

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term the Supreme Court of Appeals, continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on May 9, 2018, the following order was made and entered:

**RE: Request for Public Comment on Proposed Revisions to the Governance Documents of the West Virginia State Bar – West Virginia State Bar Constitution, West Virginia State Bar Bylaws, West Virginia State Bar Administrative Rules, and Definition of the Practice of Law
No. 18-Rules-04**

On this day came the Court, on motion by the members of the of the West Virginia State Bar Board of Governors Subcommittee on Governance, (“Subcommittee”) and proceeded to consider the proposed revisions to the documents that govern the West Virginia State Bar (“State Bar”). Those documents are the West Virginia State Bar Constitution, West Virginia State Bar Bylaws, West Virginia State Bar Administrative Rules, and Definition of the Practice of Law.

This process began in 2012, when the State Bar presented to the Court proposed revisions to the State Bar Bylaws. Upon review at that time, the Court determined that a global revision of the documents that govern the State Bar should be undertaken, and by order entered May 23, 2012, the Court appointed a committee to be charged with reviewing the State Bar governing documents and drafting the revisions. The committee largely concluded its work in the spring of 2017, and the Court at that time approved the State Bar’s request to provide the Committee’s work to outside counsel for review and finalization of the revisions. In January 2018, then-president of the State Bar, Meshea Poore, appointed the Subcommittee to finalize the proposed revisions so that they could be presented to the Board of Governors. The proposed revisions were presented to the Board of Governors, and at its meeting on April 8, 2018, the Board of Governors approved the proposed revisions. A majority of the members of the State Bar present at the April 9, 2018 business meeting likewise approved the proposed revisions. On April 23, 2018, the proposed revisions were submitted to the Court for review.

The Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Article VIII §1 of the West Virginia Constitution. Upon review, the Court is of the opinion that the proposed amendments should be published for comment for a period of ninety-days. Comments must be filed

in writing with the Clerk of the Court on or before **August 14, 2018**. The Court expresses its gratitude to the Subcommittee members, Dean Rohrig, State Bar President, John McGhee, Past President, and Rory L. Perry II, District 8 Board Member.

The proposed revisions are attached hereto. The proposed additions are indicated by underscoring, and deletions are indicated by strikethrough. As noted by the Subcommittee, the "Drafting Comments" are intended to be neutral explanations of the proposed revisions to each document.

A True Copy

Attest: *Gayle Nash Laise*
Clerk of Court

