

FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION  
BYLAWS FOR THE  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION

ARTICLE I. NAME AND ESTABLISHMENT

The name of this organization is the Intellectual Property Law Section (hereinafter, "Section") of the Federal Bar Association (hereinafter, "Association"). The Section is established under Article IX of the Constitution of the Association and is governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and these bylaws.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Section shall be to further the purposes of the Association as stated in its Constitution and to inform and educate members of recent developments in intellectual property law.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the Section shall be the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Membership Chairperson.

Section 2. Terms. All officers of the Section will serve a term in office co-terminus with that of the Chairperson, which shall be for not more than one (1) fiscal year. Upon termination of the term of the Chairperson, all other officers shall move into the next higher-ranking position within the Section. The new Chairperson shall choose a new Secretary. The fiscal year of the Section shall be the same as that of the Association.

The positions of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Chairperson must each be filled by a separate person during any given term.

Section 3. Duties of Officers.

(a) Chairperson. The Chairperson shall be the chief executive officer of the Section and preside at all meetings of the Section's membership and at meetings of the Section's Governing Board (hereinafter, the "Board," as defined in Article IV, Section 1, below). The Chairperson shall cause the Association and the Section's membership to be informed of the Section's activities, and, after consultation with the Board, shall designate a leader for each of the following roles: (1) Programming and (2) Communications (Newsletter/Publications).

(b) Deputy Chairperson. The Deputy Chairperson shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Chairperson.

(c) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall perform fiscal duties for the Section as may be assigned by the Chairperson and shall submit annually a proposed Section budget for the coming fiscal year to the Association.

(d) Secretary. The Secretary shall issue notices of all meetings of the Section's membership and of meetings of the Board and shall accurately record the minutes of those meetings; and shall perform functions as requested by the Chairperson.

(e) Membership Chairperson. The Membership Chairperson shall be responsible for creating and implementing a membership plan, promoting membership throughout the year, and providing membership reports at meetings of the Section's Governing Board.

#### ARTICLE IV. GOVERNING BOARD

Section 1. Composition. There shall be a Governing Board (hereinafter, "Board") composed of the officers of the Section and the immediate past Chairperson.

Section 2. Powers and Functions. The Board shall be vested with the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the activities of the Section consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association. Among its functions are:

- (a) Consider (annually) whether changes in Section dues are appropriate.
- (b) Recommend, as necessary, changes in the Section's Committee structure to the Board of Directors of the Association (hereinafter, "Board of Directors").
- (c) Support the Section's Committee leadership in organizing programming for the Section.
- (d) Support the publishing of the Section newsletter.
- (e) Organize, plan and coordinate Section programming at the Association's annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Section shall have the following committees:

- (a) Patent Law;
- (b) Trademark Law;
- (c) Copyright Law;

- (d) Trade Secret Law;
- (e) and such other committees as the Board deems appropriate.

Section 2. Selection of Committee Leadership. Each Committee shall have a Chairperson appointed by the Section Chairperson, and such other officers as the Section Chairperson appoints.

Section 3. Public Positions. A Committee may not issue a public report or take a public position on an issue either in its own name or on behalf of the Section. All proposals for public reports or positions shall be submitted to the Board for consideration and issuance.

## ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Active Membership. Any active member of the Association in good standing and any honorary member shall be eligible for active membership in the Section and shall be enrolled as a member upon the payment of annual Section dues.

Section 2. Honorary Membership. Any member of the Association may be made an honorary member of the Section upon the approval of the Board. Approval shall be indicated by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Board. Honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of Section dues.

Section 3. Dues. Section dues for active members shall be collected annually at the same time Association dues are collected. The amount of dues shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Termination of Membership. Any active member or associate of the Section whose annual dues are more than six months past due shall cease to be a member or associate of the Section.

## ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. Section Meetings. Meetings of the membership shall be at the call of the Chairperson.

Section 2. Board Meetings. The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairperson as needed to carry out their administrative powers and functions.

Section 3. Notice. The Secretary shall give at least 14 days' notice of all meetings of the Section and the Board.

Section 4. Rules of Order. The rules of order shall consist of:

- (a) The Constitution and Bylaws of the Association;

- (b) These Bylaws;
- (c) Standing Resolutions or actions authorized by the Board; and
- (d) The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

#### ARTICLE VIII. PUBLIC POSITIONS

The Section-in the name of the Association-may issue reports, make public announcements, and publicly advocate positions on issues of concern to the Section only with the prior approval of the Board of Directors. Without such prior approval, the Section may take a public position only if the position statement includes a disclaimer that indicates that the Section is taking the position in the name only of the Section. In any event, if the Section takes such action in its own name and not in that of the Association, the Section shall report that action immediately to the Board of Directors. The Section will not take any public position unless it generally reflects the views of its members.

#### ARTICLE IX. BYLAWS

Section 1. Effective Date. These Bylaws shall be effective immediately upon approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Amendment. These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by vote of a majority of the Board members present and voting, provided that each Board member shall be given at least 14 days' notice of the meeting and the proposed amendment. Any such amendment shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Directors.

Revised. 12/12/2022