### CODE OF REGULATIONS

OF

### THE AMERICAN BANKRUPTCY LAW FORUM

# ARTICLE I: MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1: Annual Meetings. The Annual Meeting of this corporation shall be held on the last scheduled monthly meeting of each year, at such place designated in the notice of said meeting, for the purpose of electing one or more Trustees.

SECTION 2: Training Programs. At least six Training Programs shall be held each fiscal year. Written notice of the time, place and program agenda of the Training Program shall be given to all members not less than seven (7) days before the date of each program; but, such notice may be provided by delivering to each member a calendar listing the dates of all scheduled Training Programs by United States mail or by authorized communications equipment including any equipment that transmits e-mail.

SECTION 3: Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the Trustees acting at a meeting or a majority of the Trustees acting without a meeting, or by 30 members, by notice to each Member, by mail or by authorized communications equipment including any equipment that transmits e-mail, at least ten (10) days before the date of such meeting. Calls for such meetings shall specify time, place and purpose thereof.

SECTION 4: Quorum. At all meetings a majority of the Members present shall constitute a quorum, or if the voting is by authorized communications equipment including any equipment that transmits e-mail by the votes of 3/4 of the members.

SECTION 5: Vote. Each Member of this corporation shall have one vote on each matter submitted to the Members for a vote. Except other than voting at elections, votes on other matters may be conducted by the use of authorized communications equipment including any equipment that transmits e-mail.

## ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Definition. Except for the At-Large Members, all Members will be limited to attorneys who have their primary office in the region covered by the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division at Dayton, and law students, appointed by the Trustees and consisting of the following classifications.:

- (a) Regular Members. Members who are appointed for a one (1) year term, which shall be automatically renewed each year subject to the annual dues being paid by August 15 of each year, and who, in addition to being admitted to practice in a bankruptcy court regularly appear, or express an interest in appearing, in bankruptcy proceedings.
- (b) Permanent Members. Three (3) or more permanent members consisting of the sitting United States Bankruptcy Judges for the Southern District of Ohio at Dayton, the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee at Dayton and a faculty member of the University of Dayton Law School.
- (c) Students. Up to Five (5) Members, who are appointed for a one (1) year term, who are third year law students at the University of Dayton Law School, have evidenced an interest in bankruptcy law and have been recommended by either the Dean or the Permanent Member who is the faculty member of the University of Dayton Law School. The number of the authorized Student Members to appoint shall be at the discretion of the Dean or Permanent Member.

- (d) At-Large Members. Not more than twenty (20%) percent of total membership, appointed for a one (1) year term, which shall be automatically renewed each year subject to the annual dues being paid by August 15 of each year, and who have been admitted to practice in a bankruptcy court, who regularly appear in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division at Dayton, and whose primary office is not in the region of said court.
- (e) Judicial Law Clerks. This class will consist of members who are not admitted to the practice of law at the time of the commencement of their membership, but who are judicial law clerks for the current Bankruptcy Judges in Dayton, Ohio. The term shall be one (1) year.
- (f)Honorary Lifetime Retired Judges. This class will consist of any United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio at Dayton who has retired and is not on recall status. Members of this class shall have the same rights and privileges as all other members and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.
- (g) Honorary Lifetime Founding Members This class is limited to the founding members of the American Bankruptcy Law Forum in 1988 who have retired from the ABLF. Members of this class shall have the same rights and privileges as all other members and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.
- SECTION 2: Membership The total number of members may be limited by the Trustees, including but not limited to, taking in consideration the facilities available for dining and program presentations, and administrative issues.
- SECTION 3: Appointment. Any person may become a Member of this corporation upon election by a majority of the Trustees at the Annual Meeting of the Trustees and paying the annual dues specified in these Regulations.
- SECTION 4: Resignation or Substitution. Any Member may resign from membership upon written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer of the corporation. Upon application, the Trustees may authorize the substitution of a new Member for a resigning Member.

### SECTION 5: Suspension or Expulsion.

(a) Any Member may be suspended or expelled by the Trustees, including but not limited to for cause. Suspension or expulsion will be effective upon the mailing of notice by the Trustees to the address of the Member as it appears in the records of the corporation.

Before any Member is suspended or expelled pursuant to this Section 5 written notice of the charges, and of the time and place of the meeting of the Trustees at which the same are to be considered, shall be mailed to the address of the Member as it appears in the records of the corporation, at least seven (7) days before such meeting. The Member shall be given an opportunity to defend and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the Trustees to the full membership. Upon the Member's written request, the Secretary-Treasurer shall call a special meeting of the Members to consider such appeal.

### SECTION: Dues.

- (a) Annual Dues. The annual dues, which shall include meals, printed class outlines and seminar materials, shall be an amount as the Trustees shall designate.
- (b) Payment. Dues shall be payable annually on or before August 15 of each year. A Membership is only effective upon payment of the Dues.

<u>SECTION</u> <u>Duties</u>. Each Member, other than the Permanent Members and the Secretary-Treasurer, may be assigned to a Presentation Group by the Program Committee and should participate in at least one Training Program at least once every two years.

### ARTICLE III: TRUSTEES

#### BY-LAWS APPROVED BY MEMBERS 16 APRIL-2013.DOCX

### SECTION 1: Number; Classification; Qualifications; Term.

- (a) Number and Classification. The number of Trustees shall be eight (8) or such other number, not less than three (3), as may be fixed by the Members from time to time at the Annual Meeting of Members or other meeting held for the election of Trustees.
- (b) Election. The United States Bankruptcy Judges for the Southern District of Ohio at Dayton, the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee at Dayton and a faculty member of the University of Dayton Law School shall be the Permanent Trustees. The remaining Trustees (the "Remaining Trustees") shall be divided into two classes and elected by the membership for terms of two years.

The election of Trustees shall be held at the Annual Meeting of Members, or, if Trustees are not then elected, or if the Annual Meeting is not held at the time fixed therefor in these regulations, then at a special meeting called for that purpose. A special meeting shall be called, pursuant to Section 1(d), to fill a vacancy created by the departure of any Trustee. Only persons nominated as candidates at the meeting, by the Nominating Committee, or the person nominated by the Permanent Members shall be eligible for election—as Trustees.

- (c) Term of Office. Each elected Trustee shall hold office until the date fixed by these regulations for the Annual Meeting of Members next following the second year after the election of such Trustee, and until a successor is elected or until resignation, removal from office or death.
- (d) Annual Meeting; Special Meetings. The Annual Meeting of the Trustees shall be held after the Annual Meeting of Members at which Trustees are elected, but before the end

of the fiscal year. Special meetings of the Trustees may be held from time to time, whenever called by either Chairperson. The Secretary-Treasurer shall call a meeting at any time upon the written request of a majority of Trustees. All meetings of the Trustees shall be held at such place as the Trustees may determine from time to time and as shall be specified in the notice thereof. Notice of any meeting of the Trustees shall be given either by a mailing to each Trustee at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting or by telephonic or facsimile to each Trustee at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Meetings

participating can hear each other.

of the Trustees may be held through any means of communication equipment if all persons

(e) Quorum. At all meetings of the Trustees a majority of Trustees in office

shall constitute a quorum, but less than a quorum present can adjourn such meeting. Except as

otherwise provided by law or in this Code of Regulations, any business may be transacted at any

meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present and the act of a majority of Trustees present at a

meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the act of the Trustees.

(f) Action Without Meeting. Any action which may be authorized or taken at a

Trustees meeting may be authorized or taken without a meeting, in a writing or writings signed or

authorized by 3/4 of the Trustees who would be entitled to notice of a meeting of the Trustees held for

such purpose, and such writing or writings shall be made a part of the records of this corporation or

ratified in the minutes of the annual meeting of the Trustees. A writing may include e-mail.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1: General. The Officers of the corporation shall consist of two (2) Co-Chairpersons, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be a member of the corporation, but is not required to be a Trustee. All other Officers shall be chosen from among the Trustees. The Co-Chairpersons shall serve as Co-Chairpersons of the Trustees.

SECTION 2: Election and Term of Office. Officers shall be elected by the Trustees at its Annual Meeting. If for any reason such meeting is not held in any year, the Officers shall be elected at the next meeting of the Trustees. Vacancies may be filled or new offices created and filled at any meeting of the Trustees. Each Officer shall hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Trustees and until a successor shall have been elected and shall have been qualified.

SECTION 3: Co-Chairpersons. The Co-Chairpersons shall have general charge and supervision of the business and affairs of the corporation and shall do and perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Trustees. The Co-Chairpersons shall preside at all meetings of the Members and of the Trustees.

SECTION 4: Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep minutes of all the proceedings of the Members and Trustees and shall make proper record of the same; give notice of Meetings of voting Members and Trustees; keep such books, including membership books, as may be required by law or the Trustee; and perform such other and further duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Trustees or Co-Chairpersons. All books and papers pertaining to the office shall, for any reasonable and proper purpose, be subject at any reasonable time to the inspection of any Member or Trustee, and, on the expiration of the term of office, shall deliver all books, papers and other

property of the corporation, to a Co-Chairperson; and, in general, shall perform all duties pertaining to such office which may be required by the Co-Chairpersons or the Trustees.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall have general supervision of all finances; shall receive and safely keep all moneys and choses in action belonging to the corporation and shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Trustees. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep proper books of account and keep accurate account of the finances of the corporation, and shall present a statement of profit and loss and surplus, and a balance sheet containing a summary of the assets and liabilities, stated capital and surplus, as of the close of its fiscal year or for the fiscal year at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Trustees. At any meeting of the Trustees, the Secretary-Treasurer shall furnish abstracts of the financial condition of the corporation as of the date requested by the Co-Chairperson or Trustees. Upon the expiration of the term of office, the Secretary-Treasurer shall deliver all money, books, papers and other property of the corporation to the successor in office.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded in amount determined each year at the annual meeting of the Trustees. The Secretary-Treasurer shall monthly provide the Trustees with copy of the most recent bank statements.

SECTION 5: Removal or Delegation. Any Officer elected by the Trustees shall be subject to removal by the Trustees at any time, with or without cause. In case of the absence of any Officer of the corporation, the Trustees may, without removal, delegate the powers and duties of such Officer to any other Officer, or suitable person selected by the Trustees for such period as the Trustees may

deem proper, subject, however, to any limitations herein contained and only to the extent permitted by law.

### ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: Standing Committees. In addition to such other committees as the Trustees may from time to time authorize or appoint, there shall be the following standing committees:

Program Committee

Facilities Committee

Membership Committee

Nominating Committee

The Co-Chairpersons shall be Ex-officio Members of all standing committees created by the Trustees. Each committee shall have at least one (1) Trustee as a member of that committee.

The Trustees from time to time may create such other committees, with such membership, powers and duties as may be deemed necessary or advisable in conducting the business, activities and affairs of the corporation, and shall elect the members thereof. Members of all committees must be Members of the corporation.

SECTION 2: Terms of Office and Procedures of Committees. All committee members shall hold office from the date of their election or appointment until the next Annual Meeting of the Trustees, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

A majority of the Members of each committee shall constitute a quorum, unless otherwise provided in these Code of Regulations, and the act of a majority of Members shall constitute the act of

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such committee, except that in the case of the Nominating Committee only the act of a majority of the entire Nominating Committee shall constitute the act of such Committee. Meetings of each committee may be called by its chairperson or by a Co-Chairperson on seven (7) days notice.

SECTION 3: Program Committee. The Program Committee shall consist of not less than twelve (12) Members. The Program Committee shall hold at least six (6) Training Programs during the fiscal year. The topic of each Training Program shall focus on a subject relating to bankruptcy practice. The members of the Program Committee shall set the topics and presentations of the Training Programs, and each member of the Program Committee shall be part of a pair, who shall be responsible for one (1) meeting, and either member may make assignments for presentations, etc. to other Members of the corporation.

SECTION 4: Facilities Committee. The Facilities Committee shall consist of at least one (1) Trustee. The Facilities Committee shall be responsible for arranging suitable facilities for all meetings, and for arranging for refreshments and meals at the Training Program meetings.

SECTION 5: Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall consist of the Trustees. The Membership Committee shall distribute, collect and evaluate Applications for admissions to membership and extend invitations to those persons selected for membership.

SECTION 6: Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of two (2) Trustees and one (1) Member. The members of the Nominating Committee and the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Trustees. The Nominating Committee shall

nominate persons for election as Trustees at the Next Annual Meeting of the Members, and a list of such nominees shall be included with notice of the Annual Meeting sent to all Members.

# ARTICLE VI: MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1: Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall commence on the first day of July of each year and end on the last day of June of the succeeding year.

SECTION 2: Waiver of Notice. Any notice required to be given by this Code of Regulations may be waived by the person entitled thereto.

SECTION 3: Order of Business. Unless this Regulation is suspended by a majority vote of the Members present at any meeting of Members, the order of business shall be as follows:

- (1) The meal and any business of the corporation;
- (2) Introduction of the Training Program;
- (3) Presentation of the Training Program;
- (4) Discussion and Comments concerning the Training Program; and
- (5) Concluding remarks and announcements concerning the next meeting.

SECTION 4: Membership Book. The corporation shall maintain a Membership Book of the name and address of each current Member. Only individuals whose names are reflected in the Membership Book shall be entitled to vote on any matter properly submitted to the Members for their vote, consent, waiver, release or other action. The Membership Book may be maintained in an electronic form.

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# SECTION 5- Attendance at Programs

- (a) Every member has the right to attend the monthly programs and related meals without prior notification to the organization.
- (b) Any non-member attorney in good standing may attend any monthly educational program by notifying the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting and paying a \$75.00 fee. The fee will entitle the non-member attorney to attend and receive 1.50 CLE hours, but will not include admittance to the dinner preceding the educational program unless prior arrangements have been made.
- (c) Every member has the right to attend the Annual Meeting of the Membership and may be accompanied by a guest.

# ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

These regulations may be amended, supplemented or repealed by the written assent thereto of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members of this corporation, or by a majority vote of the Members present at a regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, or at any Annual Meeting of the Members.

Approved by Members 16 April 2013.wpd