

BYLAWS OF THE MUNICIPAL JUDGES
SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS

ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION I: NAME

The name of this Section shall be the Municipal Judges Section of the State Bar of Texas.

SECTION II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this Section shall be to further the administration of justice, to provide a forum for the interchange of matters of legal import among other Courts of limited jurisdiction, to cooperate closely with the State Bar of Texas and other professional organizations in developing, supporting and promoting legal and professional activities affecting Municipal Courts.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Section shall be open to Municipal Court Judges within this State who are members in good standing of the State Bar of Texas. Any member who ceases to be a Municipal Court Judge during any one year may continue as a member until the end of that fiscal year. Retired Municipal Court Judges, who are members in good standing of the State Bar of Texas, shall be Associate Members without the necessity of payment of any dues or assessments.

ARTICLE III
SECTION COUNCIL

SECTION I: MANAGEMENT

The business, property, and affairs of this Section shall be managed by the Section Council composed of ten (10) Council Members elected annually by the active members of the Section, plus the three (3) current Section Officers, and the last two (2) retired Chairpersons of this Section. The President, President-Elect, and Vice-President of the State Bar of Texas shall be non-voting ex-officio members of the Council of this Section as provided by the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas. The Section Chairperson shall be Chairperson of the Council. The term of office of the Council Members shall be two (2) years, and Council members shall be designated as serving in Place 1 to Place 10. Council Members for even numbered places shall be elected in even numbered years, and Council Members for odd numbered places shall be elected in the odd numbered years.

SECTION II: MEETINGS

The Section Council shall meet annually in conjunction with the Annual Convention of the State Bar of Texas and at such other times and places as called by the Chairperson of the Section or a majority of the membership of the Section Council. Ten (10) days' notice shall be given to all members of each called meeting of the Section Council.

SECTION III: VACANCIES

Vacancies on the Section Council and/or Officers of this Section shall be filled by appointment made by the Chairperson after notification by the Secretary-Treasurer to the general membership of such vacancy and the pending appointment. Each person so appointed shall serve the remainder of the term of office of the Council Member or Officer he or she was appointed to succeed. All such appointments shall be from among the active members of the Section.

SECTION IV: THE POWER TO APPOINT

The Section Council shall have the power to appoint such other Officers and Agents as the Council shall, from time to time, deem necessary for the proper transaction of the business of the Section.

SECTION V: QUORUM

A majority of the members of the Section Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business in any properly called meeting of the Council.

ARTICLE IV SECTION OFFICERS

SECTION I: OFFICERS

The Section Officers shall comprise the following:

The Chairperson
The Vice-Chairperson
The Secretary-Treasurer

Each Officer shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Section as hereinafter provided, for a term of one year or until their successors are duly elected and assume office.

SECTION II: DUTIES

The duties of the Section Officers shall be as follows:

THE CHAIRPERSON shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Section and shall preside over all meetings of the Council and of the members. He or she shall have the general power and duties of supervision and management as necessary for the proper operation of the Section except as otherwise provided by the Council. He or she shall promptly implement all orders and resolutions of the Council and of the Annual Section Meeting, and shall appoint all standing and special committees with the concurrence of the Council, and shall be an ex-officio member of all Section standing committees. Upon retirement as Chairperson, he or she shall serve for two years as a member of the Council.

THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON shall assist the Chairperson in the performance of his or her duties and shall succeed to the Chairpersonship in the event of the absence, disability, resignation or demise of the Chairperson. He or she shall be an ex-officio member of all special committees and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Council and/or the Chairperson.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER shall prepare and preserve minutes of all meetings of the Section and of the Council. He or she shall be responsible for the preparation and safe-guarding of all proper Section records and correspondence, and shall keep a complete record of all Section activities.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER shall also have the custody of all section funds and securities and shall keep a full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements. He or she shall deposit all monies of the section within five (5) business days after receipt in such depository as may be designated by the Council or selected by the Secretary-Treasurer. He or she shall disburse the funds of the Section only as authorized by the Council, taking proper vouchers of all such disbursements, and shall report to the Chairperson and the Council Members all transactions as Treasurer and the financial condition of the Section at each meeting of the Council or whenever requested by the Chairperson and/or majority of the Council Members. He or she shall prepare a complete report on the financial condition of the Section for presentation to each annual Section Meeting.

ARTICLE V NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS

Officers and Council Members of this Section shall be elected from among the Section members at the Annual Section Meeting as hereinafter provided. The candidate for each Section Office receiving a majority of votes for that Office shall be declared elected to that Office. The five candidates for Council Member

receiving the greatest individual number of votes cast shall be declared elected to the Council. The retiring Council Members shall serve as the final Appeals Body on questions involving the elections.

ARTICLE VI FINANCES

SECTION I: GENERAL

All monies received by the Section from whatever source shall be managed and controlled for the purpose of the Section by the Section Council and/or as directed by motions passed at the Annual Section Meeting.

SECTION II: DUES

The annual dues of this section shall be in the amount of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per member, provided that the Council shall be empowered to increase or decrease this amount, from year to year, by no more than fifty percent (50%) to meet emergencies and to provide for contingencies.

SECTION III: FINANCIAL REPORT

A complete and accurate account of the financial condition and of all financial transactions of the Section shall be presented by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Section at the Annual Section Meeting.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

SECTION I: ANNUAL MEETINGS

The annual meeting of the general membership shall be held each year in conjunction with the Convention of the State Bar of Texas. The Secretary-Treasurer or the Chairperson shall give written notice of the time and place of such Annual Meeting to all members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date thereof.

SECTION II: QUORUM

The total number of the active Section members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any properly called meeting of the Section.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

SECTION I: STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees of the Section shall be as follows: Legislation and Traffic, Procedure, and Seminars.

SECTION II: DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The duties of the various Standing Committees shall be as follows:

- (a) Legislation and Traffic Committee: This Committee shall make a continuing study of remedial legislation, including traffic legislation, needed to improve the procedure and proper administration of the Municipal Courts in this State and to properly implement traffic safety in this State, and shall report its recommendations to the Section Council for appropriate action.
- (b) Procedure Committee: This Committee shall make a continuing study and shall make recommendations concerning courtroom decorum and the routine administration of Municipal Courts and related subjects.
- (c) SEMINAR COMMITTEE: This Committee shall schedule and sponsor or co-sponsor, at the direction of the Section Council, legal seminars for the professional advancement of the members of this Section.

SECTION III: SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Chairperson shall appoint, receive reports from, and discharge Special Committees, from time to time, as he or she may deem appropriate or upon the majority vote of members at the Annual Section Meeting and/or Section Council meeting; and he or she shall assign such duties to each such Committee as may be appropriate.

ARTICLE IX SEMINARS

It shall be the duty of the Section Council to schedule and sponsor or co-sponsor legal seminars, from time to time, for the professional advancement of the members of this Section.

ARTICLE X MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION I: FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal Year shall be the same as that of the State Bar of Texas.

SECTION II: PAYMENT OF BILLS

All bills incurred by this Section, before payment by the Treasurer, shall be submitted to and approved by the Chairperson or, if the Council shall so direct, by both of them.

SECTION III: LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION

No salary or compensation shall be paid to any officer, member of the Council, or member of a committee. Nevertheless, a person may be compensated for work done outside the meetings of the Council on any special study or project, provided he or she has been employed by vote of the Council.

SECTION IV: REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES

Members of the Council and other persons expressly requested to attend a Council meeting shall be reimbursed for actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending any meeting of the committee, provided that the Chairperson of the Council has approved reimbursement before or after the meeting. Except for non-Council members expressly requested to attend a Council meeting, the amount of the reimbursement shall not exceed the maximum amount of reimbursement from time to time established by the Directors of the State Bar of Texas for persons attending meetings of the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas or other official meetings.

SECTION V: EXERTING POSITIONS ON BEHALF OF STATE BAR OF TEXAS

No action, policy determination, or recommendation of this Section or any committee thereof shall be deemed to be, or be referred to as, the action of the State Bar of Texas prior to submission of the same, and approved by, the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas, the General Assembly of the State Bar of Texas in annual convention, or duly authorized referendum of the State Bar of Texas. Any resolution adopted or action taken by this Section may on request of this Section be reported by the Chairperson to the annual meeting of the State Bar of Texas for action thereon.

SECTION VI: GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY

The Section, through the process called "Governmental Authority," may seek the authority to present a position of the State Bar of Texas before a public, judicial, executive or legislative body. A position of the Section with respect to which the Governmental Authority process is desired shall be authorized by the Council only after written notice to all members of the Council of the proposed position to be adopted and the date at which the position will be considered by the Council. If a proposed position is adopted by the Council as provided above, thereafter all

requirements and procedures set forth in the Policy Governing Legislative Action by the State Bar of Texas adopted by the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas on July 3, 1984, as amended from time to time, with respect to application, notice, circulation, clearance, objections, disclaimer, presentation, filing and all other matters shall be strictly followed.

SECTION VII: INDEMNIFICATION

Officers and general members of the Council and duly authorized permanent and general special committee members of the Section shall be indemnified by the Section for losses and expenses incurred as a result of a suit for any conduct in the course of their official duties not a result of the intentional acts or gross negligence on the part of such person. The indemnification granted here shall extend to actions at law or in equity. Notwithstanding the provisions of this indemnification, this indemnification shall be qualified to the extent that professional liability insurance is maintained by each person and is effective in this instance, and at no time shall the amount for which any individual may seek indemnification exceed the amount of funds held on deposit by the Section.

SECTION VIII: AMENDMENT

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Section provided such proposed amendment shall first have been presented in writing to the Chairperson and approved by a majority of the members of the Section present and voting at a meeting at which such amendment is considered. No amendment so adopted shall become effective until same shall have also been approved by the Board of Directors of the State of Bar of Texas. Notice that an amendment to these Bylaws is to be considered shall be contained in the notice to the members of the Section of the meeting at which such amendment is to be considered.