Policy No. 1-12: Procedure for Consideration of Resolutions Before the ABA House of Delegates

Approved By: Board of Directors

Date Approved: March 27, 2015

Date Effective: March 27, 2015

Policy:

The FBA’s Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates is elected by the FBA membership to a term of office for the number of years then provided for members of the House of Delegates by the ABA. The ABA Delegate has authority to vote for or against or to abstain from voting on resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates at its Annual and Midyear Meeting. In order to assist the delegate in exercising this authority, the resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates shall be subject to the following procedure:

1. Resolutions shall be referred to Government Relations Committee and Government Relations Counsel for comment and advice. The Government Relations Counsel shall provide advice that considers, inter alia, the political impact of supporting an issue in light of the FBA Issues Agenda and other core FBA interests and government relations initiatives.

2. Resolutions shall be referred to the appropriate Sections and Divisions for comment. The comment period shall last no longer than 15 business days. Comments shall be delivered to both the Government Relations Counsel and the ABA Delegate.

3. With the benefit of any advice from the Government Relations Committee, Government Relations Counsel and Sections and Divisions, the Delegate shall present recommendations to the Board of Directors for its review, comment, and any direction.

4. The Delegate shall vote his or her conscience guided by the FBA mission and vision, but not contrary to any directives of the Board and the FBA Issues Agenda. The Delegate is free to vote his or her conscience on matters that benefit the public or the justice system even if they do not directly relate to the administration of the federal justice system or its practitioners. The Delegate shall abstain from voting on issues that are controversial and where there is an obvious split of views among members of the FBA.

Purpose:

To assist the delegate in exercising his or her authority in voting on resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates.

Change Notice: