

By-Laws of the
SECTION OF FAMILY & JUVENILE LAW
of the Maryland State Bar Association, Inc.

Amended April 8, 2015

ARTICLE I
Name and Purpose

SECTION 1.1 This Section shall be known as the Section of Family and Juvenile Law.

SECTION 1.2 It is the purpose of this Section to study the laws, rules of court and procedures pertaining to the family and all relevant relationships thereto, including but not limited to marriage, divorce, separation, adoption, paternity and the rights of children and child support; to study, report upon and recommend proposed legislation and court rules, and to promote throughout the State of Maryland the legal education of members of the Bar and the public on the problems related to the family by sponsoring meetings and educational seminars devoted to family law.

ARTICLE II
Membership and Dues

SECTION 2.1 All members of the Section of Family and Juvenile Law shall be members of the Maryland State Bar Association and shall pay, in addition to their annual dues for membership in the Association, annual Section dues in such amount and at such time as shall be determined by the Section Council, with approval of the Board of Governors.

SECTION 2.2 Procedures and policies governing the collection, deposit, and expenditure of section dues including termination of Section membership for non-payment, shall be as prescribed by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE III
Officers and Council

SECTION 3.1 The officers of this Section shall consist of a Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past Chair.

SECTION 3.2 There shall be a Section Council, the voting members of which shall consist of the officers and sixteen (16) voting members-at-large. One of the sixteen voting members-at-large shall include a member of the Young Lawyer Section as required by Article VIII, Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Maryland State Bar Association, and as defined by "Article II Membership" of the Bylaws of the Young Lawyer Section of the Maryland State Bar Association. The non-voting members shall consist of all Past Chairs of the Section. Past Chairs shall be given notice of all meetings of the Council, and shall have the right to attend and participate in discussions, provided they remain members of the Section.

SECTION 3.3 The officers shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Section, to hold office for the term beginning upon the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they shall have been elected and ending upon the adjournment of the next succeeding annual meeting of the Section.

SECTION 3.4 Five (5) members-at-large shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Section to serve for terms of three (3) years commencing at the close of the annual meeting. The one (1) Young Lawyer member-at-large shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Section to serve a term of one (1) year commencing at the close of the annual meeting. If a member of the Section Council is elected as an officer of the Section and has time remaining on his/her appointment, then a member-at-large shall be elected to serve the remainder of the term of that member.

ARTICLE IV

Duties and Powers of Officers

SECTION 4.1 *Chair.* The Chair, or Chair-Elect in the absence of the Chair, shall preside at all meetings of the Section and of the Council. The Chair shall superintend the performance of all activities of the Section. The Chair shall appoint all committees and shall keep the Council informed on all section activities for which the Chair shall be responsible. The Chair shall present at each annual meeting of the Maryland State Bar Association a report of the work of the section for the then closing year. The Chair shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office or as may be designated by the Council.

SECTION 4.2 *Chair-Elect.* The Chair-Elect shall assist the Chair in the performance of all the latter's duties and perform such further duties as usually pertain to that office or as may be designated by the Council or the Chair. In case of the death, resignation or disability of the Chair, the Chair-Elect shall perform the duties of the Chair for the remainder of the latter's term or disability, as the case may be. In addition, the Chair-Elect shall be Program Chair for the Section's presentation at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4.3 *Secretary.* The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Council and of the Section. The Secretary further shall perform such other duties as may reasonably be requested of the Secretary by the Chair of the Section or as may be prescribed by the Council and, in cooperation with the Chair, shall draft an appropriate report of Section activities for publication in the annual report of the Maryland State Bar Association.

SECTION 4.4 *Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall keep a record of the expenditures of the Council and the Section and report on all financial matters to the Council. The Treasurer further shall perform such other duties as may reasonably be requested of the Treasurer by the Chair of the Section or as may be prescribed by the Council and, in cooperation with the Chair, prepare and submit the proposed annual budget to the Maryland State Bar Association.

SECTION 4.5 *Immediate Past Chair.* The Immediate Past Chair shall assist the Chair in the performance of all the latter's duties and perform such further duties as usually pertain to his/her office or as may be designated by the Council or the Chair. Additionally, the Immediate Past Chair shall assist the Chair and the Nominating Committee, as further described in Article VI, Section 1 of these By-Laws, with the identification and selection of new Section Council officers and members-at-large. The Immediate Past Chair shall act as Chair of the Membership Committee and in that capacity presents the Nominating Committee with the names of suitable candidates for selection to the Council.

ARTICLE V

Duties and Powers of the Council

SECTION 5.1 The Council shall have general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section subject to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Maryland State Bar Association and the By-Laws of this Section. During the interval between the meetings of the Section, the Council shall have full authority to act for the

Section in any way in which the Section itself would be authorized to act, and any such action taken by the Council pursuant to this provision shall be reported to the members of the Section at the next Annual meeting of the Section.

SECTION 5.2 The Council shall meet at or about the time and place of each Annual meeting of the Maryland State Bar Association and may meet in regular or special session at any other time or place as may be scheduled by the Council or on the call of the Chair or three members of the Council as more specifically described in Article VII.

SECTION 5.3 The Chair shall appoint committee chairs and co-chairs and sub-committee chairs and co-chairs of Section Council members to perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Council may direct, subject to the limitations of these By-Laws and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Maryland State Bar Association. Additionally, members of any committee or sub-committee may be appointed by the Chair from the membership of the Section. The Section shall have the following Standing Committees:

1. Newsletter;
2. Legislation;
3. Continuing Legal Education;
4. Membership;
5. Mentoring;
6. Annual Meeting;
7. Awards;
8. Top Ten List;
9. Website / Media

The Chair may also create Ad-Hoc committees as the Section Council deems appropriate, and appoint thereto committee chairs and co-chairs of Section Council member to perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Council may direct, subject to the limitations of these By-Laws and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Maryland State Bar Association.

SECTION 5.4 Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, the Council, during the interim between the Annual meetings of the Section, shall fill vacancies in its own membership and in Section offices. Members and officers so selected shall serve until the adjournment of the next Annual meeting of the Section or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. Unless excused therefrom by the Chair, or by vote of the Council, if any officer or member-at-large of the Council shall fail to attend two successive regular meetings of the Council without reasonable excuse for such absences, the office held by such officer or member-at-large may thereafter be deemed vacant, and the Council may thereupon fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of attendance of all present at Council meetings, and shall inform the Chair of the failure of an officer or member-at-large of the Council's failure to attend two successive regular meetings of the Council.

SECTION 5.5 Except where elsewhere specifically provided, all binding action of the Council shall be by a majority vote where at least nine (9) members thereof are in attendance.

SECTION 5.6 Proxy voting by the officers and members-at-large shall not be permitted. Electronic and/or telephonic voting by the officers and members-at-large themselves shall be permitted.

ARTICLE VI

Nomination and Election of Officers and Council Members

SECTION 6.1 The Officers of the Section shall act as the Nominating Committee for the Section.

SECTION 6.2 The Nominating Committee shall, in the selection of nominees for the Council, receive and consider suggestions for nominations of qualified persons, taking into consideration the nominee's geographic

location, familiarity with the Section, capability, availability to serve, and past service to the Section. The Chair-Elect shall automatically succeed to the office of Chair for the next succeeding year without nomination.

SECTION 6.3 Members at large of the Council shall serve one three (3) year term. If a member at large is the Chair or Co-Chair of a Standing Committee at the conclusion of his/her term that member may request nomination for one additional three (3) year term as a member-at-large. No member-at-large may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

SECTION 6.4 The names of all nominees who are approved by a majority of the Nominating Committee shall be transmitted to the Section membership through the Maryland State Bar at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual meeting of the Section. By petition of fifteen (15) members of the Section, additional nominations may be made and submitted to the Council and/or directly to the Maryland State Bar Association at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting. If no additional nominees are made, the slate of the Nominating Committee, or so much thereof as may be unopposed, shall stand elected.

SECTION 6.5 The Section, at its Annual meeting, shall elect officers (except the Chair), and fill the vacancies of the members of the Council from persons duly nominated in accordance with this Article. In contested elections, voting may be by voice vote or by written ballot in the discretion of the Chair.

ARTICLE VII

Meeting of the Section Council and Section

SECTION 7.1 The Annual meeting of the Section shall be held in one or more sessions at or about the time of the Annual Meeting of the Maryland State Bar Association, in the same place that such Annual meeting is held, with such program and order of business as may be arranged by the Chair with the approval of the Council.

SECTION 7.2 Additionally, the Section Council shall meet at least monthly to conduct business and/or for special events planned by the Section Council at such times and places set by the Chair.

ARTICLE VIII

Miscellaneous Provisions

SECTION 8.1 Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year of the Section shall be the same as that of the Maryland State Bar Association which at the present time begins on June 1st and ends on May 31st.

SECTION 8.2 All bills incurred by the Section, or by any of its officers, before being paid shall be cleared with the Chair, notwithstanding the expenditure may have been authorized by the Council.

SECTION 8.3 No salary or compensation may be paid to any member of the Section.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Section Council by a vote of at least nine (9) members thereof or at any Annual Meeting of the Section by two-thirds of the members there present and voting.

ARTICLE X

Effective Date

These By-Laws, as amended, shall become effective on April 8, 2015. A copy hereof shall be transmitted to the Board of Governors of the Maryland State Bar Association for publication.