

NJSBA Individual Rights Section Bylaws – Approved June 2022

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.

It shall be a particular objective of the Section to encourage membership and active participation by all interested members of the New Jersey State Bar Association. The Section shall affirmatively endeavor to ensure broad and diverse representation within its membership and in its leadership, and to reduce barriers to participation in Section activities.

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. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Section and Executive Committee and perform and pursue other duties and acts as the Executive Committee may direct.

Section 3. 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.

Section 4. 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 IV Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Section when the membership may not conveniently meet.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers and three members of the Section.

Section 3. Fifty-one percent of the Executive Committee, present at any regular or special meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority vote of the members present shall bind the Executive Committee.

Section 4. A member of the Executive Committee who inexcusably fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee may be removed as a Committee member, by majority vote of the Committee.

Section 5 &. Vacancies in the Executive Committee other than officers may be filled by the membership in a special election, and each Committee member so elected shall hold office until the next scheduled election.

Section 6. Notice of regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be published to the membership of the Section at least 14 days prior to any Committee meeting. Notice of emergency meetings shall be published as soon as practicable.

Article V

Terms of Office and Elections

Section 1. The terms of office of the officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be for two years beginning and ending at the close of the Annual Meeting in odd numbered years. If no successor has been elected by the end of their regular term, the officer or Director may serve until his or her successor has been elected

Section 2. The immediate past Chair of the Section shall serve as an officer of the Section for a term of two years following the expiration of his or her term as Chair.

Section 3. In the event of the death, resignation or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair.

Section 4. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of the Vice Chair or Secretary that office shall be filled for the unexpired term by a vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Eight weeks prior to the Annual Meeting at which elections are to occur, a request for nominations for officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be published to the membership of the Section. Four weeks prior to the Annual Meeting at which elections are to occur, the Executive Committee shall approve a ballot for distribution to the members of the Section. The approved ballot shall include all members nominated for office by themselves or others.

Section 6. Election of the officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Section shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Section present at the Annual Meeting at which elections are to occur or by a majority of the members of the Section voting electronically during a voting period no less than two weeks before the Annual Meeting at which elections are to occur.

Section 7. Any change in the officers or directors of the Section shall be reported to the NJSBA's Executive Director, or a designee, within 15 days of the change.

Article VI

Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of the membership of the Section shall be held no later than May 31 of each year. 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 four weeks days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Regular and special meetings of the membership of the Section or of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair and may be held in-person, remotely, or both remotely and in-person.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Executive Committee shall also be called upon the written request of three members of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Section shall seek to hold a total of at least eight meetings each year of the membership and the Executive Committee. All meetings of the Executive Committee shall also be open to all members of the Section.

Section 5. Ten percent of members of the Section, present at any annual, regular or special meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 6. 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.

Section 7. Minutes of meetings of the Section or Executive Committee shall be posted for members of the Section on CommunityNET. Prior to posting the minutes, a draft copy of the minutes shall be distributed for review to all members who attended the meeting for whom there is contact information. The Chair and the Secretary shall agree on the draft before posting. Posted minutes shall be labeled as "DRAFT" until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Article VII

Section Committees and Legislative Liaison

Section 1. The Executive Committee may establish such ad hoc committees as may be necessary to conduct the Section's business.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may appoint a Legislative Liaison.

Section 3. Any member of the Section may be appointed to an ad hoc committee or as Legislative Liaison.

Article VIII

Amendments

Upon four weeks' notice published to the membership of the Section, these Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the section by a majority vote of the members of the Section present who are entitled to and actually do vote thereupon or by a majority of the members voting electronically. 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.