

**BYLAWS OF THE**  
**JUDGE WILLIAM R. OVERTON**  
**AMERICAN INN OF COURT**

**ARTICLE I. GENERAL**

**Section 1. Purpose**

The purposes of The Judge William R. Overton American Inn of Court are set forth in its Organizational Charter issued by the American Inns of Court Foundation.

**Section 2. Principal Office**

The Judge William R. Overton American Inn of Court shall be located in the city of Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

**ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1. The Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committee is composed of the officers and the chairs of the various committees formed by the Executive Committee and such other members as are determined by the Members. The duties of the Executive Committee, and its members, are set forth in the Organizational Charter, and as set forth herein.

**Section 2. The Officers.**

The officers of the Inn shall be a president, a counselor, a secretary/treasurer or secretary and treasurer, and such other officers as the Members deem necessary. The officers serve a one-year term, or as otherwise directed by the Members, and may succeed themselves only once. The officers are selected by the Members, in accordance with the Organizational Charter of the Inn. The Counselor shall be considered the President-Elect and shall succeed the president.

**Section 3. Board of Directors.**

The Board shall consist of the officers, the immediate past president and five (5) members elected at large. The at-large members will serve a term of three (3) years. The terms shall be staggered.

**Section 4. Committees.**

The Executive Committee may establish committees from time to time from among the active members of the Inn, and from time to time may change or discontinue committees.

The officers shall appoint committee members and chairs of the committee, who shall serve one year terms, or as otherwise directed by the Executive Committee.

**Section 4. Pupilage Groups.**

All active members will be assigned to a Pupilage Group by the Membership Committee and shall be approved by the Executive Committee. Each Pupilage Group shall be Chaired by one

or more Members appointed by the Executive Committee. The Members and Pupilage Groups shall be reassigned every year.

### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1. Active Members.

There are four classifications of members in an American Inn of Court, as defined in the bylaws of the American Inns of Court Foundation, and as set forth below:

Masters of the Bench - consisting of lawyers with more than 15 years of experience, judges, and law professors;

Barristers - consisting of lawyers with at least 5 years of experience;

Associates - consisting of lawyers with zero to five years of experience; and,

Pupils - consisting of third year law students.

Membership status shall be determined as of July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Membership in this American Inn of Court shall consist of Masters, Barristers and Associates. Pupils may participate in all activities of the Inn, but will not be voting members.

#### Section 2. Inactive Members.

The Executive Committee may confer Emeritus and Honorary memberships as set forth in the Organizational Charter.

#### ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE

##### Section 1. Meetings.

Meetings shall be held at least six times per year at such times as the Executive Committee may determine. The Inn shall endeavor to have at least one social event per year wherein members may invite guests.

##### Section 2. Attendance.

Each active member will be allowed three (3) unexcused absences from the monthly meetings in a year. The Membership Committee shall monitor attendance at meetings and shall submit the names of those who have three absences to the Executive Committee. The non-participating member will be contacted by the President in order to determine if he/she wishes to remain in this American Inn of Court and to inform the non-participating member that, in the event another unexcused absence occurs, he/she will be dropped from the rolls and all dues will be forfeited.

## ARTICLE V. VOTING AND ELECTIONS

### Section 1. Members.

With the exception of Emeritus and Honorary Members and students, each Member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters submitted. A majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act done or decision made by a majority of the members in attendance at a meeting shall be regarded as the act of all the members.

### Section 2. Executive Committee.

Each member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to the Committee. In the event of a tie, the President shall have the deciding vote. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act done or decision made by a majority of the members in attendance at the meeting called for that purpose shall be regarded as the act of the entire Committee.

### Section 3. Elections.

The nomination and election of the President and Counselor will occur in every year during the month of April at a meeting of the active Members especially called for that purpose. Selection of these and other officers shall be in accordance with the Organizational Charter. Selection of

other officers shall also occur in April of every year at a meeting of the entire membership especially called for that purpose.

**Section 4. Vacancies.**

When a position as an officer, committee chair or master chair becomes vacant, the procedures for election and selection of officers and chairs shall be followed when the vacancy occurs; however, the duration of the vacant position shall not be counted against the new officer or chair in regards to any maximum term of service.

**ARTICLE VI. FISCAL MATTERS**

**Section 1. Fiscal Year.**

The fiscal year of The Judge William R. Overton American Inn of Court shall be the same as the fiscal year of the American Inns of Court Foundation which is from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

**Section 2. Dues.**

Dues shall be in an amount consistent with the Organizational Charter and shall be levied by the Treasurer during the months of August and September of each year. Failure to pay assessments and dues prior to the third meeting of the Inn year and after reasonable notice may be considered by the Executive Committee as grounds to terminate membership of the person in

default.

**Section 3. Expenses.**

This American Inn of Court shall pay all expenses in accordance with *The Officers' Manual*, which includes payment to help pay the cost for one or more officers to attend the National Conference of the American Inns of Court Foundation and payment to an administrator in an amount not inconsistent with the guidelines established in *The Officers' Manual*.

**ARTICLE VII. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1. Adoption.**

These Bylaws will be adopted by this American Inn of Court upon approval by a majority of the Members this American Inn of Court and after being submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. The Members may make valid decisions by voting by mail, facsimile, electronic mail, or other means when deemed necessary by the Executive Committee or the President.

**Section 2. Amendments.**

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made by a majority of the Members of this American Inn of Court and must be submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. The Members may make valid decisions by voting by mail,

facsimile, electronic mail, or other means when deemed necessary by the Executive Committee or the President.