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SEAALL Constitution and Bylaws Draft, August 1972

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER

OF THE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

AUGUST 1972
CONSTITUTION

SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

ARTICLE I: NAME.

The name of this organization shall be Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE.

The Chapter is established for educational and scientific purposes. It shall be conducted as a non-profit organization to:

a. promote law librarianship.

b. develop and increase the usefulness of law libraries, particularly those in the Southeastern area of the United States.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP.

Any person or institution residing in the Southeastern region interested in law libraries may become a member of the Chapter by complying with the provisions of the bylaws. This Southeastern region includes Puerto Rico and the following states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia and such other states as may be added.
ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS.

Meetings shall be held as provided in the bylaws.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS.

Section 1. The officers shall consist of a president, vice-president - president elect, and a secretary treasurer. The officers shall hold office for two years. The vice-president - president elect shall serve as vice-president and shall automatically become the president after two years and shall so serve during the third and fourth years following his or her election. The officers shall serve without compensation. The officers shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices.

Section 2. In the event that the president resigns prior to the completion of a regular term, or is otherwise unable to perform the duties of the office in the judgment of the Executive Committee, the vice-president - president elect shall automatically assume the presidency and shall serve therein until his original presidential term would have expired, or for no more than four years, whichever is shorter. A special election would be held to fill the office of vice-president - president elect upon the assumption of the office of president by the vice-president - president elect.

Section 3. In the event that the office of vice-president - president elect should become vacant for any other reason than specified in section 2 above, a special election would be held to fill that office for the remainder of the unexpired term. If
the office of secretary-treasurer becomes vacant for any reason, a special election would be held to fill that office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 4. These special elections could be held by mail or at the next Chapter meeting, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. No officer shall hold more than one office in this Chapter at one time, nor shall the president hold office for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 6. Terms of office. All officers and members of committees shall serve from and after the first annual meeting held after their election or appointment and until their successors are elected or appointed, and qualified.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The officers shall together act as Executive Committee and as such direct the activities of the Chapter subject to the provisions of this Constitution and the bylaws and in accordance with the policies agreed upon by the members. The immediate past president shall serve on the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES.

a. There shall be the following committees:
   (1) Program
b. The president shall appoint all members of the standing committees. Special committees may be created as necessary. The president shall appoint all members of the Special Committees.

ARTICLE VIII: ANTI-DISCRIMINATION.

Membership in the Chapter or participation in any activity of the Chapter shall not be denied to any individual, or abridged, on account of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a petition signed by ten per cent of the members. Proposed amendments shall become effective after they have been submitted to all members and when approved by two-thirds of those voting in a ballot conducted by mail in the manner provided in the bylaws or at a meeting of the Chapter by a two-thirds vote of members voting in the ballot.

ARTICLE X: BYLAWS.

Any bylaws may be adopted, repealed, amended or suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting in a ballot conducted by mail in the manner provided in the bylaws or at a meeting of the Chapter
by a two-thirds vote of the members voting in the ballot.

ARTICLE XI: EFFECTIVE DATE.

This constitution shall become effective after approval by three-fourths of the members voting at a meeting of the Chapter.
ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1.

a. Individual Members

Any person officially connected with a law library, or with a separately maintained law section in any library may become an active individual member upon determination of eligibility by the Membership Committee and payment of annual dues. The Membership Committee's ruling may be appealed to the Executive Committee.

b. Institutional Members

Any law library may become an institutional member upon payment of annual dues. The Executive Committee is empowered to determine whether the institution applying for membership is a law library. Such persons on the staff of an institutional member as are designated by the librarian and for whom the institutional member has paid its annual dues in accordance with bylaws section 2, b (2) shall be entitled to individual membership in the Chapter without the payment of additional dues.

c. Associate Members

Persons not connected with law libraries may be elected to associate membership by the Executive Committee and shall pay annual dues. This section is subject to the provisions of the American
Association of Law Libraries Bylaws, Article V(d).

   d. Life Members

   The Chapter may at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of those present elect to life membership those who have been members of the Chapter for at least 10 years, but who have retired from active fulltime library work, and any life member of A.A.L.L. who resides in the S.E. Chapter area.

   e. Honorary Members

   The Chapter may at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of those present elect non-members as honorary members.

Section 2.

   a. Rights and Privileges

   The right to hold office shall be restricted to active individual and institutionally designated members who are members of the American Association of Law Libraries. Rights of voting shall be restricted to active individuals and institutionally designated members and to life members.

   b. Dues

   1. The annual dues for individual membership and associate membership shall be $5.00. Life members and honorary members shall not be assessed dues.

   2. The institutional membership dues shall be at the rate of $5.00 per designated member, and no library shall be required to pay annual dues in excess of $50.00.

   3. The fiscal year shall coincide with that of the American Association of Law Libraries.
4. Members failing to pay dues for two successive years shall be dropped from membership.

**ARTICLE II: MEETINGS.**

Section 1: Annual.
An annual meeting of the Chapter shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine. Meetings shall be held generally coinciding with the meetings of the Southeastern Regional Conference of Law Teachers. A Chapter meeting shall be held at AALL National Conventions, when the Convention schedule permits, for the purpose of discussing future programs and projects and submitting progress reports on Chapter activities. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the duty of scheduling and making arrangements for such meetings; and attendance at these meetings shall not be confined to the Executive Committee, but extended to the entire membership.

Section II: Other.
The president shall call other meetings of the Chapter as deemed necessary or when requested to do so by the Executive Committee. The president shall provide reasonable notice of such meetings to each member of the Chapter.

Section III: Presiding Officer.
In the event of the absence of the president and the vice-president - president elect from any Chapter meeting, one of the members shall be elected to preside.
Section IV: Quorum.

A majority of members attending a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section V: Notice.

Due notice must be given to all members of the agenda to be discussed at meetings so that those members unable to attend may be apprised of the issues and present their views in writing. Such written statements shall be read at the meeting. Each person who is an individual member, designated individuals of institutional members, or life member of the Chapter shall be entitled to one vote, which must be cast in person.

ARTICLE III: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

Section 1.

a. Nominating Committee

The president shall appoint a nominating committee who shall submit the names of a candidate or candidates for each of the following offices to the president at least 45 days prior to each even year annual meeting:

Vice-president - President elect
Secretary - Treasurer

b. Additional Nominations

Additional nominations may be made by any member by communicating in writing such nomination to the president.
Section II: Method of Election

The officers shall be elected biennially in May by mail ballot. The candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. The membership is to be notified by the secretary-treasurer of the outcome of the election by mail or at a meeting of the Chapter.

ARTICLE IV: AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS.

Section I.

Any proposed amendments to this Constitution of the bylaws shall be filed with the secretary-treasurer at least 30 days before a Chapter meeting, and notice shall be sent to all members through the mail at least 30 days prior to balloting.

Section II.

If two-thirds of the members present and voting at such meeting be in favor of such amendment, it shall stand adopted.

Section III.

Meetings of the Chapter and Executive Committee shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order except as otherwise specified by the Chapter Constitution or bylaws.

ARTICLE V: FURNISHING INFORMATION TO THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES.

The secretary-treasurer shall annually furnish to the American Association of Law Libraries secretary and the Chairman of the Committee on Chapters:

1. Current list of officers of the Chapter.
2. Any change in the Chapter Constitution and bylaws or new copy thereof.

3. Any changes in the states included in the Chapter.

4. A statement as to the month in which election of officers is held.

5. Copies of newsletters, proceedings, etc.

6. The name of the person issuing or responsible for a newsletter.