

Friday 22nd January, 2010.

On July 1, 2009 came the Virginia State Bar, by Jon D. Huddleston, its President, and Karen A. Gould, its Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, and presented to the Court a petition, approved by the Council of the Virginia State Bar, praying that Paragraphs 5 and 9, Section IV, of the Rules for Integration of the Virginia State Bar, Part Six of the Rules of Court, be amended to read as follows:

Section IV. ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT.

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5. The Council.

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The President of the Young Lawyers Conference shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.

The Chair of the Conference of Local Bar Associations shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.

The Chair of the Senior Lawyers Conference shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.

The Chair of the Diversity Conference shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.

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9. Powers of the Council.

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(j) The Council may, at its discretion or upon a written request of the majority of the members of the Virginia State Bar or pursuant to a resolution duly adopted at a regular or called meeting, exercise the necessary powers:

To promote reforms in judicial procedure and the judicial

system that are intended to improve the quality and fairness of the system;

To recommend to the Supreme Court procedures for the disciplining, suspending and disbarring of attorneys;

To recommend to the Supreme Court the adoption of, modifications to, amendments to or the repeal of any rule of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia;

To regulate the legal profession;

To improve the quality of the legal services made available to the people of Virginia;

To investigate, evaluate or endorse judicial candidates on a nonpartisan, merit basis;

To uphold and elevate the standards of honor, of integrity and of courtesy in the legal profession;

To encourage higher and better education for membership in the profession;

To encourage and promote diversity in the profession and the judiciary; and

To perform all duties imposed by law.

Upon consideration whereof, it is ordered that the Rules for Integration of the Virginia State Bar, Part Six of the Rules of Court, be and the same hereby are amended in accordance with the prayer of the petition aforesaid, effective immediately.

JUSTICE KINSER dissents.

A Copy,

Teste:

Clerk