SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

August 5, 2026

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Chair David Sprinkle, Carole Grayson, Joe Gordon, Bill Cameron, Al Armstrong, Laurin Schweet, Mike Frost, Ray Foianini, WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor, Education Programs Lead Rachel Matz, and BOG Liaison Lester Parvin Price, Jr. Not able to attend were Jenny Rydberg and New Member Liaison Ruth Apahidean, who is out on maternity leave.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

David welcomed the attendees, and indicated that Mike's report re: our CLE questionnaire would be heard first as Mike had to leave the meeting early due to a prior commitment.

MIKE'S QUESTIONNAIRE REPORT AND CLE DISCUSSION

Mike said he had heard from Noah via email. Noah indicated to Mike that he would accept whatever questions we would choose to include in the questionnaire. Mike said that in his view we should reserve a date at our proposed venue as soon as possible. We do need to find out whether our Section members would attend in sufficient numbers. Mike said he would prefer a ¾ day CLE but would be fine with a full-day program. He added that he thought a program highlighting estate planning would be a good idea. He also said he would like to have a presentation regarding sickness and old age. David suggested that we may wish to postpone the circulation of the questionnaire until after Labor Day. But the consensus was that we need to get this survey underway with all deliberate speed. Carolyn said (once we have sent out the survey) we should follow up with periodic reminders to the so-far non-responding recipients. Carolyn said that once the questionnaire is ready, Noah should be able to get it circulated within 3-5 days. Carolyn stated that the recipients should be given about two weeks to respond.

Mike thought that a remote viewing option at our CLE would be fine; he also suggested that in-person attendees should be given the chance to indicate with whom, among the other attendees, they would like to be seated. When we receive these answers, we could have AI put the seating arrangements in good order, said Mike.

It was mentioned that we need to pin down a specific date for our CLE. Rachel said the dates of April 9 and April 16 would be optimal. Rachel emphasized that we need to act on this ASAP to enable us to reserve use of a venue. Competition for meeting space can be

quite acute; some CLE venues are confirmed by their respective sponsors at given locations into the year 2028. Rachel also urged us to send out our questionnaire right away; "we do need the survey results ASAP." Rachel stated that we could lose our chosen venue by waiting too long. Also, she continued, it can take time to sign the contract with the venue, and reminded us that the technical people need to do a walk-through of the site, especially since we are considering offering a remote viewing option. After some discussion, it was decided that Mike should have the survey sent to Noah forthwith.

It was decided to not address any questions in our survey to the New Members Committee, as, as Carolyn noted, we do not have a firm collaboration agreement with them as yet.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's July 8, 2026 Minutes were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joe said he had added $4,000 to our budget proposal for the next fiscal year to cover anticipated costs of our CLE. David mentioned the possibility of spending some money to bring in a "name" speaker.

Our Section fund remains at $18,944.94 as of June 30; there being no activity since Joe's last report.

WSBA UPDATES

Carolyn said that the various section budgets will be submitted next month to the Budget and Audit Committee for review.

The WSBA update notice should be going out this Friday. Carolyn said she hoped the notice will mention the Section Leaders Fall meeting. That meeting is expected to take place in early November.

BOG LIAISON REPORT

Before reporting on the business of the July 24-25 BOG meeting, Parvin addressed the "elephant in the room," the massive collapse of the July 28 Washington State Bar exam. It seems that the test applicants found themselves disconnected at various times from the exam, which was administered virtually. This also happened to other applicants taking the test in other states. The exam was then officially cancelled, and at the time of this meeting, no one really was sure of what action the Bar Association or the State Supreme Court would take in the wake of this fiasco. Laurin asked if amicus briefs can be filed with the Supreme Court. Parvin replied filing briefs would not be necessary as there has been plenty of intra-WSBA discussion concerning this predicament. Carole wanted to know if these applicants

would still need to take any Washington state- specific section of the exam. [The Washington State Supreme Court later directed that those sitting for the July 28 test could be admitted to the Bar without retaking the July test, provided they pass the Washington Component of the test and the MPRE (Multi State Professional Responsibly Exam) and hadn't previously failed the exam. The July examinees would also be given the option of taking a fee-free full bar exam later on.] Parvin said the immediate issue here is what can we do to help those unfortunate test-takers in the short run. The long term issue is how do we prevent this situation from ever happening again. There were about 600 applicants sitting for the exam. "I really feel for these people," said Parvin. The BOG has scheduled a special meeting this Friday to discuss this situation. Carole asked if the July 28 exam was the first time it was administered on a nation-wide basis. Parvin said yes. Also, she wondered what the other states involved in this test fiasco were doing. Bill said that he, like Al, had been unaware of this situation until this meeting. Parvin added that, contrary to the impression given by some media coverage, there has been no talk of elimination of the bar exam on a permanent basis.

Parvin urged all to sign up to participate in the WSBA's Ambassador Program. The plan is to send attorneys to various schools on September 17 (Constitution Day) to discuss with students various aspects of the U.S. Constitution. Parvin said, in his view, the primary focus should be the doctrine of separation of powers, as provided by Articles I, II and III of the historic document. More information can be found on the Bar's website.

Another issue for the BOG was the question of whether Bar applicants from other states, who had attended non-ABA approved law schools, should be allowed to sit for our Bar exam. Parvin opined that a rule prohibiting this practice is somewhat inconsistent with Washington practice, as, in the past, if an attorney who had graduated from an out-of-state non-ABA-approved law school had passed his/her own state's bar exam, Washington state would then allow that person to sit for our Bar exam. The rule in Washington state used to be that one must be a graduate of an ABA law school to take our Bar exam; now, this restriction has been lifted, or at least, this rule change is now before the state Supreme Court for final approval. Parvin stated that there is some effort to reverse this change. This issue will be discussed at the September BOG meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on September 2, 2026 at 10:30 am.