

**BYLAWS OF THE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SECTION OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE  
BAR ASSOCIATION - Posted August 05, 2003**

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BYLAWS OF THE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SECTION

OF THE

NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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Article I

Name and Purpose

Section 1. This Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association shall be known as the Individual Rights Section.

Section 2. The purpose of this Section shall be:

(a) To promote maximum possible protection for individuals who come into contact with the government and legal system.

(b) To advocate for the rights of the individual through the New Jersey State Bar Association.

(c) To promote awareness among Bar Association members of how to carry out professional responsibilities in a manner that promotes human rights.

Article II

Membership

Membership in this Section shall consist of all members in good standing of the Bar Association who shall signify their desire in writing to become members of this Section and to pay whatever Section dues shall be required as shall be fixed by the Bar Association from time to time. Dues shall be payable at the same time and in the same manner as the dues of the Bar Association shall be fixed by the New Jersey State Bar Association Board of Trustees from time to time.

Article III

Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Section shall be a chair, a vice chair, a secretary, and the immediate past chair.

Section 2. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of the vice chair or secretary during the term of office, that office shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by a majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. A slate of officers shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and published to the membership of the Section at least 60 days prior to the meeting at which they are proposed for election. The Nominating Committee shall accept nominations from any member of the Section by petition filed

with the Secretary at least 45 days in advance of the meeting at which such nominations shall be considered.

Section 4. Election of the officers of the Section shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Section present at the time of election, which shall take place at the Annual Meeting of the Section, pursuant to Article VI, Section 1. Officers shall serve for a term beginning at the close of the meeting at which they are elected, and continue thereafter for a period of two years, or until their successors have been elected.

#### Article IV

##### Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Section and Board of Directors; and perform and pursue other duties and acts as the Board of Directors may direct.

Section 2. In the absence of the Chair or during any temporary vacancy in the office of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall 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 of chair until a vote of the Board of Directors fills the vacancy.

Section 3. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, documents and other records that are the property of the Section; keep a true record of all proceedings; be responsible for the publications and distributions of any periodicals or bulletins prepared by the Section; and, from time to time, disseminate to the Section and Bar Association information concerning the activities of the Section.

#### Article V

##### Board of Directors

Section 1. The Section shall be governed by a Board of Directors which shall have full power to direct the activities and affairs of the Section, subject only to the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Bar Association. The Board of Directors may act on behalf of the Section when the membership may not conveniently meet.

Section 2. In the absence of the Chair or during any temporary vacancy in the office of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall 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 of Chair until a vote of the Board of Directors fills the vacancy.

Section 3. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, documents and other records that are the property of the Section; keep a true record of all proceedings; be responsible for the publications and distributions of any periodicals or bulletins prepared by the Section; and, from time to time, disseminate to the Section and Bar Association information concerning the activities of the Section.

Section 4. The immediate past Chair of the Section shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors for a term of two years following the expiration of his or her term as Chair.

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Association. The Board of Directors may act on behalf of the Section when the membership may not conveniently meet.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers, the Chairs of the standing committees and three members of the Section.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall be elected from the membership of the Section, by nomination by the Nominating Committee or by nomination by any member of the Section by petition filed with the Secretary of the Section at least 10 days in advance of the meeting at which such nominations shall be considered. Election of members shall be by a majority of the Section members present at the time of the election.

Section 4. The members of the Board of Directors shall serve for a term of two years.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet regularly, but no less frequently than every alternate month, except during the months of June, July and August. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or upon written request of three members of the Board of Directors. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to any member of the Section.

Section 6. Fifty-one percent of the Board of Directors, present at any regular or special meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority vote of the directors present shall bind the Board of Directors.

Section 7. A member of the Board of Directors who inexcusably fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board may be removed as a Board member, by majority vote of the Board.

Section 8. Vacancies in the Board of Directors may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board members, and each Board member so elected shall hold office until the next election.

Section 9. Notice of meetings of the Board of Directors shall be published to the membership of the Section at least 14 days prior to any Board meeting.

## Article VI

### Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of the membership of the Section shall be held no later than forty-five (45) days following the Annual Meeting of the Bar Association. The meeting shall be held at the time and place designated by the Chair in the notice of such meeting, with such program or order of business as may be fixed by the Chair. Notice of the annual meeting shall be published to the membership of the Section at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Regular and special meetings of the membership of the Section may be called by the Chair. There shall be at least four regular meetings scheduled throughout the year.

Section 3. Eight members of the Section, present at any annual or special meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. Any action by the entire Section shall be by majority vote of those members of the Section present at the meeting if there is a quorum.

## Article VII

### Section Committees

Section 1. The section shall contain the following standing committees and such additional special committees as may be necessary to conduct the Section's business:

(a) Legislation, Court Rules and Case Law Committee, to be primarily concerned with new legislation and court decisions affecting the members of the Section and to make recommendations to the Section concerning these matters;

(b) Program Committee, to be primarily concerned with the structure and presentation of Section programs at the annual and mid-year meetings of the Bar Association and at other Section meetings;

(c) Nominating Committee, comprised of four members, to prepare a slate for the election of officers and directors at each annual meeting.

Section 2. The Board of Directors will make appointments to the standing and special committees and shall annually appoint a Chair for each committee. The Chairs of the standing committees shall be considered Directors pursuant to Article 5, Section 2 of these bylaws.

## Article VIII

### Amendments

Upon 30 days notice published to the membership of the Section, these Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of the members of the Section present who are entitled to and actually do vote thereupon. Amendments to these Bylaws shall not take effect until they have been approved by the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

## Article IX

### Authority

The Section shall be organized and conducted in all respects subject to the Constitution and bylaws of the Bar Association.

## Article X

### General Council

Delegates to the General Council may serve on committees established by the Board of Directors. Delegates may vote on any matter concerning the Section at the General Council Meetings of the State Bar. The chair shall appoint delegates for a one-year term to represent the Section at General Council meetings as permitted by the New Jersey State Bar Association.

## Article XI

### Transition

Members of the former Individual Rights Committee shall be deemed members of the Section during the transition period until Bylaws are approved by the Trustees of the Bar Association.