreme Court of any jurisdiction in which he is admitted to practice law. If an instance of unprofessional conduct is reported to the Association, or if the Association becomes aware of such conduct, the Board shall refer the matter to the Professionalism Committee of the Association to give consideration to the allegations and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as appropriate.

## **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

1. The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a President-elect, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, the Immediate Past president and fifteen (15) Trustees, five of such Trustees to be elected annually for a term of three (3) years each, all of whom shall be active members of the Association.
2. All Officers, except Trustees, shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and until in each case his successor is elected; provided, however, the President-elect shall assume the office of President upon termination of the term of office of the President. The members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and until their respective successors shall have been elected. No member of the Board of Trustees shall be eligible to succeed himself for more than two (2) consecutive 3-year terms. This restriction shall not apply to a member appointed to

fill the remaining term of a trustee seat preceding the first 3-year term. At the end of the second consecutive term, a member desiring a subsequent term of service must wait one (1) year before election to a new term of service.

### **Election of Officers – Nominating Committee**

3. (a) The officers and trustees of this Association shall be elected on an annual basis by process to be completed not later than May 1 of each calendar year. The Board of Trustees shall determine the time, place and voting method (including but not limited to in-person, mail-in and/or e-mail or any other such method that ensures a fair electoral process) that shall be employed for the annual election of officers and trustees.
- (b) The President, not later than one hundred fifty (150) days before the scheduled election shall designate the immediate five (5) past Presidents who are members of the Association, the incumbent President and the incumbent President-elect and the incumbent Vice President and the incumbent Treasurer (removed the second-Vice President) as the Nominating Committee, who shall present to the Board of Trustees within sixty (60) days of such designation a list of members nominated by them for offices to be filled at the annual election. In addition, the President shall, at the same time, appoint a Nominating Committee, no more than five (5) in number, each of whom shall be attorneys 35 years of age or younger or attorneys who are members of the Bar of New Jersey for a period of less than five (5) years, and members of the Young Lawyer Committee, who will nominate and submit to the Board of Trustees within sixty (60) days a nominee who shall be a member of the Bar 35 years of age or younger, or who is a member of the Bar of New Jersey for a period of less than five (5) years and a member of the Young Lawyer Committee, to serve for a term of one (1) year as a Young Lawyer Trustee; provided, however, the regular Nominating Committee above shall not be limited in also nominating a member of the Bar 35 years of age or younger, or who is a member of the Bar of New Jersey for a period of less than five (5) years, for a three-year term to the Board of Trustees. All young lawyers so defined herein shall enjoy all the rights, privileges and benefits which other members of the Bar have.
- (c) No less than eighty-five (85) days prior to the scheduled election, the President shall notify the voting membership of those individuals nominated for office in the Association. Additional nominations may be made by petition for Secretary and any unexpired officer position except President. Such nomination must be made in writing signed by eighty-five (85) regular members in good standing, not less than sixty (60) days before any scheduled election designating therein the office for which the nomination is made and the written consent of such person to serve if so elected on such nomination petition.
- (d) The nomination by the Nominating Committee and any names properly submitted by the members prior to the scheduled election shall then be

published in the publication of the Camden County Bar Association, presently known as *The Barrister*, or its successor, at least fifty-three (53) days before the date of the election. No nominations can be made less than sixty (60) days prior to a scheduled election except to fill a vacancy by death or refusal to accept a nomination, and then only if such vacancy leaves no one in nomination for the office under consideration.

- (e) All elections shall be by ballot, either in writing or electronically as the Board of Trustees shall determine, and the nominee for each office who receives the majority of votes cast shall be elected to that office.
- (f) The Secretary's roll of active members in good standing shall be evidence of the right to vote in such election and, in case of a contested election, three (3) tellers, and if necessary, a chairperson and secretary shall be appointed by the President as the presiding officers and the chairperson shall supervise the election. In the event that no nominations by petition are received and the nomination submitted by the Nominating Committee is uncontested then no election shall be required.
- (g) In computing any period of time, the last day of the period so computed is to be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, nor legal holiday.

#### **New Jersey State Bar Trustee for Camden County**

4. Within 5 business days after receiving notice from the New Jersey State Bar Association that it is seeking the nomination of interested individuals to serve as the County of Camden's representative on the State Bar Association, a notice will be placed in the publication of the Camden County Bar Association, presently known as *The Barrister*, or its successor, if any, advising its members of the forthcoming election by the New Jersey State Bar Association and directing that interested nominees for the office submit a letter addressed to the Executive Director of the Camden County Bar Association, by a date certain, signifying their interest in becoming a New Jersey State Bar Trustee. Each interested nominee's letter should describe their qualification to serve in that office, together with a recent resume and curriculum vitae. The Trustee of the New Jersey State Bar Association for the County of Camden shall, by virtue of his office, be a voting member of the Board of Trustees of this Bar Association and shall serve a two (2) year term.

In addition to the aforesaid right of individuals to submit their names to the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Camden County Bar Association for consideration, the individual members of the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Camden County Bar Association may, within the aforesaid time frame, submit name(s) of individuals for consideration to be placed in nomination for election by the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Following the aforesaid, the names of the foregoing persons, if five (5) or less in number, shall be voted upon by the Officers and Board of Trustees at a monthly

meeting held as soon as practicable prior to the State Bar election, with the designee to be the person with the highest number of votes, and in the event the number of nominees is in excess of five (5) persons, the names shall be submitted by the Executive Director to the Officers of the Camden County Bar Association for review and selection therefrom of the names of five persons who have participated in the Camden County Bar Association activities, which names shall be presented to the Board of Trustees for voting as aforesaid and submission of the name of the person so elected to the State Bar for election as Trustee from Camden County on the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

### **Board of Trustees**

5. The Trustees, together with the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall constitute a Board to be called the Board of Trustees, ten (10) members of which shall constitute a quorum. The President of the Association shall be Chairman of the Board and Secretary of the Association shall be Secretary of the Board.
6. Any Officer or Trustee may be removed from office for cause, or any Officer or Trustee who fails to attend three (3) consecutive Board meetings in any twelve-month period, may be removed as an Officer or Trustee of the Association, after due opportunity for a hearing. The Secretary of the Association shall give written notice of these By-Laws to any Officer or Trustee who misses two (2) meetings in any twelve-month period. No Officer or Trustee, however, can be removed unless he is found guilty of neglect of his duties or absence from meetings, and then only upon a hearing before the Board of Trustees and by majority vote of the whole Board, of which he shall have five (5) days' notice, and the said Board of Trustees shall then report its action to a meeting of this Association, which report must be approved by a majority of the members present and voting at the meeting at which the report is acted upon. At least five (5) days' notice of such contemplated action shall be given to the active member of the Association by mail or by publishing the same in the publication sponsored by the Bar Association.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the President-Elect shall act as President, and in the event of the vacancy of the President-Elect acting as President, the Vice President shall act until the next annual election. In the event of a vacancy in any other office or on the Board of Trustees, the President shall make an appointment, and the person appointed shall hold office until the next annual election, at which time, in the case of a Trustee, a new Trustee shall be elected for the unexpired term of the Trustee whose office shall have become vacant.

### **Duties of Presiding Officer**

7. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, and in his absence, or at his request, the President-Elect shall preside, and in his absence the Vice President shall preside.

### **Duties of Secretary**

8. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, and all other matters of which a record shall be deemed advisable, or be ordered by the Association or its Trustees. She shall notify the Officers and Members of their election or suspension, keep a roll of the Members, issue notices of all meetings, and shall conduct the correspondence of the Association. The Board of Trustees may appoint an Assistant Secretary.

### **Duties of the Treasurer**

9. The Treasurer shall collect, and under the direction of the Board of Trustees disburse, all funds of the Association. He shall keep regular accounts, which shall be open at all times to the inspection of any active members, and shall report to each regular meeting of the Association. His accounts shall be audited annually by a committee of two (2) members appointed by the President at the annual meeting. The Board of Trustees may appoint an Assistant Treasurer.

### **Duties of the Board of Trustees**

10. The Board of Trustees shall be the managing body of the Association and shall direct its affairs. The Board of Trustees shall have charge of the Association's funds and the appropriation thereof; shall make such regulations, not inconsistent with the By-Laws, as it deems necessary for the protection of the property of the Association and for the preservation of good order in the conduct of its affairs; shall keep a record of its proceedings and report monthly to the Association, and shall conduct all other affairs of the Association not otherwise provided for in the By-Laws, including and not by way of limitation, employment of an Executive Director, and fixing his duties and salary, who shall attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees and perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Officers and Board of Trustees; the publication, electronic or otherwise, of a newsletter or other document devoted to the interest of the Association and may act in all respects doing any act as necessary between meetings, provided such action shall be reported at the next regular meeting, which action shall be subject to review, approval, modification or repeal at such time.

### **Nominations for Camden County Delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates**

11. Within 30 days prior to the date of the election to be held by the Camden County Bar Association Board of Trustees for the election of the representative from Camden County to the American Bar Association House of Delegates, a notice will be placed in the publication of the Camden County Bar Association, presently known as The Barrister, or its successor, if any, advising its members of the forthcoming election and directing that interested nominees for the office submit a letter addressed to the Executive Director of the Camden County Bar Association, by a date certain, signifying their interest in becoming the American Bar Association Delegate, and describing therein why he or she feels that they are uniquely qualified to represent Camden County as such and confirming their status as a member in good standing of the American Bar Association, together with a recent resume and curriculum vitae.



The person elected to serve in this capacity shall be a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees of this Association.

In addition to the aforesaid right of individuals to submit their names to the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Camden County Bar Association for consideration, the individual members of the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Camden County Bar Association may within the aforesaid time frame submit name(s) of individuals for consideration to be placed in nomination.

Following the aforesaid, the names of the foregoing persons, if five (5) or less in number, shall be voted upon by the Officers and Board of Trustees at the monthly meeting held to consider this selection, with the designee to be the person with the highest number of votes, and in the event the number of nominees is in excess of five (5) persons, the names shall be submitted by the Executive Director to the Officers of the Camden County Bar Association for review and selection therefrom of the names of the five (5) persons who have participated in Camden County Bar Association activities, which names shall be presented to the Board of Trustees for voting as aforesaid.

#### **ARTICLE IV MEETINGS**

1. As deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees, monthly member events of the Association may be designated as general membership meetings. General membership meetings may also be called by the President of this Association or upon written request of two-thirds (2/3) of regular members of this Association in good standing. Twenty (20) voting members shall constitute a quorum at all general membership meetings.
2. It shall be permissible for a vote to be taken by mail or other such method, including electronic voting, as determined by the Board of Trustees upon resolution by written request therefore of 25 paid up members, which request shall recite in full the resolution to be voted upon, with a preamble stating the reason and need for same, and the members shall have ten (10) days from the date of request to vote thereon, the day of tally to be on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after the date of request, provided, however, if the 10<sup>th</sup> day falls on a Saturday or Sunday or holiday, then the tally shall take place on the next business day.

#### **ARTICLE V COMMITTEES**

1. The President of the Association shall have the power to appoint such Committees with such powers and duties as he shall deem advisable upon his election to office for a one-year term in office of the respective year of appointment.
2. The President of the Association shall have the power to appoint the members of the "Judicial and Prosecutorial Due Diligence Committee" in accordance with the rules for County Bar Judicial and Prosecutorial Due Diligence Committees as may from time to time be revised and promulgated by the New Jersey State Bar Association.

The President of the Association shall annually designate a member of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Due Diligence Committee to serve as Chairman of the said Committee for the year. In the event of a vacancy on the said Committee, the President in office at the said time shall appoint a successor for such vacancy to serve for the unexpired term of such vacancy. The President of the Camden County Bar Association shall serve as a member of the Judicial Appointments Committee ex- officio with power to vote as such member.

## **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

These By-laws may be amended by a majority vote of Regular Members in good standing in attendance at any regular or special meeting of the Association called in accordance with Article IV of these By-laws. Proposed amendments must be circulated to the entire membership not less than thirty (30) days prior to any such scheduled meeting. Upon compliance with the above provisions as to publication, etc., the proposed amendment, or any modification thereof, may be acted upon and adopted.