

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

April Term, A.D. 2020

In the Matter of the)
Amendments to the)
Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar)

ORDER AMENDING THE BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

The Officers and Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar have recommended that the Wyoming Supreme Court amend the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar. This Court finds the proposed amendments should be adopted. It is, therefore,

ORDERED that the amendments to the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar, attached hereto, be, and hereby are, adopted by the Court to be effective July 1, 2020; and it is further

ORDERED that this order and the attached amendments be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter; the attached amendments be published in the Wyoming Court Rules Volume; and this order and the attached amendments be published online at the Wyoming Judicial Branch's website, <http://www.courts.state.wy.us>. The amendments shall also be recorded in the journal of this Court.

DATED this 28th day of April, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

MICHAEL K. DAVIS
Chief Justice

BYLAWS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 3. Status of membership.

The members of the Wyoming State Bar shall hold one of the following eight (8) statuses:

(a) Active:

(1) Is authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(2) Pays the annual license fee pursuant to Article I, Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar.

(3) Completes Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”) as required by the Rules of the Wyoming State Board of Continuing Legal Education (the “CLE rules”).

(4) Any member who seeks to change from inactive status, honorary status, honorary retired status, retired status or emeritus status to active status must file a written request and certification with the executive director demonstrating, to the satisfaction of the executive director, one of the following:

(i) The member has engaged in the active, authorized practice of law as defined in Rule 303 of the Rules and Procedures Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in one or more states, territories or districts for five of the seven years immediately preceding the request to return to active status; or

(ii) If the member has held inactive status, honorary retired status, retired status or emeritus status:

(a) for less than three years, the member must complete one (1) year’s required CLE and pay the license fees required of active status members for the fiscal year in which the request is made. Such CLE must have been completed during the one-year period preceding the written request to change to active status.

(b) for more than three years but less than five years, the member must complete two (2) years’ required CLE and pay the license fees required of active status members for the fiscal year in which the request is made. Such CLE must have been completed during the two-year period preceding the written request to change to active status.

(c) for more than five years but less than seven years, the member must complete three (3) years’ required CLE and pay the license fees required of active status members for the fiscal year in which the request is made. Such CLE must have been completed during the two-year period preceding the written request to change to active status.

(d) for more than seven years, the member may return to active status only by complying with the admission requirements set forth in the Rules and Procedures Governing Admission to the Practice of Law.

(5) The foregoing requirements notwithstanding, for good cause shown by clear and convincing evidence, the Board of Officers and Commissioners may waive, modify or impose conditions upon written request for a return to active status.

(6) Any member who changes from another status to active status must remain on active status for one full year before requesting a different status.

(b) New active:

(1) Has been licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction for five (5) years or less.

(2) Is authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(3) Pays a reduced license fee pursuant to Article I, Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar.

(4) Completes CLE as required by the CLE rules.

(c) Inactive:

(1) Is not authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(2) Pays a reduced license fee pursuant to Article I, Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Wyoming State Bar.

(3) Is not required to complete any CLE.

(4) Submits to the executive director a written request to be placed on inactive status.

(d) Honorary:

(1) Is a current Wyoming Supreme Court justice, district court judge, chancery court judge, circuit court judge, judge or full-time magistrate of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, or any other full-time federal judge residing in Wyoming.

(2) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(3) Is not required to complete any CLE.

(e) Honorary Retired:

(1) Is a former Wyoming Supreme Court justice, district court judge, circuit court judge, judge or full-time magistrate of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, or any other federal judge residing in Wyoming.

(2) Is not authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(3) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(4) Is not required to complete any CLE.

(f) Retired:

(1) A member in good standing who has reached the age of 65 years or has 25 years of membership in the Wyoming State Bar.

(2) Is not authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(3) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(4) Is not required to complete any CLE.

(5) Submits to the executive director a written request to be placed on retired status.

(g) Suspended:

Has been suspended by the Wyoming Supreme Court for violation of the Wyoming Rules of Professional Conduct, for non-payment of license fees, for non-compliance with the CLE rules, or placed on immediate suspension by the Wyoming Supreme Court.

(h) Emeritus:

(1) A member in good standing who has reached the age of 65 years or has 25 years of membership in the Wyoming State Bar.

(2) Is authorized to perform pro bono legal services as defined in the CLE rules or mentor another lawyer, but not otherwise authorized to practice law in the State of Wyoming.

(3) Is not required to pay a license fee.

(4) Is required to complete reduced CLE as provided in the CLE rules.

(5) Submits to the executive director a written request to be placed on emeritus status.

In order for a request for status change to be considered, the member must not be in arrears on license fees or CLE requirements, ~~or any obligation to the Client Protection Fund~~ unless the member submits a request to change to retired status on or before December 31 of the year in which the license fee is due. A member with an outstanding obligation to the Client Protection

Fund may not request a change of status. With the exception of suspended members, all members are eligible to serve on boards or committees.

Section 4. Withdrawal from membership.

Any person having been admitted to the Wyoming State Bar who desires to withdraw therefrom shall submit a request to the Wyoming State Bar. The request shall be reviewed by the executive director, who shall then make a recommendation for action on the request to the Wyoming Supreme Court. The Wyoming Supreme Court may then enter such order as it deems appropriate. According to the terms of the order allowing withdrawal by the Wyoming Supreme Court, the person shall cease to be a member of the Wyoming State Bar and shall no longer be authorized to practice law in Wyoming. ~~A member who has been suspended for failure to pay license fees or for failure to comply with CLE rules may not withdraw without petitioning for reinstatement, pursuant to these bylaws and the CLE rules, as applicable. A member who has a pending disciplinary matter may not withdraw until such matter is resolved. A member who is suspended or disbarred may not withdraw until the member is reinstated.~~ A member's withdrawal shall not stay or otherwise affect a pending disciplinary investigation or proceeding regarding that member. A member who withdraws may thereafter seek admission to the Wyoming State Bar as provided in the Wyoming Rules and Procedures Governing Admission to the Practice of Law.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF OFFICERS AND COMMISSIONERS

Section 4. Duties.

(a) The Board of Officers and Commissioners shall have general oversight of the affairs and activities of the Wyoming State Bar. It shall:

(1) Make appropriations, authorize disbursements, and/or periodically monitor and ratify proper disbursements reviewed, approved and authorized by the executive director from the funds of the Wyoming State Bar in payment of the necessary expenses of the Wyoming State Bar, its officers, commissioners and committees;

(2) Cause proper books of accounts to be kept and to procure an annual audit;

(3) Engage and define the duties of salaried employees and fix their compensation;

(4) Arrange for publication of the *Wyoming Lawyer*, the official magazine of the Wyoming State Bar;

(5) Receive, consider and take action on reports and recommendations submitted by committees and the assembly of members of the Wyoming State Bar at any regular, annual or special meeting;

(6) Fill vacancies however arising in the membership of the Board of Officers and Commissioners, or of an American Bar Association delegate, or in any office which may be vacant, and in each case the person appointed to fill such a vacancy shall hold said office until the expiration of the term of the vacancy;

(7) Adopt policies and procedures consistent with these bylaws and otherwise oversee the orderly administration of the Wyoming State Bar's affairs and activities.

ARTICLE V. AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

(c) The Board of Officers and Commissioners shall adopt a policy to assure that the activities of the Wyoming Delegate and Young Lawyer Delegate to the American Bar Association shall comply with these bylaws regarding political and ideological activities of the Wyoming State Bar (see Article I, Section 5(p)).
