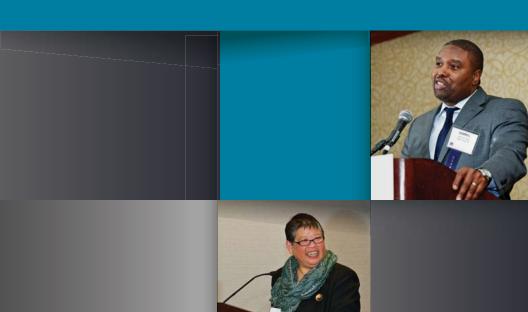
NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION



The Path to Leadership in the New York State Bar Association





The Path to Leadership in the New York State Bar Association

It's YOUR Bar Association!

Why become a bar association leader?

- To benefit the legal profession and your community by promoting increased pro bono service, advancing legal procedural and substantive reforms, and increasing professional as well as judicial standards.
- To **benefit your bar association** by advancing its projects, by identifying and initiating new projects that benefit the association and by giving your association more visibility.
- To benefit your legal practice through networking, demonstrating your skills, expanding your knowledge, influencing legal developments.
- To benefit yourself by making friends, meeting colleagues, obtaining CLE credit, providing satisfaction, achievement and outlets.

It's YOUR Bar Association!

You can become a bar leader, and we'll tell you how to do it.

Join the New York State Bar Association and one or more specialty or local bar associations. Don't **just** be a member, become an active member. Here's how to start on the leadership track—and then climb further:

- Join one or more NYSBA Sections.
- Join one or more committees (NYSBA Committees and/or Section committees).
- Within your local or specialty bar association, volunteer for a committee or a project.

- Attend Section/Committee meetings/events and work on their projects. Bring ideas. Speak up at the events and/or to the Committee leadership and talk to NYSBA staff and Executive Committee liaisons.
- Write for publications of NYSBA or a Committee or Section.
- Participate in CLE panels organized by NYSBA or a Committee or Section.

Once you have become engaged in bar association activities, demonstrated your ability and raised your profile, consider the available leadership positions. If active in a local association or a NYSBA Section, speak to its leaders or liaisons about becoming a leader within that association/Section, or representing that association/Section in NYSBA. Specifically, consider the following opportunities:

- Local or specialty bar association Seek to become an executive committee member or officer and then to represent your judicial district in the State Bar House of Delegates.
- NYSBA Section Seek election to the Section's executive committee, and, ultimately, seek to become an officer and/or Section representative in the House of Delegates.
- **NYSBA Committees** Seek to become Committee vice-chair or chair.
- NYSBA House of Delegates The House of Delegates manages the business and affairs of NYSBA, determines its policies and develops positions on issues that affect the law and the legal profession. The House meets four times a year on Saturday mornings, in April (generally in Albany), June (in Cooperstown), November (in Albany) and the following January (Friday morning in New York City). Most Members of the House of Delegates are selected by county or local bar associations or NYSBA Sections, although some are nominated by the Nominating Committee or appointed by the NYSBA President.

- NYSBA Nominating Committee The Nominating Committee develops a slate of nominees to serve as NYSBA Officers, at large members of the Executive Committee, elected Delegates to the House of Delegates and next year's at large members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee meets twice a year in September (in New York City) and in November (in Albany).
- NYSBA Executive Committee Its members are primarily chosen by, and represent, the individual judicial districts. In addition, eight Executive Committee members, including two who are specifically designated as minority representatives, are elected at large. NYSBA Officers also serve on the Executive Committee, and all members of the Executive Committee serve in the NYSBA House of Delegates. The Executive Committee meets at least four times a year, prior to the meeting of the NYSBA House of Delegates.
- NYSBA Officers Officers include Vice Presidents elected from each judicial district, as well as the Secretary, Treasurer, President-Elect (who presides over the House of Delegates) and President. Each Officer also serves on the NYSBA Executive Committee and in the NYSBA House of Delegates.
- NYSBA Members of the American Bar Association House of Delegates The ABA House of Delegates is the policy-making body of the ABA. Its members are chosen by, and represent, state bar associations, major local bar associations and ABA Sections. New York has the largest state delegation in the ABA House, and NYSBA representatives comprise about one-third of the New York delegation. Each NYSBA Member of the ABA House of Delegates also serves in the NYSBA House of Delegates.

It's YOUR Bar Association!

NYSBA Sections

Antitrust Law | International | Real Property Law | Tax | Young Lawyers

Tiffany Bardwell; Phone: 518.487.5675; Email: tbardwell@nysba.org

Elder Law and Special Needs | Environmental Law | Family Law | Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law | Health Law | Trusts and Estates Law

Lisa Bataille; Phone: 518.487.5680; Email: lbataille@nsyba.org

Business Law | General Practice | Intellectual Property Law | Senior Lawyers | Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law

Stephanie Bugos; Phone: 518.487.5524; Email: sbugos@nysba.org

Commercial and Federal Litigation | Corporate Counsel | Dispute Resolution | Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law | Labor and Employment Law | Municipal Law

Elizabeth Gould; Phone: 518.487.5674; Email: bgould@nysba.org

Criminal Justice

Amy Jasiewicz; Phone: 518.487.5682; Email: ajasiewicz@nysba.org

Trial Lawyers

Tina Rothaupt; Phone: 518.487.5669; Email: trothaupt@nysba.org

Judicial

Pat Wood; Phone: 518.487.5570; Email: pwood@nysba.org

NYSBA Committees

Committees	Staff Liaison	518-487	email
Animals and the Law	Linda McMahon	5686	Imcmahon@nysba.org
Annual Award	Mark Wilson	5540	mwilson@nysba.org
Association Insurance Programs	Kathleen Baxter	5690	kbaxter@nysba.org
Attorney Professionalism	Richard Rifkin	5614	rrifkin@nysba.org
Audit	Kristin O'Brien	5510	kobrien@nysba.org
Bylaws	Kathleen Baxter	5690	kbaxter@nysba.org
Children and the Law	Kathy Suchocki	5590	ksuchocki@nysba.org
Civil Practice Law and Rules	Ronald Kennedy	5652	rkennedy@nysba.org

NYSBA Committees

Committees	Staff Liaison	518-487	email
Civil Rights	Mark Wilson	5540	mwilson@nysba.org
Committees	Kit McNary	5679	kmcnary@nysba.org
Continuing Legal Education	Doug Guevara	5580	dguevara@nysba.org
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*Criminal Discovery	Ronald Kennedy	5652	rkennedy@nysba.org
Disability Rights	Patricia Spataro	5685	pspataro@nysba.org
Diversity and Inclusion	Mark Wilson	5540	mwilson@nysba.org
Electronic Communications	David Adkins	5683	dadkins@nysba.org
Ensure Quality of Mandated Representation	Gloria Herron Arthur	5640	garthur@nysba.org
*Family Court	Ronald Kennedy	5652	rkennedy@nysba.org
Federal Legislative Priorities	Ronald Kennedy	5652	rkennedy@nysba.org
Finance	Kristin O'Brien	5510	kobrien@nysba.org
*Gun Violence	Richard Rifkin	5614	rrifkin@nysba.org
**Human Trafficking	Kevin Getnick	5562	kgetnick@nysba.org
Immigration Representation	Kevin Getnick	5562	kgetnick@nysba.org
Journal Board of Editors	Daniel McMahon	5582	dmcmahon@nysba.org
Judicial Wellness	Patricia Spataro	5685	pspataro@nysba.org
Law Practice Management	Kathy Suchocki	5590	ksuchocki@nysba.org
Law, Youth & Citizenship	Martha Noordsy	486-1748	mnoordsy@nysba.org
Lawyer Assistance	Patricia Spataro	5685	pspataro@nysba.org
Lawyer Referral Service	Eva Valentin-Espinal	5700	evalentin@nysba.org
Lawyers in Transition	Kathy Suchocki	5590	ksuchocki@nysba.org
Leadership Development	Mark Wilson	5540	mwilson@nysba.org
Legal Aid	Gloria Herron Arthur	5640	garthur@nysba.org

NYSBA Committees

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Legal Education and Admission to the Bar	Lisa Bataille	5680	lbataille@nysba.org
Legislative Policy	Ronald Kennedy	5652	rkennedy@nysba.org
LGBT People and the Law	Kevin Kerwin	5574	kkerwin@nysba.org
Mass Disaster Response	Lise Bang-Jensen	5530	lbang-jensen@nysba.org
Media Law	Pat Sears Doherty	5536	psearsdoherty@nysba.org
Membership	Patricia Wood	5570	pwood@nysba.org
Nominating	David Watson	5555	dwatson@nysba.org
President's Committee on Access to Justice	Gloria Herron Arthur	5640	garthur@nysba.org
Procedures for Judicial Discipline	Kevin Kerwin	5574	kkerwin@nysba.org
Professional Discipline	Richard Rifkin	5614	rrifkin@nysba.org
Professional Ethics	Richard Rifkin	5614	rrifkin@nysba.org
**Re-Entry	Kevin Getnick	5562	kgetnick@nysba.org
Resolutions	Kevin Getnick	5562	kgetnick@nysba.org
Review Judicial Nominations	Kathleen Baxter	5690	kbaxter@nysba.org
**Special Committee on CLE	David Adkins	5683	dadkins@nysba.org
Standards of Attorney Conduct	Kathleen Baxter	5690	kbaxter@nysba.org
Tort System	Kevin Kerwin	5574	kkerwin@nysba.org
Unlawful Practice of Law	Richard Rifkin	5614	rrifkin@nysba.org
Veterans	Gloria Herron Arthur	5640	garthur@nysba.org
Volunteer Lawyers	Gloria Herron Arthur	5640	garthur@nysba.org
**Voter Participation	Kevin Getnick	5562	kgetnick@nysba.org
Women in the Law	Robyn Ryan	5560	rryan@nysba.org
**Youth Court	Kim Francis	486-5760	kfrancis@nysba.org

^{*} Denotes Task Force

^{**}Denotes Special Committee



NYSBA

Road To
Participation In
New York State
Bar Association
Governance

Opportunities and Procedures



Road To Participation In NYSBA Governance

Table of Contents

Overview	3
House of Delegates	3
Executive Committee	5
Procedures in seeking positions	6
President-Elect	6
Secretary	7
Treasurer	8
Vice Presidents	9
Members-at-Large of Executive Committee	10
Elected Delegates to the House	11
Local Bar Representatives to House	12
Section Representatives	1 4
Nominating Committee Members	15
Association Committees	17

House of Delegates

County/Local Bar Delegates

- 1 per 100-299 NYSBA members in county
- 2 per 300-999
- 3 per 1000-1999 with 1 for each additional 1000 or major fraction thereof

For counties with less than 100:

- 1 per aggregate 100-299
- 2 per 300-999
- 3 per 1000 plus 1 for additional 1000 or major fraction thereof

*Elected by county/local bars

Sections

- 1 for 1500 or fewer members
- 2 per 1501-2000
- 3 per 2001-3500
- 4 for 3501 or more
- 4 for Young Lawyers Section

^{*}May designate 1 alternate; 2 alternates for bars with 6 or more delegates

^{*}Most elected; some appointed by Chair

^{*}May designate 1 alternate

Specialty Bars

Seats not designated

Elected Delegates

• 3 per district

*Nominated by Nominating Committee with due consideration to recommendations from district members

Diversity Seats

- 12 seats, at least 2 and no more than 4 from each judicial department
- *Appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee

Non-Resident Seats

- 2 seats
- *Appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee

All members of the House of Delegates begin their terms on June 1 of each year

Executive Committee

President-Elect 1-year term; nominated by Nominating Committee;

Elected at Annual Meeting;

Informal upstate/downstate rotation; Becomes President the following year

Secretary 1-year term (4-year maximum);

Nominated by Nominating Committee;

Elected at Annual Meeting

Treasurer 1-year term (4-year maximum);

Nominated by Nominating Committee;

Elected at Annual Meeting

Vice Presidents (14) 1-year term (4-year maximum);

Recommended by each District delegates (2 in 1st Judicial District) with due consideration by

Nominating Committee; Elected at Annual Meeting

Members at Large (6) 2-year term (4-year maximum)

At least 2 from 1st Judicial District

Efforts toward geographic/ethnic/gender diversity;

Nominated by Nominating Committee

Elected at Annual Meeting

Members at Large

Diversity Seat (2) 2-year term (4-year maximum)

May not be from the same Judicial District; Nominated by Nominating Committee;

Elected at Annual Meeting

All members of the Executive Committee begin their terms on June 1 of each year

President-Elect

Eligibility:

- Must have been, or at the time of selection serves as, a member of the House
- Is not eligible for nomination while serving on the Nominating Committee

Source: Bylaws, Article IV; Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 1 term in this capacity; then succeeds the President

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

Selection procedure:

- Those seeking this position file a declaration of candidacy with the Secretary no later than September 1 of the year in which the Nominating Committee will consider candidates
- Nominating Committee presents slate of nominees (November House meeting)
- Election by the House at the Annual Meeting (late January)

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1; Article XI

Duties:

- Chairs the House
- Co-Chairs the President's Committee on Access to Justice
- Serves as ex-officio on the Finance Committee with voting rights
- Assists the President in meeting with local bars, overseeing Sections and Committees and activities of the Association

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2

Secretary

Eligibility:

 Is not eligible for nomination while serving on the Nominating Committee

Source: Bylaws, Article IV; Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 4 consecutive terms

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

Selection procedure:

- Candidacies submitted to the Nominating Committee
- Nominating Committee presents slate of nominees (November)
- Election by the House at the Annual Meeting (late January)

Source: Bylaws, Article XI

Duties:

- Service on the Executive Committee and House
- Issues notice of meetings; maintains records of proceedings and other matters

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4

Treasurer

Eligibility:

 Is not eligible for nomination while serving on the Nominating Committee

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 4 consecutive terms

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

Selection procedure:

- Candidacies submitted to the Nominating Committee
- Nominating Committee presents slate of nominees (November)
- Election by the House at the Annual Meeting (late January)

Source: Bylaws, Article XI

Duties:

- Service on the Executive Committee and House
- Member of the Finance Committee
- Maintains finances of the Association
- Reports at Association Annual, Executive Committee and House meetings on the financial condition of the Association

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 5

Vice Presidents

Number of Seats:

• 14 (1 for each of the 13 judicial districts, except for the First Judicial District, which has 2)

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3(A)

Eligibility:

- Office or residence in the district to be represented
- Must have been or currently serves on the House of Delegates
- Is not eligible for nomination while serving on the Nominating Committee

Source: Bylaws, Article I; Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 4 consecutive terms

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

Selection procedure:

- The Nominating Committee members from the particular district recommend a nominee for Vice President for the Committee's con sideration. In selecting the nominees, the Bylaws calls for the Committee members to consult with the members of the House from that jurisdiction by a meeting no later than 90 days before the House meeting held during the Annual Meeting.
- The district members of the Nominating Committee file a written report with the Nominating Committee Chair concerning the nominee and manner of soliciting and consulting views, at least 10 days in advance of the meeting at which the nominations will be made.
- In making the nominations for Vice President, "the Nominating Committee shall give due consideration to the recommendations of the district representatives from each respective district." The Nominating Committee reports its nominees for Vice President.
- Election takes place at the House meeting during the Annual Meeting (late January).

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Article XI

Duties:

- Service on the Executive Committee and House of Delegates
- Promotion of communication and cooperation between the Association and local bar associations and any federation in the district, working in collaboration with elected delegates; visita tions and other initiatives to stimulate coordinated efforts with local bars
- Representation of the President or arranging for meetings in the district for the President, as requested

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4

Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee

Number of seats:

• 8, including not less than 2 from the First District

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 1(F)

Eligibility:

• Membership on the House of Delegates or service as a Section Chair at the time of selection or service on the House or as Section Chair within 3 years preceding selection

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 1(F)

 Is not eligible for nomination while serving on the Nominating Committee

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 2-year term
- Maximum of 4 years of combined service as Vice President and member-at-large of the Executive Committee; members-at-large may serve no more than 2 consecutive terms in that capacity

Source: Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

Selection procedure:

- Candidacies submitted to the Nominating Committee
- The Nominating Committee nominates 8 members-at-large
- Election takes place at the House meeting during the Annual Meeting (late January)

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII; Article XI

Duties:

• Service on the Executive Committee and House of Delegates

Source: Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3; Article V, Section 3(G)

Elected Delegates to the House of Delegates

Number of seats:

• 39 (3 from each judicial district)

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3(C)

Eligibility:

Office or residence in the district to be represented

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(B)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 4 consecutive terms of combined delegate capacities, with membership on the Executive Committee tolling this computation

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 4

Selection procedure:

- The Nominating Committee members from the particular district recommend nominees for 3 Elected Delegates for the Committee's consideration. In selecting the nominees, the Bylaws calls for the Committee members to consult with the members of the House from that jurisdiction by a meeting no later than 90 days before the House meeting held during the Annual Meeting. The district members of the Nominating Committee file a written report with the Nominating Committee Chair concerning the nominee and manner of soliciting and consulting views, at least 10 days in advance of the meeting at which the nominations will be made.
- The Nominating Committee reports its nominees for Elected Delegates. In making the nominations for Elected Delegates, "the Nominating Committee shall give due consideration to the recommendations of the district representatives from each respective district."
- Election takes place at the House meeting during the Annual Meeting (late January)

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII; Article XI

Duties:

• Service on the House of Delegates

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Local Bar Representatives to the House of Delegates

Number of seats:

- Delegates: Varies depending on NYSBA membership population of local bar.
- Membership calculated as of December 31 of year preceding selection.
- 1 delegate for county bars with 100-299 NYSBA members
- 2 delegates for county bars with 300-999 NYSBA members
- 3 delegates for county bars for first 1,000 members plus 1 delegate for each additional 1,000 members or major fraction thereof

In a judicial district where county bars have less than 100 NYSBA members, delegates are designated cooperatively by those county bars according to aggregate membership.

- 1 delegate for 100-299 NYSBA members
- 2 delegates for 300-999 NYSBA members
- 3 delegates for first 1,000 members, plus 1 delegate for each additional 1,000 or major fraction thereof.

Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the New York County Lawyers' Association entitled to same number of delegates.

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Alternates:

- 1 alternate for local bars with up to 5 delegates
- 2 alternates for local bars with 6 or more delegates

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3(L)

Eligibility:

- Active or non-resident Association membership
- Other criteria as set by particular local bar association

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Terms:

- 1-year term, with maximum 4 consecutive terms in any combination of delegate capacities for regular delegate; further term limits within the 4-year cap may be set by particular local bar
- Service as an alternate tolls the 4-year limit as a delegate except if an alternate attends 2 or more House meetings substituting for the delegate; such attendance then constitutes a year of service
- Those completing 4 years as a delegate are not eligible to be an alternate the next year

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(C)

Selection procedure:

- Selected at the same time as regular delegates
- Procedure varies as determined by local bar

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Duties:

 The House manages the business and affairs of the Association, determines Association policies, and develops positions on reports on issues affecting the law and profession. Delegates review and present views on issues under consideration.

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 1

Meetings:

Quarterly: January – New York City; April – Albany; June – Cooperstown; November – Albany

Section Representatives to the House of Delegates

Number of seats:

Delegates: Varies depending on NYSBA membership population of section. Membership calculated as of December 31 of year preceding selection.

- 1 delegate for sections with 1500 or fewer members
- 2 delegates for sections with 1501-2000 members
- 3 delegates for sections with 2001-3500 members
- 4 delegates for sections with 3501 or more members
- 4 delegates for the Young Lawyers Section

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3(E)

Alternates: 1 alternate per section

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3(L)

Eligibility:

- Active or non-resident Association membership
- Delegate may, but need not, be a section officer
- Other criteria as set by particular section

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Terms:

- 1-year term, with maximum 4 consecutive terms in any combination of delegate capacities for regular delegate; further term limits within the 4-year cap may be set by particular section
- Service as an alternate tolls the 4-year limit as a delegate except if an alternate attends 2 or more House meetings substituting for the delegate; such attendance then constitutes a year of service
- Those completing 4 years as a delegate are not eligible to be an alternate the next year

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(C)

Selection procedure:

- Varies some elected by Section; others appointed by Section Chair; others designated based on position held, e.g., immediate past Chair
- Selected at same time regular delegates chosen

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

Duties:

 The House manages the business and affairs of the Association, determines Association policies, and develops positions on reports on issues affecting the law and profession. Delegates review and present Section views on issues under consideration

Source: Bylaws, Article V, Section 1

Meetings:

Quarterly: January – New York City; April – Albany; June –

Cooperstown; November – Albany

Nominating Committee Members

Number of seats:

- District members: 2 members for the first 3,000 NYSBA members in the district, excepting the First District which is allocated 3; plus another member for each district with each additional 3,000 members or major fraction thereof
- Members-at-large: 3
- Additional district members: 1 alternate for a district's initial 2 members and another for each additional 3 members or major fraction thereof
- Alternate member-at-large: 1

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(C)

Eligibility:

District members:

- Office or residence in the district to be represented
- One of the district members must be a member of the House at the time of selection; the other must be a member of the House within 2 years from that point or currently is, or within 2 years of the time of selection was, a section or committee chair

Alternate district members:

 Member of the House within 2 years of selection or Section officer or Committee Chair at the time of selection or within 2 years from that point

Member-at-large:

Members of the House at the time of selection.

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(C)

Terms:

- 1-year term
- Maximum of 6 consecutive terms as a regular or alternate member or combination of these capacities

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1(D)

Selection procedure:

District members:

- The Vice President and 3 Elected Delegates from the particular district selects nominees for 2 district members of the Nominating Committee and 1 alternate. In this process, the Bylaws calls for the Vice President and Elected Delegates to actively solicit and consult with the members of the House from that jurisdiction by a meeting no later than 30 days before the House meeting at which the Nominating Committee is to be named (April)
- The Vice President then files a written report with the President regarding the manner of soliciting and consulting views, at least 10 days in advance of the House meeting at which the Nominating Committee is to be named
- Election takes place at the April House of Delegates meeting.

Duties

 Service on the Nominating Committee in developing a slate of nominees, including President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Presidents, Elected Delegates to the House, Executive Committee Members-at-Large, and Nominating Committee Members-at-Large

Source: Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1

Association Committees

Number of seats:

• Varies depending on size of Committee and number of vacancies

Source: Bylaws, Article VI

Eligibility:

• Active or non-resident Association membership

Terms:

• 1-year term, with general procedure of rotating off after 3 consecutive terms

Source: Bylaws, Article VI

Selection procedure:

- Request appointment (through submission of Committee appointment request form published annually in State Bar News; or by submission of a letter to the Association Executive Director; or make interest known to the Committee Chair)
- Appointments of all chairs and members made by the President in May for service effective June 1

Source: Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1 (B) and Section 2(A)

Duties:

 Participation in work of Committee. Depending on mission, Committees analyze legislation; prepare reports on improvements needed in the law, regulations or court procedures; conduct pro grams and publish educational materials for the profession and public.



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