Bylaws of the Bay County Bar Association
Revised and Adopted June 2012

Article I  
Name and Objective

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be: The Bay County Bar Association.

Section 2. The objective of The Bay County Bar Association shall be:

A. To provide a nonprofit organization through which individual Members who practice or appear regularly in the courts located in Bay County, Florida, may associate and represent the interests of The Bay County Bar Association, and the legal profession.

B. To promote improvements in the administration of justice and advancements in jurisprudence, to improve relations between the legal profession and the public, and to promote the interests of the legal profession in Bay County, the State of Florida, and the United States of America.

C. To promote collegiality, civility and professionalism among lawyers who practice before the courts in Bay County, Florida.

D. To promote meaningful access to legal representation for all persons regardless of their economic or social condition.

Article II  
Membership

Section 1. Any licensed attorney in good standing with the State Bar of Florida who practices or regularly appears in the courts located in Bay County, Florida may apply for membership in this Association.

Section 2. All current and former Justices of the Florida Supreme Court, Judges of the Florida 1st District Court of Appeals, Judges of the 14th Judicial Circuit of Florida, and the Judges of the County Court In and For Bay County, Florida may apply for membership in this Association.
Section 3. The membership of any Association Member shall terminate if and when such Member ceases to possess the qualifications necessary for Membership as prescribed in these By-laws.

Article III Officers and the Board of Directors

Section 1. The Association shall have the following Officers:

A. A President, who shall preside at all meetings of the Association and represent the Association in matters requiring such representation.

B. A Vice-President/President Elect, who shall in the absence of the President preside at the meetings of the Association, and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be delegated to him or her. The Vice-President shall automatically ascend to the office of Presidency upon the completion of the current President’s term or vacancy occurring in the office of Presidency.

C. A Treasurer, who shall collect Membership dues, maintain the financial books and records of the Association, make such disbursements therefrom as the By-laws or the Association Board may direct, and present a report of such receipts and disbursements at the regularly scheduled Association meetings.

D. A Secretary, who shall maintain and preserve the non-financial books and records of the Association including minutes of all Association meetings.

Section 2. The current Officers of The Bay County Bar Association shall comprise the Association’s Board of Directors and shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of the Association.

Section 3. The Officers will be chosen by the general Membership of the Association in the following manner:

A. At the regularly scheduled November Association meeting, candidates may be nominated as potential Officers for the position of Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-President. Any Member may nominate another Member as a candidate for the above positions. If no nominations are made for a
position, the President will then allow Members to nominate themselves for any available position.

B. At the regularly scheduled December Association meeting, the general Membership shall elect the position of Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-President from the list of nominees made at the November meeting. All Association Members present at the December meeting shall cast one vote for each of the above positions. The nominee for each position that receives the greatest amount of votes shall become the next Secretary, Treasurer, or Vice-President, respectively.

C. The vote for each of the above positions will be made by secret ballot with the results tabulated by the current Board of Directors.

D. Each Officer shall be installed into office by the previous year’s President at the regularly scheduled January Association meeting.

E. Each Officer shall serve a term of one (1) year in office commencing upon installation as described above.

Article IV Membership Meetings

Section 1. Members of the Association shall meet monthly on the first Wednesday of each month at a time and place the Board of Directors shall deem advisable to discuss the business of the Association.

Section 2. Lunch shall be provided at the monthly Membership meetings free of charge to Association Members, finances permitting.

Article V Membership Dues

Section 1. Except as otherwise set forth herein, each Member shall pay dues in such amounts and at such times as the Board of Directors may provide, which dues may vary according to length of practice or other reasonable standards of classification. Dues shall be payable on the first day of March for each calendar year, and this date shall be used in determining the length of time each Member has been licensed.
Section 2. Failure to pay dues for ninety (90) days after notice of delinquency is made to a Member in writing shall constitute suspension of the delinquent Member from the Association without further action. After suspension, a Member may be reinstated by paying all delinquent dues.

**Article VI Committees**

The Board of Directors shall establish any and all committees that are necessary or convenient for the conduct of the Association’s business during the term of the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint the Members and chairpersons of such committees subject to approval by the majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**Article VII Notice**

All notices shall be in writing and either mailed by ordinary mail addressed to the Member at the address shown upon the books of the Association, sent by facsimile to the number for the Member shown upon the books of the Association, or transmitted via e-mail to the Member at the electronic address shown upon the books of the Association.

**Article VIII Amendment**

The By-laws of the Association may be amended upon a motion approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members of the Association present at any meeting, provided the proposed Amendment shall first be submitted to the Board of Directors, who shall then give written notice of such proposed Amendment to the Members at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting along with the Board of Directors’ recommendation for or against the adoption of the proposed Amendment.

**Article IX Miscellaneous Provisions**

Section 1. The Officers of the Association, the Members of all committees, and other Members of the Association are hereby expressly prohibited and forbidden to make any public statement in the name of the Association without the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Association may reimburse or advance expenses to any Officer, Committee Member or other Member of the Association who is undertaking an activity on behalf of the Association at the direction of the Board of Directors.
Section 3. The Association shall retain receipts, checks, check registers, bank statements, or all other such similar records of all purchases, expenses and sums advanced by the Association for Association related activities. Either the physical or scans of the original receipts, checks, check registers, bank statements, or all other such similar records shall be kept by the Treasurer of the Association for seven (7) years from the date of such purchase or advance.

Section 4. The books and records of the Association shall be available for inspection by any current Member of the Association who makes a formal, written request to the Board of Directors. The inspection shall take place at a reasonable time and place as agreed upon by the requesting Member and the Board of Directors. If expenses are necessary for requesting copies of banking documents or for copying of records, the Board of Directors shall be permitted to charge the requesting Member a reasonable fee for those expenses.

These Bylaws are hereby Amended and Adopted by the Board of Directors of The Bay County Bar Association, after presentment to and approval of the Membership of The Bay County Bar Association, this 7th day of June, 2012.

President - Beverley McAllister-Brown
Vice-President - Michael Henry
Treasurer - Colin McMicken
Secretary - Laurie Hughes