

BYLAWS OF THE CHILD WELFARE LAW SECTION
OF THE
NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Article I

Name and Purpose

Section 1. This Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association shall be known as the Child Welfare Law Section.

Section 2. The purposes of this Section shall be:

- (a) To participate in the development, implementation and operation of programs to improve the impact of the legal and judicial system on the lives of children. The section will review legislation and administrative regulations on issues relating to children and prepare and propose new legislation on issues relating to children's rights.
- (b) To serve as a resource of continuing education in the area of child welfare law.
- (c) To engage in other activities as the needs of the Section may require.

Article II

Membership

The membership of this Section shall consist of all members of the New Jersey State Bar Association who shall signify their desire in writing to become members of this Section, and who shall pay the Section dues established by the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Article III

Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Section shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The term of office for all officers shall be one year, and also, any interim period thereafter until their successors shall be elected or appointed as herein provided. No officer may serve more than two years consecutively in any one office.

Article IV

Executive Committee

Section 1. The Section shall be governed by an Executive Committee which shall have full power to direct the activities and affairs of the Section, subject only to direction of the Officers and Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of eight members of this Section, as follows:

- (a) The Chair
- (b) The Vice Chair
- (c) The Secretary
- (d) The Treasurer
- (e) The immediate past Chair; and
- (f) Three other persons who are members of the Section, and who are appointed by the Chair of the Section at the annual meeting of the Section (the "Annual Meeting").

Section 3. All members of the Executive Committee shall hold office for a term of one year and also, any interim period thereafter until their successors shall be elected or appointed as herein provided.

Article V

Nomination and Election of Officers and Other Members of the Executive Committee

Section 1. Nominations of officers shall be made at the Annual Meeting. The nominations shall be presented at least 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting by a nominating committee consisting of three members of the Section appointed by the Chair. Notice of nominations shall be given to each member of the Section at least ten days prior to the Annual Meeting by publication on the Section's webpage in the New Jersey State Bar Association website and as otherwise directed by the Chair. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting by any member of the Section.

Section 2. If no nominations are made from the floor at the Annual Meeting, elections shall proceed by a show of hands. For any position for which a candidate has been nominated from the floor, elections shall proceed by written ballot.

Section 3. Election of the officers shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Section present at the Annual Meeting.

Article VI

Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Section, and at all meetings of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall formulate and present at each annual meeting of the New Jersey State Bar Association a written report of the work of the Section for the past year, and shall appoint members of the Executive Committee as provided in Article IV, Section 2(f) of these bylaws. The Chair shall also perform such other duties and acts as usually pertain to such office.

Section 2. The Vice Chair shall perform such duties as the Chair shall delegate. The Vice Chair shall, in the absence of the Chair, perform the duties of the Chair. In the event of the death, resignation or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall succeed to the office until a new Chair is elected in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 3. The Secretary shall be custodian of all books, papers, documents and other records that are property of this Section. The Secretary shall keep a true record of all proceedings of this Section and its Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for the giving of all notices required by these Bylaws.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall make a report at each meeting. The treasurer shall chair the finance committee and assist in the preparation of the budget.

Section 5. In the event that the Chair is absent from any regular meeting of the Section, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair at the meeting. If the Secretary is absent from any regular meeting of the Section, the Chair, or if absent, the Vice-Chair, shall appoint one of the members of the Executive Committee to act as Secretary. If the Chair and Vice-Chair are both absent from any regular or special meeting of the Section, the Chair may designate a member of the Section to preside at such meeting. If no such designation is made by the Chair, the meeting shall be adjourned and rescheduled, notwithstanding the existence of a quorum in accordance with Article VIII, Section 4 of these Bylaws.

Article VII

Vacancies

Any vacancy in the position of Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer, or among the non-officer members of the Executive Committee may be filled by appointment of the Chair for the balance of the unexpired term, and shall not constitute prohibition of eligibility for office as otherwise set forth in these By-Laws.

Article VIII

Meetings

Section 1. The Annual Meeting shall be held during the annual meeting of the New Jersey State Bar Association. The Annual Meeting shall be held at the time and place designated by the Chair, with such program or order of business as may be fixed by the Chair or otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

Section 2. Regular meetings of the membership of the Section may be called by the Chair at such times and places as the Chair may determine, and there shall be at least four regular meetings scheduled throughout the year.

Section 3. Five members of the Section present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. Special meetings can be called by any three members of the Executive Committee, upon written notice to the entire membership at least fifteen days in advance.

Article IX

Amendments

Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of this Section by a majority vote of the members of this Section present, but such amendments may not take effect until they have been approved by the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Section 2. Notice of any proposed amendments, and a copy thereof, shall be given to the membership of this Section at least 15 days prior to the meeting of the Section at which such amendments will be voted upon.

Article X

Section Committees

Section 1. This Section shall contain the following standing committees:

- (a) The Legislative Committee, which shall study and report on legislative proposals and enactments;
- (b) The Newsletter Committee, which shall arrange for the publication on a regular basis of the Child Welfare Law Section Newsletter;
- (c) The Nominating Committee as otherwise provided in these bylaws.
- (e) The Website Committee, which shall maintain, update and upgrade the Section's webpage on the New Jersey State Bar Association website.
- (f) The CLE Committee, which shall oversee all programming events and shall insure that, whenever possible, CLE credit is supplied in connection with the Section's programming events.

Section 2. The Chair may establish such additional standing and/or special committees as may be necessary for the functioning of this Section.

Section 3. The Chair shall make appointments to the standing and special committees, and shall appoint a chair for each committee. The Chair of the Legislative Committee shall also serve as the Section's Legislative Coordinator to the New Jersey State Bar Association.