

FILED
JAN - 4 2018
WASHINGTON STATE
SUPREME COURT

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF)
AMENDMENTS TO WSBA BYLAWS)
REGARDING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD)
OF GOVERNORS)

NO. 25700-B- 583

ORDER

The Washington Supreme Court has plenary authority over the practice of law in Washington. The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) serves as an arm of the Court in regulating and administering licenses to practice law in Washington and effectuating other purposes and functions as set forth in General Rule (GR) 12 and 12.1-12.5. The Court's control over the WSBA extends to ancillary administrative functions as well, including the administration of the organization.

By prior order and rule of this Court, the WSBA has been directed to administer the regulation of the practice of law by Limited Practice Officers (LPOs) (in Admission and Practice Rule (APR) 12 and related rules) and Limited License Legal Technicians (LLLTs) (in APR 28 and related rules).

The Court is aware of and has reviewed amendments to the WSBA Bylaws adopted by the WSBA Board of Governors on September 30, 2016. Amendments to WSBA Bylaws Article IV.A.1 and Article VI.A.2.c and d., and other provisions related to those articles, changed the size and makeup of the Board of Governors to include two community representatives/public Governors and one Governor to be selected from among LPOs and LLLTs (made members of the WSBA by amendments to Article III.A.1. and related provisions).

The Court recognizes that by adoption of these amendments of the WSBA Bylaws, the WSBA Board of Governors voted to change the size and specific makeup of the WSBA Board of Governors from that specified in the State Bar Act, specifically RCW 2.48.030 and .035. The Court finds that these changes in the size and makeup of the WSBA Board of Governors appear necessary to provide for the proper administration of the WSBA, for the consideration of the viewpoints of all members and of the public, and for the accomplishment of the regulatory objectives identified in GR 12.1 and the purposes and functions of the WSBA identified in GR 12.2.

The Court determined, by majority, at its January 3, 2018, En Banc Conference that the amendments should be approved.

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

That the WSBA Bylaws Amendments as described above, increasing the size of the WSBA Board of Governors and changing the makeup as described in those Bylaws, are approved by this Court and shall be given full force and effect. Specifically, this Court approves an increase in the size of the WSBA Board of Governors to a maximum of 18 members, including the President, and that those members shall be elected as provided in the WSBA Bylaws as adopted on September 30, 2016.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 4th day of January, 2018.

Fairhurst, C.J.
CHIEF JUSTICE