

CHARTER

An Act to Incorporate the Bar Association of Richmond

Approved February 2, 1901
As Amended November 15, 1990
and May 14, 1992

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of Virginia, that G. Carlton Jackson, Preston Cocke, B. O. James, C. V. Meredith, James E. Cannon, Hill Montague, W. O. Skelton, Carter Scott, W.R. Leake, George L. Christian, Jackson Guy, Sol. Cutchins, S.S. P. Patteson, Conway R. Sands, Frank W. Christian, Hill Carter, L. L. Lewis, James W. Gordon, and such other persons as are now associated with them in the unincorporated society known as the Bar Association of the City of Richmond, or as may be hereafter associated with them under this charter, be, and they are, hereby incorporated under the corporate name of "the bar association of the city of Richmond," the purposes of which are to cultivate and advance the cause of jurisprudence; to facilitate and improve the administration of justice; to promote the delivery of legal services to the entire community; to promote an increased understanding by the public of the legal system and respect for the law; to inculcate and enhance the highest standards of ethical conduct, integrity, dignity and honor; to continue the legal education of its members; and to encourage courtesy among all members of the legal profession, including Bench and Bar.

2. The said corporation shall have power to adopt a seal and to change or break the same, to contract and be contracted with, to sue and be sued, and in its corporate name to take, institute, and prosecute any action, suit or other proceeding in the courts of the land, or elsewhere for the purpose of punishing or disbaring unworthy members of the profession or persons assuming its functions which may now be taken and prosecuted by any natural person; and in its said name to take, institute and prosecute any action, suit or other proceeding in any court for the purpose of recovering any fees, dues, debts, property or other demands to which said corporation may be entitled; to acquire by lease or purchase a suitable building or rooms, library, and furniture for the use of the corporation; to borrow money for such purpose and issue bonds therefor, and to secure the same by mortgage or deed of trust, and generally to acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to hold, transfer, and convey any and all such real or personal property as it may have and as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this corporation: provided, it shall not hold real estate exceeding in the value the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

3. The said corporation shall have one or more classes of members, and shall have the power to make and adopt a constitution and by-laws not inconsistent with the laws of this commonwealth which set forth, among other things, the designation, qualifications and rights, including but not limited to voting rights, of the members of each class; to make and adopt rules and regulations for the admission, government, suspension, and expulsion of its members, for the collection of fees and dues, the number

and election of its officers, and to define their duties, and for the safe keeping of its property and the management of its affairs; and to alter, modify, and change such constitution, by-laws, rules, and regulations from time to time.

4. All interest of any member of said corporation in its property shall terminate and vest in the corporation upon his ceasing to be a member thereof by death, resignation, expulsion or otherwise.

5. The several officers of the said corporation shall hold their respective offices, with the power, duties and emoluments provided by the constitution and by-laws of said corporation until their successors shall be elected and installed, and in case of any vacancy in any of said offices, such vacancies shall be filled in the manner prescribed by the constitution and by-laws of said corporation, or as the same may, in conformity therewith, be altered and amended by this corporation, and the present constitution and by-laws of said corporation shall be the constitution and by-laws of said corporation until the same shall be altered or amended by said corporation. Each of the several officers of said corporation, the Chairperson of each Section of said corporation which may from time to time be established, and one of the Virginia State Bar Council representatives from the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit shall serve as ex officio members of the board of directors of the corporation, along with any other members in good standing who are elected to serve on the board of directors in accordance with the Bylaws, constitution, rules or regulations of the corporation. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than twelve or more than twenty-seven individuals. The Board of Directors shall consist of: (1) the President, President-elect, Vice President, Honorary Vice President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, the Chairperson of the Young Lawyers Section, a Virginia State Bar Council representative from the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and the Chairperson of such other Sections of the Association as may from time to time be established, all of whom shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board of Directors; (2) through May 31, 1992 nine (9) directors elected at-large from the membership of the Association; and (3) beginning June 1, 1992 twelve directors elected at-large from the membership of the Association, which initially shall be the three directors elected at the Annual meeting of the Association in 1992 from the membership of the Association from among those nominated by the Nominating Committee and the nine at-large members of the Board of Directors serving as of January 1, 1992, each of whose terms shall, without further action of the Board of Directors or membership, be extended for one year, to the end that the directors whose terms were to expire on May 31, 1992, shall expire on May 31, 1993; those whose terms were to expire on May 31, 1993 shall expire on May 31, 1994; and those whose terms were to expire on May 31, 1994 shall expire on May 31, 1995. An ex-officio director shall serve so long as he holds the office which accords him membership on the Board of Directors of the Association. The Virginia Bar Council representative shall be appointed to the Board of Directors by the President of the Association for a term of one year on June 1st of each year. Three of the twelve directors elected at-large shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association each year to serve a term of four years. All property, rights, and interests of said corporation now held by any or either of the officers thereof or any person or persons for its use and benefit, shall by virtue of this act vest in and become the property of the

corporation hereby created, subject to the payment of the debts of the said corporation.

6. This act shall be in force from its passage.