

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA  
ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES ATTORNEYS

ARTICLE I

Name and Objectives

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be The North Carolina Association of Social Services Attorneys.

Section 2. The association's objectives shall be as follows:

a. To promote the interests of Departments of Social Services, their clients and employees, and to advance the level of practice in this area of the law by sharing ideas, techniques, and forms in areas of expertise.

b. To suggest legislative changes in the Juvenile Code and other areas of the law affecting Departments of Social Services to expedite justice and/or advance the interest of the agencies and ~~their clients~~ children and families in North Carolina.

c. To promote ~~relations~~ positive interaction between Social Services Attorneys and other groups such as judges, social workers, sheriffs, court personnel and others as appropriate to expedite justice and/or advance the interests of the agencies and ~~their clients~~ children and families in North Carolina.

ARTICLE II

Membership [and Dues]

Section 1. Regular members. All attorneys employed directly by a county Department of Social Services, attorneys under contract with Departments of Social Services, county attorneys assigned to Departments of Social Services, and licensed attorneys employed by the State of North Carolina in the Attorney General's office, Department of Human Resources or higher education services relating to social services are eligible to be regular members.

~~Annual dues shall be payable per calendar year by or before each annual meeting and shall be in an amount set by the Executive Committee.~~

Section 2. Subscribing members. Persons not eligible as regular members but who are interested in the objectives of the Association shall be eligible to become subscribing members.

~~Dues for subscribing members shall be payable per calendar year by or before each annual meeting and shall be in an amount set by the Executive Committee.~~

Section 3. Voting Rights. The right to hold office and vote is reserved to regular members exclusively.

~~Section 4. Transfer of membership. Whenever the dues of a regular member are paid by~~

~~the employer and the member resigns, retires, or otherwise vacates the position during the period for which the dues have been paid, the membership may be transferred to the successor upon receipt of written notice to the Association.~~

## ARTICLE III

### Officers

Section 1. Selection. At each annual meeting there shall be elected for a term of one (1) year by the regular members who are present the following officers: President, Vice-President, and Secretary, ~~and Treasurer. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person.~~

Section 2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the immediate Past President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, ~~the Treasurer~~, a representative of the staff of the office of the North Carolina Attorney General assigned to the Department of Human Services, the member-at-large elected by the regular members, and the chairperson of each Regular Committee. The President shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and shall have the power to call the committee together in the interests of the Association at his or her discretion. The Executive Committee shall have the power to pass any resolution or by-laws ~~they~~ it may deem necessary, and to delegate authority to pass such resolutions to a Regular Committee, provided that such by-law or resolution is not in conflict with any of the provisions of this constitution or resolutions or by-laws adopted in meetings of the Association.

Section 3. Vacancy of office. Whenever a vacancy in any office or on the Executive Committee shall occur, the President shall appoint a regular member in good standing to fill said vacancy. That member shall serve until the next annual meeting provided that when a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall immediately succeed to the office of President.

## ARTICLE IV

### Duties of Officers

Section 1. President. The President shall preside at all general Association meetings and Executive Committee meetings, or shall designate the Vice-President or other regular member for that purpose. Meetings shall be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order. The President shall appoint chairpersons for the following Regular Committees: conference, legislative, liaison, newsletter. Any regular member may be appointed chairperson of a Regular Committee.

Section 2. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall exercise all power and duties of the President during his or her absence or inability to act and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a roll of all members of the Association and a true up-to-date record of all proceedings of the Association and meetings of the Executive Committee, subject to the inspection and approval of the Executive Committee, which shall be

turned over to the immediate successor in office.

~~Section 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the chief financial agent of the Association and shall exercise such authority and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and legal instruments of the Association and shall be responsible for their safekeeping. To this end he or she may, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, determine the place and manner of depositing and safekeeping of such funds and legal instruments. A correct account of all receipts and disbursements must be kept and a complete up to date report submitted at each annual meeting. The Executive Committee shall have full right to examine and/or cause audit to be made annually.~~

## ARTICLE V

### Meetings

Section 1. Meetings. The Association shall hold an annual meeting each year devoted to discussion of matters of interest to members. Officers of the Association shall be elected at this meeting. The Executive Committee shall have authority to call special meetings at such time as ~~they~~ it sees fit.

## ARTICLE VI

### Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Executive Committee shall select one name from the regular membership as a candidate for each office and report this proposed slate of officers at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Additional nominations. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at any annual meeting by any regular member.

Section 3. Holding election. The manner of holding elections, method of voting, ~~the counting of~~ the method used for counting ballots, and the rules of procedure pertaining thereto shall be ~~prescribed~~ determined by the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE VII

### Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of regular members present and voting at the annual meeting, provided that notice and copy of any proposed amendment shall have been sent to all regular members by mail or electronic mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to such meeting.

## ARTICLE VIII

## Fiscal Year

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1 to December 31.