THE BYLAWS OF THE CIVIL LITIGATION SECTION
OF THE VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I
Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name. This Section shall be known as the Civil Litigation Section of The Virginia Bar Association.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of the Section shall be to further the objectives of the Association as stated in Article Six of its Bylaws and to bring together members of the Association with a special interest in the practice of Civil Litigation.

ARTICLE II
Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any member in good standing of the Association shall be eligible for membership in the Section.

Section 2. Admission to Membership. Admission to membership shall be by application and by payment of the Section dues.

Section 3. Quorum for Meeting of Membership. Those members present at meetings duly called as provided for in these bylaws shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE III
Officers

Section 1. Chair and Vice-Chair. The initial Chair and any Vice Chair of the Section shall be appointed by the President of the Association for a one-year term. Thereafter, the Chair and Vice Chair, if any, of the Section shall be elected for a one-year term with a two-term limit by the membership of the Section at a meeting to be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association. The Chair of the Section may appoint a nominating committee consisting of any three or more members of the Section for the purpose of making nominations for Chair and Vice Chair, if provided. The Chair shall perform the duties and have responsibilities of the chief executive officer of the Section. The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Council and at meetings of the Section. The Chair shall have such other and further duties as the Section, from time to time, may provide. A Vice Chair would assume the duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair and shall have such other and further duties as the Chair or the Section, from time to time, may provide.

Section 2. Secretary. The Council may elect a secretary who shall, in consultation with the Executive Director of the Association, maintain the rolls and records of the Section and shall have the further responsibility of preparing and maintaining the minutes of any business meetings and such other records and reports of the Section as may become necessary. The Secretary shall have such other duties as the Chair or the Council, from time to time, may provide to included acting as successor to the Chair in absence of a Vice Chair.
Section 3. Treasurer. The Council may elect a Treasurer who shall, in consultation with the Executive Director, maintain the financial records of the Section and shall provide such reports and records of the Section as may become necessary. The Treasurer shall have such other duties as the Chairman or the Section, from time to time, may provide. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined and may be combined with that of a Vice Chair as well.

Section 4. Term. No Section officer shall serve more than two, one-year terms in the same office except upon application to and approval by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE IV
Council

Section 1. Composition. The Section shall have a Council composed of the officers of the Section and 18 members (three classes of six each), serving staggered terms.

Section 2. Young Lawyer Transition Council Member. Each year, the Chair of the Association’s Young Lawyer Division ("YLD") may nominate a recent YLD member whose contributions and service to the Association have demonstrated leadership potential, and request that he or she be added as a full voting member of the Section Council for a regular term. Such individual may be added by action of the current Section Council notwithstanding any limitation or process otherwise provided by these bylaws.

Section 3. Nomination and Election. The initial Council of the Section, designated by the Board of Governors of the Association is to serve staggered terms of one, two and three years as appropriate. Thereafter, six new members shall be elected by the Section’s membership annually at the meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association. The Chair of the Section shall, no less than 90 days preceding each Annual Meeting, appoint a nominating committee of three members of the Section, chaired by the Immediate Past Chair who will prepare a report for submission at the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall contain nominations for six members of the Council. Except for those initial Council members designated by the Board of Governors (who will serve for the terms specified by their designation), Council members will serve staggered three-year terms, with six members being replaced each year. The Nominating Committee shall also make nominations to fill any vacancies which may occur on the Council prior to the expiration of any member’s term. The Chair will accept nominations from the floor in accordance with procedures to be specified by the Council. Those nominees receiving a simple majority vote of those attending the annual meeting and voting will be elected.

Section 4. Powers. The Council shall be the governing body of the Section subject to the control of the Board of Governors.

Section 5. Regular Meetings. The Council shall hold an annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association and other meetings as needed.
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Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

Section 7. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Council shall be held at any time at the call of the Section Chair, any three members of the Council, the President or the Board of Governors.

Section 8. Notice of Meetings. All meetings of the Council, except the initial meeting after the organizational meeting of Section members, shall be upon not less than five days’ notice.

ARTICLE V
Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees. The Council may designate such standing committees as it may deem appropriate. (i.e. Legislative; Membership; CLE; Communications; Nominations)

Section 2. Special Committees. The Chair or the Council may appoint special committees as either may deem appropriate.

Section 3. Jurisdiction. The Council shall establish the jurisdiction of the Section committees and shall resolve any disputes among its committees. The Board of Governors shall resolve any disputes concerning the jurisdiction of the various Sections and Committees of the Association.

ARTICLE VI
Board Reports

Section 1. Reporting to Board. The Chair of the Section shall keep the Board of the Association informed on the activities, accomplishments, and plans of the Council through an annual report to the Board and regular reporting to the designated Board Liaison and the Executive Director.

Section 2. Authority of Board. The Section and its Council are a creation of the Association. They report to and are subject to the authority and oversight of the Board of the Association. These Section Bylaws shall become effective only upon their approval by the Board, and the Board shall have full authority to amend or rescind these Bylaws if the Board determines that such action is in the interests of the Association.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. Annual Meeting of the Section. The Section shall have at least one meeting annually for the entire membership of the Section, to be held in conjunction with the Association’s Annual Meeting. The Section may have such other meetings of the entire Section as the Council or Chair may deem necessary.
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Section 2. Amendments. Any amendments or additions to these bylaws shall be upon the approval of a majority of the members of the Section present and voting at the Annual Meeting; or by a majority of the members of the Section Council at one of its business meetings. Upon such approval by the Section or its Council, such amendments or changes shall be presented to the Board of Governors for approval, and they shall not be effective until so approved.

Section 3. Publications. The Section may produce and distribute a newsletter or other publications in furtherance of its objectives. Any such publications shall be produced in consultation with the President and Executive Director of the Association.

Section 4. Section Conferences. The Section may sponsor, not more frequently than annually, a conference or seminar on some aspect of civil litigation. Such conferences shall be conducted in consultation with the Executive Director of the Association.

Section 5. Dues. Annual dues shall be an amount approved by the Board of Governors upon recommendation by the Council.

Section 6. Reports. The Section will submit an annual report to the Board of Governors and the Executive Director of the Association. The Section shall submit such other reports as may be requested by the Board or the Executive Director.

Section 7. Expenditures of Funds. Except as otherwise provided herein or directed by the Board of Governors, the Section may expend the funds it collects through an appropriation from the payment of dues in the manner that it sees fit. However, the Section is not empowered to spend funds in excess of those actually on hand, nor may it obligate the Association in any financial matter.

Section 8. Authentication. These bylaws were approved by the Board of Governors of The Virginia Bar Association on _________________.