

DURHAM-ORANGE WOMEN ATTORNEYS

CHAPTER BYLAWS

Article 1: Name.

The name of the organization shall be the “Durham–Orange Women Attorneys” (hereinafter, the “Chapter”). In all written communications, it shall be reflected that the Chapter is a chapter of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys (“NCAWA”).

Article 2: Objective.

The Chapter shall be a chapter of NCAWA and shall be a non-profit association committed to promoting the goals and mission of NCAWA. The Chapter shall at all times act in a manner that is consistent with and in furtherance of the mission of NCAWA and in accordance with NCAWA’s Bylaws.

Article 3: Membership.

- A. All members in good standing of NCAWA shall be eligible for full membership in the Chapter, upon selection by the proposed member of the Chapter. Each NCAWA member may select the local chapter that she chooses to belong to, if any.
- B. The Chapter shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members.

Article 4: Officers.

- A. Officers-The Officers of the Chapter shall consist of at least a President, Vice-President/President Elect and a Secretary/Treasurer. In the discretion of the Chapter, the Chapter may also elect to have both a Secretary and a Treasurer, may elect to have a Program Chair, and may elect such other officers (including additional vice presidents) as the Chapter deems necessary.
- B. Term-The term of office of the Officers of the Chapter shall be for one (1) year.
- C. Duties of Officers-The Officers shall oversee the planning of programs and meetings of the Chapter; shall determine policy for the Chapter (so long as it conforms with and is consistent with NCAWA policy); may choose and organize community and pro bono projects; shall act as a liaison with the statewide NCAWA through its President on administrative matters and its Treasurer on fiscal matters; and shall transact the routine business of the Chapter. In addition, the Chapter shall determine the specific duties to be undertaken by each Officer.

Article 5: Election of Officers.

- A. Voting-The members of the Chapter shall elect officers by majority vote of Chapter members present at a meeting for which thirty (30) day notice of the election was given.
- B. Vacancies-If an Officer resigns or otherwise leaves office before the expiration of that Officer's term, the remainder of the term shall be filled by a Chapter member elected by the other Chapter Officers within thirty (30) days of the date the vacancy occurs.
- C. Election of Board of Directors/Committees-The Chapter members may, in their discretion, also elect a Board of Directors in addition to Officers, under the same terms and conditions of subparagraph A hereof, and may establish Chapter committees and designate committee chairs. In recognition of the abundance of law schools in the area, special effort shall be made to elect one law student to the Board.

Article 6: Regular Meetings.

- A. Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held from time to time as designated by the Officers. Except as set forth in Article 5, Section A above, written, faxed or e-mailed notice of all meetings shall be given to the membership at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- B. Except as set forth in these Bylaws, the Officers and Members of the Chapter shall determine the manner of governance of the Chapter.

Article 7: Reporting.

The Chapter shall provide quarterly reports of its activities to the NCAWA Board.

Article 8: Amendment of Bylaws.

If the Chapter has elected a Board of Directors, these Bylaws may be amended by the majority vote of the Chapter's Board of Directors present at a duly called Board Meeting. If the Chapter has not elected a Board of Directors, these Bylaws may be amended by the majority vote of Chapter members present at a meeting for which notice of the proposed Bylaws amendment(s) was given.

Article 9: Miscellaneous.

- A. NCAWA Liaison-The Chapter shall designate a liaison to the NCAWA Board of Directors. This liaison may be one of the Chapter's Officers or a regular Chapter member.

- B. Judicial Endorsements-The Chapter may endorse judicial candidates or candidates for appointment to local judicial vacancies, with the approval of the NCAWA Nominating Committee.
- C. Public Positions-The Chapter may take public positions on issues solely of local concern that are not inconsistent with NCAWA policy.
- D. Dues-The Chapter shall not impose dues on its members, but may at its discretion charge higher fees at chapter events to non-NCAWA members.

Article 10: Chapter Formation.

- A. The Chapter is formed upon:
 - 1. Submission of a statement of intent to form a chapter to NCAWA;
 - 2. Submission of a list of proposed initial members;
 - 3. Submission of NCAWA membership applications and dues of proposed members who are not currently NCAWA members; and
 - 4. Approval by a majority of the NCAWA Board of Directors.
- B. Upon satisfaction of the requirements of Part (A) herein, NCAWA shall notify the Chapter in writing that it is a NCAWA chapter affiliate.

Adopted October 29, 1998

Amended January 30, 2009