

**CHAIR:**

Francine M. Ffolkes  
 Administrative Law Judge  
 Division of Administrative Hearings  
 1230 Apalachee Parkway  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3060  
 (850) 488-9675  
 francine.fffolkes@doah.state.fl.us

**CHAIR-ELECT:**

Steven A. Klinger  
 Broward County Courthouse  
 201 SE 6th St., Ste. 660A  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-3334  
 (954) 831-7913  
 SKlinger@sao17.state.fl.us

**SECRETARY:**

Jacek P. Stramski  
 Office of the Attorney General  
 PL-01, The Capitol  
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 jacek.stramski@myfloridalegal.com

**TREASURER:**

Anthony Bernard Miller  
 General Counsel  
 Florida Agency for State Technology  
 4050 Esplanade Way, Ste. 115  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016  
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 anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com

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## Government Lawyer Section

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Government Lawyer Section  
 Executive Council and Annual Section Meeting  
 Thursday, June 14, 2018  
 Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek  
 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 Room Location: Beekman

**IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR:**

Michael W. Schmid  
 City Attorney's Office  
 315 E. Kennedy Blvd., Fl. 5  
 Tampa, FL 33602-5211  
 (813) 274-8795  
 michael.schmid@tampagov.net

**BOARD LIAISON:**

Melissa Van Sickle, Tallahassee

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:****Awards & Recognition:**

Kristin Mai Bigham, Tallahassee

**Budget:**

Steven Klinger, Ft. Lauderdale

**Bylaws:**

Alvan Balent, Jr., Miami

**Certification:**

Francine M. Ffolkes, Tallahassee

**Claude Pepper Award:**

Keith W. Rizzardi, West Palm Beach

**Continuing Legal Education:**

Anthony B. Miller, Tallahassee

**Legislative:**

Kalinthia Dillard, West Palm Beach

**Long Range Planning:**

Steven Klinger, Ft. Lauderdale

**Membership:**

Angela Huston, Tallahassee

**Publications:**

William W. Gwaltney, Tallahassee

**Technology:**

Jacek Stramski, Tallahassee

**Young Government Lawyer:**

Hughens Dolisca, West Palm Beach

**District Representatives:**

John Bajger, Ft. Lauderdale

Pam Cichon, St. Petersburg

Jesse Haskins, Tallahassee

Anthony Musto, Miami Gardens

Therese Savona, Orlando

Michelle Buckalew, Washington D.C.

**At-Large Representatives:**

Sean T. Desmond, Tallahassee

Brian Fernandes, West Palm Beach

Angela L. Huston, Tallahassee

Karlina Lee, Ft. Lauderdale

John Maceluch, Tampa

Thomas Palermo, Tampa

Patrick "Colin" Rice, Tampa

Hon. John Van Laningham, Tallahassee

Cynthia L. Hall, Key West

Katelyn Wright, Tampa

**Out-of-State Representative:**

Michelle L. Buckalew, Washington, D.C.

**PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR:**

Calbrail L. Banner

651 E. Jefferson Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

(850) 561-5623

Fax: (850) 561-9427

- I. Chair's Welcome and Roll Call – Francine Ffolkes
    - a. Recognition of new members of the Executive Council
    - b. Recognition of visitors
  - II. Secretary's Report – Jacek Stramski
    - a. Approval of minutes from 11/17/17 - **Exhibit A**
  - III. Chair's Report – Francine Ffolkes
    - a. Council of Sections **Exhibit B**
    - b. Constitution Revision Commission
    - c. Florida Bar Committees
    - d. Legislative Positions and possible motion for 2018-19 **Exhibit C**
  - IV. Treasurer's Report – Anthony Miller
    - a. Statement of Operations **Exhibit D**
  - V. Chair Elect's Report – Steven Klinger
  - VI. Board of Governors Report
    - a. General Report – Melissa VanSickle
- Committee Reports
- a. Budget – Steven Klinger/Anthony Miller
  - b. Certification – Francine Ffolkes
  - c. Claude Pepper Award – Keith Rizzardi/Francine Ffolkes
    - (i) Ms. Julie Waldman – 2018 winner.
  - d. Awards and Recognition – Kristin Mai Bigham
  - e. Continuing Legal Education – Anthony Miller
    - (i) 2018 Federal Seminar report.
    - (ii) Practicing Before the Supreme Court report

# THE FLORIDA BAR

- f. Legislation – Kalinthia Dillard
- g. Long Range Planning – Steven Klinger
- h. Membership – Angela Huston
- i. Publications – Alvan Balent, Jr./William Gwaltney
- j. Technology – Jacek Stramski
- k. Young Government Lawyers – Hughens Dolisca
- l. Bylaws – Alvan Balent, Jr.
- m. Events Planning Special Committee – Kristin Bigham
- n. GLS Audit Special Committee – Sean Desmond.

## VII. Old Business

- a.
- b.

## VII. New Business

- a. Nominating Committee Report and 2018-2019 Slate – Steven Klinger
- b.

## Adjourn

Announcements: Awards Reception at 6:00 p.m. in Dade – Ms. Waldman and guests will attend.

Budget Call: October 2018 (\* date & time to be announced)

Next Scheduled In Person Executive Council Meetings: January 2018  
Orlando, FL

## Other Attachments:

2017-2018 GLS Committee Contacts List

2017-2018 Executive Council Members

GLS Bylaws

**Government Lawyer Section  
Executive Council Teleconference Meeting  
Friday, November 17, 2017  
Dial In (888)376-5050  
Participant Code: 3434582165  
Leader Pin: 65742  
3:00-5:00pm**

Time 3:05 p.m.

Meeting began with roll call and introduction of members in attendance.

Members in Attendance: Francine Ffolkes, Steven Klinger, Jacek Stramski, Anthony Miller, Melissa Van Sickle, Alvin Balent, Mary Ellen Clark, Pamela Cichon, Cynthia Hall, Jr., Jesse Haskins, Bill Gwaltney, Colin Rice, Michael Schmid

Executive Council and Annual Section Meeting:

1. Chair's Welcome and Roll Call – Judge Ffolkes
2. Committee Reports – Budget moved to top of agenda for discussion and vote

- a. Budget – Steven Klinger/Anthony Miller  
Proposed Budget for 2018-19 (**Exhibit A**)

Anthony Miller – September statement of operations – Minor changes in budget over past year for expenses such as telephone services and copying; \$4,000 for web services is result of Bar requesting more accessible interface, updates may be required; Net income is negative; did not see many opportunities for cost-cutting; there is an upcoming joint CLE that is expected to potentially increase income; input on long term solutions welcome.

Steven Klinger – Prior budget was worked on with Mike Schmid and Steven Klinger; appropriations were decreased for some services such as telephone, etc., though some costs were increased, such as web services and annual meeting; expected shortfall is only anticipated, actual expenditures may be lower than projected and CLEs may bring in more revenues than expected; funds may be required for diversity picnic; may have to have serious consideration of budget in January meeting

Mary Ellen Clark – asked about 5-year or historical perspective; negative budget has been going on for a number of years, reserve has been depleted from ~\$60K to current levels; concern about approving a budget with shortfall based on previous years of negative trend

Jacek Stramski– ADA revisions were made during the past year, it is possible there will not be any ADA or accessibility revisions required by the Bar.

Calbrail Bennet – The set aside for website costs is for a contingency in case the website is not ADA compliant; there is no indicator at this point that there have been any ADA issues with the website; however, each year, when the bar tech committee scans websites, it may make recommendations for website upgrades; budget must be passed by Nov. 30.

Francine Ffolkes – It may be appropriate to approve the budget now as approval is due soon; GLS can revise budget in January meeting to address long term issues.

Motion to Approve Budget (Steven Klinger, Anthony Miller second)

Motion to Approve Budget approved unanimously

3. Secretary's report – Jacek Stramski

a. Approval of Minutes (**Exhibit B – June 22, 2017, minutes**)

Motion to Approve Minutes (Francine Ffolkes – Alvan Balent, Jr., second)

Motion to Approve Minutes approved unanimously

4. **Chair's Report – Francine Ffolkes**

Francine Ffolkes - Attended council of sections at last Florida Bar annual meeting, there was a discussion about carry-over of CLE credits over reporting periods.

5. Treasurer's Report—Anthony Miller

*Refer to Budget Committee Report*

5. Chair Elect's Report— Steven Klinger

Had an opportunity to have dinner with bar president in Fort Lauderdale along with several other GLS members; dinner was very productive; discussed many issues, including concern with carryover of CLEs and potential impact on section revenues; would like to have GLS dinner with president-elect prior to start of term, perhaps in January or February; dinner will most likely be in south Florida.

Upcoming diversity picnic will be held in Orlando by Orange County Diversity and Inclusion Committee during week of January 27, week after mid-year meeting; reached out to GLS representative from Orlando area to see if we can be represented at picnic; if anyone is aware of GLS members in area who would be able to represent GLS at picnic, please contact Steven; this may be a good method to increase membership by expanding exposure to new lawyers.

GLS section recognized for its diversity by diversity committee of FL Bar

Mary Ellen Clark – Encouraged dinner with FL Bar president-elect; in the past, dinners were set up automatically through Bar during mid-year meetings where many GLS members were present; this was when there were three annual bar meetings; encouraged to set up dinners at regular meetings to allow large participation by GLS EC and membership.

6. Board of Governors Report

a. General Report –Melissa Van Sickle

No report

b. Government Lawyer Seat Report –Dave Aaronberg

No report

## 7. Committee reports continued

### b. Continuing Legal Education – Anthony Miller Washington DC Seminar - **April 22-24, 2018**

Anthony Miller - Almost finished preparing for seminar, secured space without expense to GLS, recommended program, including viewing SCOTUS OAs; good speakers lined up for seminars, including FEMA discussions; expected between 5-7 hours of CLE credits, may be more depending on whether activities such as observing OAs are approved for credit.

Russell Kent is starting to lay groundwork for the Practicing Before the Supreme Court CLE

### c. Publications – Alvan Balent, Jr./Bill Gwaltney

Will have a call for publications, Dec. 15 is deadline for submissions

Francine Ffolkes – may reach out to some original members to see if there could be any retrospective contributions about the history of GLS

Mary Ellen Clark– may be a good idea retrospective about previous GLS seminars.

### d. Long Range Planning – Steve Klinger

The Florida Bar Winter Meeting -

Thursday January 18, 2018:

Long Range Planning Retreat 3:30p – 5:30p

Long Range Planning dinner Reception 6p – 7p

Friday January 19, 2018:

Executive Council Meeting 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Refer to Chair Elect's Report, working on agenda for Long Range Planning

### e. Legislative – Kalinthia Dillard

2018 Legislative Session – January 2018.

No report.

### f. Certification – Francine Ffolkes

Will have a longer discussion on certification in January. Only one person took and passed certification last time around; members who are certified please remember to promote certification to members of the bar.

### g. Membership – Angela Huston

No report

### h. Young Government Lawyer – Hugh Dolisca

No report

- i. Technology – Jacek Stramski  
Bios on GLS website are largely outdated or non-existent, may request updated bios.

Francine Ffolkes – will review website and determine if there are any suggested changes to be made.

- j. Claude Pepper Award – Keith Rizzardi  
Francine Ffolkes - people interested in working on the award should contact Keith so that work on nomination can get started earlier in the year.

- k. Awards and Recognition—Kristin Bigham  
No report

- l. Bylaws— Alvan Balent, Jr.  
No report

#### 8. Liaison Reports

- a. Constitutional Revision Commission – Mike Schmid  
Francine Ffolkes – Monitoring proposed amendment regarding de novo review of all administrative interpretations of statutes and rules.

- b. 2016 Gender Bias/Diversity Committee – Steven Klinger  
Refer to Chair-Elect Report

#### 9. Old Business

- a. Francine Ffolkes will contact to Mike Schmid about GLS Dropbox account

#### 10. New Business

Please email Steven Klinger if interested in participating in Orlando diversity picnic and representing GLS

Adjournment 4:24 p.m.

Next Proposed Executive Council Meetings:

The Florida Bar Winter Meeting -

Thursday January 18, 2018:

Long Range Planning Retreat 3:30p – 5:30p

Long Range Planning dinner Reception 6p – 7p

Friday January 19, 2018:

Executive Council Meeting 3:30pm – 5:30pm

**Government Lawyer Section  
Long Range Planning Meeting  
Thursday, January 18, 2018  
Orlando, FL  
DoubleTree by Hilton Universal**

Start – 3:43

In attendance – Francine Folkes, Steven Klinger, Anthony Miller, Alvin Balent, Melissa Van Sickle, Pamela Cichon, Michael Schmid, Jacek Stramski, Diane Bock

Steve Klinger – Opening remarks

Executive Council Nominating Committee request for volunteers – Anthony Miller, Steven Klinger, Francine Folkes, Pamela Cichon, Diana Bock volunteered.

Thoughts on general goals – how to increase participation – section should refer back to last year's LRP – there were many good ideas, but many were not implemented; past year's suggestions – everyone find one person to get involved in section.

Anthony Miller – Perhaps hold monthly conference calls.

Alvin Balent – restructure EC as it may be a bit top heavy, there may be too many vaguely defined positions – duplicative positions; many new lawyers start in government, could be a good place to start recruitment.

Pamela Cichon – having positions for members can encourage participation – meetings for GLS should emphasize membership; there must be reasons for people to join the section.

Melissa Van Sickle – Strict attendance requirement in other sections, attendance is enforced  
Fellowship programs were successful in recruiting some new members  
Local government bar sections try to recruit  
Focus on the value that is provided to members

Diane Bock – there must be focus on what do we provide for members

Steven Klinger – will send around past LRP, will come back within month to discuss future steps; budget is better than was predicted at the last conference call meeting

Francine Folkes – CLEs and dues increased revenues

Adjourned at 5:32

**Government Lawyer Section  
Executive Council Meeting  
Friday, January 19, 2018  
Orlando, FL  
DoubleTree by Hilton Universal**

Time 3:40 p.m.

Meeting began with introduction of members in attendance.

Members in Attendance: Francine Ffolkes, Steven Klinger, Anthony Miller, Alvan Balent, Pamela Cichon, Diana Bock, Jacek Stramski

Public in attendance:

Executive Council and Annual Section Meeting:

1. Chair's Welcome and Roll Call – Francine Ffolkes

**No Quorum Present**

2. Secretary's report – Jacek Stramski

a. Approval of Minutes – postponed due to lack of quorum

3. Chair's Report – Francine Ffolkes

4. Treasurer's Report— Anthony Miller

a. Discussion on planning of Federal Seminar

b Practicing before the Supreme Court CLE is being put together

5. Chair Elect's Report— Steven A. Klinger

a. Summary of discussion with Lawson, J. of the Florida Supreme Court

6. Board of Governors Report

a. General Report –

b. Government Lawyer Seat Report –

7. Committee Reports - None

a. Claude Pepper Award –

b. Awards and Recognition -

c. Budget –



- d. Continuing Legal Education –
- e. Long Range Planning Report –
- f. Publications –
- g. Legislative –
- h. Certification –
- i. Membership –
- j. Technology –
- k. Bylaws—
- l. Young Government Lawyer –
- m. Events Planning Special Committee -

8. Liaison Reports

9. Old Business

- a. None

10. New Business

- a. None

11. Visit with President of Florida Bar

Adjourned 5:00pm

Next Proposed Executive Council Meetings:

June 14, 2018 - FL Bar Annual Meeting – Orlando, FL



# The Florida Bar



**Michael J. Higer**  
President

**Joshua E. Doyle**  
Executive Director

**Michelle R. Suskauer**  
President-Elect

## MEMORANDUM

To: Selected Division, Section & Committee Chairs / Chairs-elect

From: Patrick L. “Booter” Imhof, General Counsel *BA*

Date: April 6, 2018

Re: “Sunsetting” of 2016-18 Legislative Positions

cc: Board of Governors, Josh Doyle, Rosalyn Scott; Selected Division, Section & Committee Liaisons and Lobbyists, Selected Division, Section & Committee Legislative Chairs, Jim Daughton, Aimee Diaz Lyon, Joni Wussler

Consistent with the provisions of Standing Board Policy 9.20(d), all Florida Bar legislative positions for the 2016-18 biennium – to include those of committees, sections and divisions – are to be “sunsetting” at the July 25-29, 2018 meeting of the Bar’s governing board.

Attached is a current listing of recognized positions for your division, section or committee. The complete master list of all legislative positions within The Florida Bar is available [here](#).

Please review your group’s existing positions for advocacy and identify those that are no longer valid. Please advise me which items you want to continue to advocate in the 2018-20 biennium which begins upon the legislature’s organizational session next fall. For convenience, you may return a marked copy of this attachment that indicates your preferences.

Existing legislative positions of voluntarily-funded Bar groups (all sections and the Out of State Division) which are recommended by you for continued advocacy in the new biennium are typically re-approved by the Bar’s governing board without any additional formality. Your prompt response to this memo should allow for timely “rollover” action by the BoG at its July 2018 meeting without lapse of any current position that you wish to maintain. However, any request for entirely new legislative positions by your group must be submitted in a more complete [form](#).

Existing legislative positions at “Big Bar” level and those of Bar committees and the Young Lawyers Division – which are supported by mandatory membership fees – are treated differently. Following the sunset of these particular positions, the Board of Governors typically leaves this portion of The Florida Bar’s legislative platform blank until later in the year. Any positions in these categories that are considered after this lapse (whether similar to previous ones or not) are reviewed *de novo* and treated as new in every respect – particularly for purposes of member dissent and potential fee rebates under R. Regulating Fla. Bar 2-9.3. Regardless, if you have particular recommendations for Florida Bar, YLD or committee-level advocacy in the new biennium, please share them with us.

The Governmental Affairs staff at The Florida Bar offers its assistance to all Bar groups in complying with this request or for suggesting other possible legislative activity within the Bar. Any off-season legislative emergencies can be considered by the Bar’s executive committee or president at any time. You may contact me or my assistant – Joni Wussler – at [pimhof@floridabar.org](mailto:pimhof@floridabar.org) or [jwussler@floridabar.org](mailto:jwussler@floridabar.org), or by calling us at 850 / 561-5662 – or Toll-Free at 800 / 342-8060, Ext. 5662. We look forward to working with you.

B.I.

## **Government Lawyer Section**

July 29, 2016

1. Supports language in the Legislative Appropriations Act to permit the payment of government attorneys' Florida Bar membership fees and continuing legal education costs from funds within budget entities, and further supports amendment to general law to authorize all Florida government agencies to pay their government attorneys' Florida Bar membership fees and continuing education costs.
2. Supports amendment to §119.071, Florida Statutes, to exempt from disclosure under the public records law, the home addresses and telephone numbers of all current and former government agency employees.
3. Supports full legislative funding of the Prosecutor/Public Defender Training Program.
4. Supports legislative intent language to clarify that statutory restrictions or prohibitions on the private practice of law by government lawyers (other than judges and their staff) do not preclude such lawyers from providing pro bono legal services as contemplated by the Supreme Court of Florida in *Amendments to Rules Regulating The Florida Bar*, 630 So. 2d 501 (Fla. 1993), which establishes an aspirational goal of 20 hours per year of such services by each Florida lawyer.
5. Oppose all efforts to reduce the salaries and currently authorized benefits, including any change to the Florida Retirement System that would result in reduced benefits, for government lawyers.

February 7, 2017

6. Opposes term limits for judges at any level of Florida's state court system.

**GOVERNMENT LAWYER SECTION REPORT TO COUNCIL OF SECTIONS –  
JANUARY, 2018**

**“BACK TO BASICS”**

*By Hon. Francine M. Ffolkes*

The theme for this year is “Back to Basics.” Across the various Sections, surveys show that members want the same basic deliverables for their dues money: Discounted CLE programs, Networking Opportunities, and Applicable Practice Information (DNA).

To accomplish DNA this year, GLS will conduct two signature GLS live CLE programs. The CLE Committee is finalizing the Washington, DC, Seminar. It’s been a few years since the Section conducted a seminar in the nation’s capital, but attendees are invited to participate in watching oral arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court and listening to speakers on various hot button topics over a two-day CLE program taking place April 22-24, 2018. Later in the year, GLS will bring conduct the Practicing Before the Supreme Court CLE program. Another signature GLS CLE program that allows participants to learn from our Florida Supreme Court justices. Live CLE programs present excellent networking opportunities. Section members are also encouraged to attend the in-person Executive Council meetings at The Florida Bar Winter Meeting in January and the Annual Convention in June 2018. Please visit the GLS website for updates [www.flgovlawyer.org](http://www.flgovlawyer.org).

Government lawyer news, articles of interest, and substantive practice information have always been the hallmark of the GLS newsletter. This year, we plan to publish Winter, Spring, and Summer issues of *The Voice*.

It’s been 25 years since the Government Lawyer Section was launched under the leadership of Attorney General Bob Butterworth. GLS remains unique among Florida Bar Sections because instead of a substantive area of law, we are the voice for a demographic within the legal profession who practice at all levels of government - federal, state, and local. Thus, both The Florida Bar and the Section, continue to recognize the commitment to public service of government lawyers with the yearly recognition of the Claude Pepper Outstanding Government Lawyer. The Section also recognizes government lawyer contributions with its Distinguished Public Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

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## 2017-2018 Government Lawyer Section Committees & Liaisons

BUDGET	
Steven Klinger, Chair	sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us
Anthony Miller (Treasurer)	Anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com
Diana Bock	Diana.bock@myfloridalegal.com
Francine Ffolkes	francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us

LONG RANGE PLANNING	
Steven Klinger, Chair	sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us
Francine Ffolkes	francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us

CLE	
Anthony Miller, Chair	Anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com
Robert Shillinger, Jr.	Shillinger-bob@monroeconty-fl.gov
John Maceluch, Jr.	jmaceluch@johnbales.com
Francine Ffolkes	francine.ffolkes@dep.state.fl.us
Michael Schmid	Michael.schmid@tampagov.net
Michelle Buckalew	Michelle.buckalew@fema.dhs.gov

LEGISLATIVE	
Kalinthia Dillard, Chair	Kdillard1@pbcgov.org
Francine Ffolkes	Francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us

PUBLICATIONS	
Alvan Balent, Jr. Co-Chair (Journal)	abalent@jud11.flcourts.org
Bill Gwaltney, Co-Chair (Newsletter)	Bill.gwaltney@dep.state.fl.us
Trey Nazzaro	tnazzaro@gulf-stream.org

MEMBERSHIP	
Angela Huston, Chair	Angela.huston@floridarevenue.com
Karline Lee	KLee@sao17.state.fl.us
James Dinkins	
Lindsay Bierman	
Eric Miller	

## TECHNOLOGY

Jacek Stramski, Chair	Jacek.stramski@myfloridalegal.com

## YOUNG GOVERNMENT LAWYER

Hugh Dolisca, Chair	hugh.dolisca@flofr.com

## CLAUDE PEPPER AWARD

Keith Rizzardi, Chair	krizzardi@stu.edu

## AWARDS &amp; RECOGNITIONS

Kristin Bigham, Chair	Kristin.bigham@dep.state.fl.us

## CERTIFICATION

Francine Ffolkes, Chair	Francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us

## BYLAWS

Alvan Balent, Jr., Chair	abalent@jud11.flcourts.org
Francine Ffolkes	Francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us
Steven Klinger	sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us
Anthony Miller	Anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com
Jacek Stramski	Jacek.stramski@myfloridalegal.com

## SECTION LIAISONS

Fla. Bar Board of Governors	Melissa Van Sickle	<a href="mailto:mvansickle@broadandcassel.com">mvansickle@broadandcassel.com</a>
Fla. Bar CLE Committee	Anthony Miller Alvan Balent, Jr.	<a href="mailto:Anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com">Anthony.miller@ast.myflorida.com</a>
Fla. Bar Council of Sections	Francine Ffolkes Steven Klinger	<a href="mailto:francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us">francine.ffolkes@doah.state.fl.us</a> <a href="mailto:sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us">sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us</a>

Young Lawyers Division	Hugh Dolisca	<a href="mailto:hugh.dolisca@flofr.com">hugh.dolisca@flofr.com</a>
Diversity and Inclusion	Steven Klinger	<a href="mailto:sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us">sklinger@sao17.state.fl.us</a>
Fla. Bar Constitutional Revision Commission Committee	Michael Schmid	<a href="mailto:Michael.schmid@tampagov.net">Michael.schmid@tampagov.net</a>

**The Florida Bar Government Lawyer Section  
Executive Council  
2017-2018**

**OFFICERS**

Chair:	Francine M. Ffolkes	Tallahassee
Chair-Elect:	Steven Klinger	Ft. Lauderdale
Treasurer:	Anthony Miller	Tallahassee
Secretary:	Jacek Stramski	Tallahassee

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:**

Jesse Haskins	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tallahassee
Pam Cichon	2 <sup>nd</sup>	St. Petersburg
Anthony Musto	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Miami Gardens
John Bajger	4 <sup>th</sup>	Ft. Lauderdale
Therese Savona	5 <sup>th</sup>	Orlando
Michelle Buckalew	Out of State	Adelphi, MD

**AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES (10):**

John Maceluch	Tampa	Patrick “Colin” Rice	Tampa
Angela Huston	Tallahassee	Cynthia L. Hall	Key West
Brian Fernandes	West Palm Beach	Katelyn Wright	Tampa
Sean Desmond	Tallahassee	Karline Lee	Ft Lauderdale
Judge John Van Laningham	Tallahassee	Thomas Palermo	Tampa

**CHAIR'S COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

Steven Klinger	Budget Chair	Ft. Lauderdale
Alvan Balent, Jr.	Bylaws Chair	Miami
Francine M. Ffolkes	Certification Chair	Tallahassee
Keith Rizzardi	Claude Pepper Award Chair	West Palm Beach/Hallandale
Kristin Bigham	Awards & Recognitions	Tallahassee
Anthony Miller	CLE Chair	Tallahassee
Kalinhia Dillard	Legislative	West Palm Beach
Steven Klinger	Long Range Planning	Tallahassee
Angela Huston	Membership Chair	Tallahassee
Alvan Balent, Jr.	Publications Co-Chair (Journal)	Miami
Bill Gwaltney	Publications Co-Chair ( <i>The Voice</i> )	Tallahassee
Jacek Stramski	Technology Chair	Tallahassee
Hugh Dolisca	Young Gov. Lawyer Chair	Tallahassee



**The Florida Bar Government Lawyer Section  
Executive Council  
2017-2018**

<b>Ex-Officio Members:</b>	<b>(Past Chairs)</b>
Michael Schmid	Tampa (Immediate Past Chair)
Robert Downie, II	Tallahassee - 2015-2016
Ellen Simon	Tallahassee - 2014-2015
Barbara C. Wingo	St. Augustine – 2013-2014
Diana K. Bock	Tampa – 2012-2013
Ward P. Griffin	Washington, D.C. – 2011-2012
Mary Ellen Clark	Tallahassee – 2010-2011
Keith Rizzardi	West Palm Beach – 2009-2010
Carolyn Snurkowski	Tallahassee – 2008-2009
Robert Krauss	Tampa – 2007-2008
Joseph Mellichamp	Tallahassee – 2006-2007
Pamela D. Cichon	St. Petersburg – 2005-2006
Patrick L. Imhof	Tallahassee – 2004-2005
Keith Rizzardi	West Palm Beach – 2003-2004
Clark R. Jennings	Tallahassee – 2002-2003
Stephanie A. Daniel	Tallahassee – 2001-2002
Howard Pohl	Ft. Lauderdale – 2000-2001
Joseph P. George	Miami – 1999-2000
Anthony Musto	Miami Gardens – 1998-1999
Sheryl G. Wood	West Palm Beach – 1997-1998
Thomas Hall	Tallahassee – 1996-1997
John J. Copelan	Coral Springs – 1995-1996
M. Catherine Lannon	Tallahassee – 1994-1995
Thomas Bateman	Tallahassee – 1993-1994
Gerald Jaski	Tallahassee – 1992-1993
Robert Butterworth	Ft. Lauderdale – 1991-1992

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**BYLAWS OF THE  
GOVERNMENT LAWYER SECTION**

**ARTICLE I  
NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1. Name.** The name of this section is the "Government Lawyer Section, The Florida Bar".

**Section 2. Purposes.** The purposes of this section are to:

(a) provide an organization within The Florida Bar open to all members in good standing of The Florida Bar who have common interest in the activities and issues relating to the legal representation of governmental entities and/or the provision, by governmental entities, of legal services to others;

(b) provide a forum for discussion, exchange of ideas, research and leadership and to make recommendations in those areas of particular interest to, or matters affecting, lawyers employed by state, federal and local government entities, to the executive, judicial and legislative branches of the government;

(c) advise and recommend to the legislature substantive changes in the law;

(d) advise and recommend to the legislature changes in the statutory provisions regarding employment of lawyers by the State of Florida;

(e) foster a high standard of ethical and practical conduct on the part of all members of the profession who participate in litigation or negotiation with or before government entities;

(f) assist The Florida Bar in the preparation and organization of educational programs that relate to the interests of government lawyers;

(g) enhance the perception of government lawyers and to increase awareness within The Florida Bar and the general public as to the role of the government lawyer in the legal system;

(h) increase participation by government lawyers in the activities of The Florida Bar, including the support of section members for appointment to Bar committees;

(i) advise and recommend to The Florida Bar changes in policy and programming that are relevant to the needs and objectives of government lawyer members of The Florida Bar; and

(j) facilitate communication and networking between and among lawyers employed in state, federal and local government.

**Section 3. Mission of the Section.** The Government Lawyer Section is dedicated to promoting the professionalism and competence of its members; improving the delivery of legal services to all governmental entities; improving the administration of the legal system; and enhancing The Florida Bar's and the public's understanding of the unique needs of the government lawyer.

## **ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Eligibility.** Any member in good standing of The Florida Bar interested in the purposes of this section is eligible for membership upon application and payment of this section's annual dues. Any member who ceases to be a member of The Florida Bar in good standing will automatically be removed from this section.

**Section 2. Administrative Year.** The administrative year of the section runs concurrently with the administrative year of The Florida Bar.

**Section 3. Annual Dues.** The annual dues are fixed by the executive council, subject to approval by The Florida Bar Board of Governors. After an applicant becomes a member, section dues are payable in advance of each membership year. Any member whose dues are in arrears for a period of 3 months will cease to be a member of the section.

**Section 4. Affiliate Membership.** The executive council may enroll affiliate members as defined below, on request and payment of the prescribed dues.

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of affiliate membership is to foster the development and communication of information between government lawyers and the people who often work with government lawyers, but not to encourage the unlicensed practice of law.

(b) **Definition.** "Affiliate" or "affiliate member" means any person who practices a profession dealing with government lawyers, who is not an active member of The Florida Bar and who can show a dual capacity of interest in and contribution to the section's activities. Affiliates may include, but are not necessarily limited to, local, state, and federal agency personnel, educational personnel, law enforcement personnel, members of administrative boards, persons doing business with local, state and federal agencies, members of the legislature and legislative staff, authorized house counsel, paralegals, judicial assistants, law faculty, and law students enrolled in accredited law schools.

(c) **Restrictions on Affiliate Membership.** Affiliates have all the privileges accorded to members of the section except that affiliates may not vote, hold office, or participate in the selection of officers or members of the executive council, or advertise affiliate membership in any way.

(d) **Affiliate Member Dues.** Affiliate members must pay dues in an amount equal to that required of section members.

(e) **Limit on Number of Affiliate Members.** The number of affiliates must not exceed one-third of the section's membership.

(f) **Reimbursement of Affiliate Expenses.** The section must reimburse The Florida Bar for expenses incurred by The Florida Bar in administering this section's affiliate membership.

### **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Selection of Officers.** The officers of this section are a chair, a chair-elect, a treasurer and a secretary. The chair-elect becomes chairperson in the manner provided by these bylaws. A chair-elect, Secretary and Treasurer are elected at each annual meeting of the section that is held during the annual convention of The Florida Bar. The chair appoints a committee of not more than 3 members of the section who nominates any active member of the section for the offices of chair-elect, Secretary and Treasurer. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

#### **Section 2. Duties of Officers.**

(a) *Chair.* The chair presides at all meetings of the section and at all meetings of the executive council of the section. The chair appoints the members of all committees and all committee chairs, prepares all reports to be submitted to The Florida Bar, and performs other duties as customarily pertain to the office of the chair. The chair is an ex-officio member of each committee of the section.

(b) *Chair-elect.* The chair-elect becomes chair in the event of the death, resignation or failure of the chair to serve for whatever reason. In case of temporary disability or absence of the chair, the chair-elect serves as a acting chairperson only for the duration of the chair's disability or absence. The chair-elect serves as chair of the nominating committee appointed by the current chair and is responsible for such duties as the chair may designate. The chair-elect is an ex-officio member of each committee of the section.

(c) *Treasurer.* The treasurer has the responsibility of accounting for all funds of the section, approves all disbursements and prepares annual financial statements under the supervision of the executive council.

(d) *Secretary.* The secretary is responsible for taking minutes at all meetings of the section, distributing draft minutes for approval at the next meeting of the Executive Council and finalizing the minutes. The secretary is responsible for providing final copies of all minutes to the section's administrator who then furnishes copies of the minutes to the executive director of The Florida Bar and archives the minutes in the permanent files and records of the section.

#### **Section 3. Term of Office.**

(a) *Chair.* The term of office of the chair begins the day following the conclusion of the annual convention of The Florida Bar during which the election is held, and ends at the conclusion of the next annual convention of The Florida Bar.

(b) *Chair-elect.* The term of office of the chair-elect runs concurrently with that of the chair.

(c) *Treasurer.* The term of office of the treasurer begins the day following the conclusion of the annual convention of The Florida Bar during which the election is held and ends at the conclusion of the next annual convention of The Florida Bar.

(d) *Secretary.* The term of office of the secretary begins at the conclusion of the annual convention of The Florida Bar during which the election is held and ends at the conclusion of the next annual convention of The Florida Bar.

**Section 4. Vacancies.** The chair fills all vacancies except vacancies in the offices of chair and chair-elect, which are filled in the manner provided by these bylaws. In the event that the offices of both chair and chair-elect become vacant, then the executive council will fill the vacancy of chair from among its members for the unexpired term, and at the next annual meeting of the section a chair and chair-elect will be elected and take office in the manner provided for in these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Section 1. Governing Body.** The executive council is the governing body of the Government Lawyer Section between the annual meetings of the section. The chair of the section is the chair of the executive council and the secretary of the section is the secretary of the executive council. The executive council has general supervision and control of the affairs of the section, subject to the provisions of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar and the bylaws of the section. It has the authority to approve all commitments or contracts which entail the payment of money and the expenditures of all section funds, in accordance with the rules and regulations of The Florida Bar and the bylaws of this section. It has no authority, however, to approve commitments, contracts or expenditures involving amounts of money in excess of the total amount which is anticipated as receipts from dues during the fiscal year plus the amount which has been previously collected from dues and remains unexpended. As the governing body of the section, it is vested with the power and authority to formulate, fix, determine and adopt matters of policy concerning the affairs and purposes of this section within The Florida Bar. All recommendations of the section, to The Florida Bar, any branch of the judiciary, the legislature or to any other group or body to which recommendations by the section are authorized to be made, must first be approved by the executive council. Any recommendation made to the judiciary, the legislature or to any other group or body other than The Florida Bar must have the prior approval of The Florida Bar. The executive council conducts its business at regular and special meetings as provided for in these bylaws; provided, however, the business of the executive council between regular meetings may be conducted by correspondence or conference call to the extent authorized by the chair.

**Section 2. Membership.** The membership of the executive council consists of the chair, chair-elect, past chairs, treasurer, secretary, the chairs of each standing and special committee, 1 representative from each Florida appellate district, 10 at-large members, and 1 out-of-state representative. Each year the chair appoints a nominating committee for the purpose of presenting to the annual meeting of the section the names of nominees for the next year's chair-elect, the representatives from each Florida appellate district, the 10 at-large representatives, and 1 out-of-state representative. The nominating committee, in making nominations, attempts to

ensure that all geographical areas of the state and all types of government lawyers are represented on the executive council. The nominating committee is chaired by the current chair-elect of the section. Nominations for each vacancy to be filled by election may be made by the nominating committee or from the floor during the annual meeting. In the event that there are more nominees than there are positions to be filled, the nominating committee conducts an election utilizing written, secret ballots. All section members who are present in person are eligible to vote and may vote for up to and including the number of positions to be filled. Those members attending electronically via conference call are entitled to vote, but must cast their vote verbally for up to and including the number of positions to be filled. The nominees receiving the highest vote totals equal to the number of positions to be filled are deemed elected. In the event of a tie vote total for the final position to be filled, a runoff election is held immediately.

**Section 3. Terms of Office.** All members of the executive council serve a term of 1 year, the term commencing with the day following the conclusion of the annual convention of The Florida Bar during which the election is held and ending at the conclusion of the next annual convention of The Florida Bar.

**Section 4. Vacancies.** If at any time during a term of office of a member of the executive council, the office becomes permanently vacant by reason of death, resignation, ineligibility or other reason, the office is filled for the balance of the term by vote of the executive council at its next meeting unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

**Section 1. Annual Meeting of the Section.** The annual meeting of the section is held at each annual convention of The Florida Bar. The members of the section attending the annual meeting of the section constitute a quorum to transact business. A two-thirds majority of section members present and voting is required to constitute a section position on pending or proposed legislation, rules of court, or rules or policies of The Florida Bar. A majority vote of section members present binds the section on all other matters.

**Section 2. Special Meetings of the Section.** The executive council may call special meetings of the entire membership of this section on 30 days' notice sent to each member of the section. The members of the section attending any special meeting of the section constitute a quorum to transact business.

**Section 3. Meetings of the Executive Council.** The Executive Council must hold at least 3 regular meetings each year, including 1 held in conjunction with the annual convention of The Florida Bar. A minimum of 10 executive council members constitutes a quorum to transact business.

Meetings of the executive council are subject to call by the chair of the section upon 10 days written notice to the members of the executive council. A minimum of 10 executive council members constitutes a quorum and a majority vote of those present is binding, except for recommendations or resolutions on pending or proposed legislation, rules of court, or rules and policies of The Florida Bar, which require a two-thirds majority of the members of the executive

council present and voting to constitute a position of the executive council. Those present include those in attendance via conference call.

Any member of the executive council who is not an elected officer or ex officio member who is absent from any 2 meetings during the administrative year without the chair's advance permission is automatically removed from the executive council. The vacancy will be filled as provided in these bylaws. Electronic attendance, via conference call or other means, satisfies attendance requirements.

**Section 4. Telephone or Video Conferences.** Meetings of the executive council may be held by telephone, video or other communication equipment if all members of the executive council participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in a meeting by telephone, video or other communications equipment constitutes presence in person at the meeting except where a member participates in a meeting for the sole purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting has not been lawfully called or convened. A minimum of 10 executive council members constitutes a quorum to transact business.

**Section 5. Electronic Notice and Voting.** Notices of meetings and other items, and voting by the executive council, may be through electronic mail. Notices of meetings by electronic mail meet the notice requirements of this article. Voting by the executive council through electronic mail is allowed only to meet a deadline that occurs before the next scheduled executive council meeting. Any expedited vote may be made by electronic mail on 2 days' notice to the members of the executive council. The chair determines whether an expedited vote is required. The secretary records the electronic vote on any measure submitted to the executive council under this provision. A minimum of 10 executive council members constitutes a quorum to transact business.

## **ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. Standing Committees.** The following are the permanent standing committees within the section:

(a) *Budget Committee.* The budget committee prepares and revises proposed budgets for submission to the executive council for approval. The budget committee is composed of the section chair, immediate past chair, chair-elect, treasurer, and any other member of the section appointed by the chair of the section.

(b) *Long Range Planning/Legislative Committee.* This committee shall prepares and revises the section's long-range plan for submission to the executive council and the membership for approval. The committee also makes recommendations to the executive council and to the membership regarding requests for the section to adopt proposed or enacted legislation on matters relating to local and state government.

(c) *Continuing Legal Education Committee.* The CLE committee shall have a chair and chair-elect and be responsible to arrange legal seminars and similar programs for the education of government lawyers and for those members of The Florida Bar who have a common

interest in the activities and issues relating to the legal representation of governmental entities or the provision of legal services to others by governmental entities.

(d) *Claude Pepper Award Nominations Committee.* The Claude Pepper Award Nominations Committee, in conjunction with The Florida Bar, recruits outstanding government lawyer nominees and establishes the selection criteria for receipt of the award. The receipt of the award will be chose by the Selection Committee, which is comprised of the President of The Florida Bar, the Chair of the Government Lawyer Section, and the Chair of the Claude Pepper Award Nominations Committee

(e) *Awards and Recognition Committee.* The Awards and Recognition Committee establishes the selection and criteria for any section award or recognition authorized by the executive council, including the Lifetime Achievement Award. The chair of the section may propose candidates to the committee for a Distinguished Service Certificate honoring government lawyers for their service.

(f) *Publications Committee.* The publications committee publishes and distributes the section's newsletter; furnishes articles for publication in Florida Bar publications; and composes and disseminates discussions and articles among the news media and to the general public. The committee also maintains a current list of all members of the section and publishes on an annual basis a directory listing each member, the member's place of employment and field of practice, and the member's designations, certifications and Martindale-Hubbell rating.

(g) *Membership Committee.* The membership committee promotes and evaluates the needs of the membership for recruitment and retention of section members.

(h) *Technology Committee.* The technology committee works with the webmaster to maintain the section's website; with the publications committee to post the section's newsletter; with the CLE committee to assure dissemination of information concerning CLE programs; with "affiliated" sections to provide information of importance to members; and with the section's legislative liaisons to assure immediate notification of matters concerning government lawyers as developments occur during legislative sessions.

(i) *Young Government Lawyers Committee.* The young government lawyers committee promotes the Government Lawyer Section to the young lawyers of The Florida Bar working in government service and in the private sector.

**Section 2. Special Committees.** Special committees may be designated by the chair with duties and powers as directed and designated by the chair.

**Section 3. Eligibility to Chair Committees.** All candidates for the chair of any committee must be a member of the Government Lawyer Section of The Florida Bar.



## **ARTICLE VII MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1. Action of The Florida Bar.** No action of the Government Lawyer Section may be represented or construed as the action of The Florida Bar unless approved by The Florida Bar.

**Section 2. Financial Obligations.** All financial obligations must be approved in the manner specified by the executive council before payment.

**Section 3. Compensation and Expenses.** No salary or other compensation may be paid to any member of the Government Lawyer Section for performance of services to the section, but the chair may authorize the payment of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses resulting from performance of these services.

**Section 4. Amendments.** These bylaws may be amended only by The Florida Bar Board of Governors on recommendation made by the executive council of the Government Lawyer Section.

**Section 5. Compliance with Policies of The Florida Bar.** The section may take no action contrary to the policies of The Florida Bar.

**Section 6. Government Lawyer Liaison Seat on The Florida Bar Board of Governors.** The executive council selects, at each mid-year meeting of the section, a member of the section for recommendation to the President-Elect of The Florida Bar for appointment to a government lawyer liaison seat on the Board of Governors. The executive council determines on an annual basis whether and to what extent the section will provide financial assistance for expenses incurred or to be incurred by a section member as a result of that member's service as the appointee to fill the government lawyer liaison seat on the Board of Governors.