

**J. MICHAEL GREENE**  
JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT – CITY OF AMERICUS

119 S. LEE STREET  
AMERICUS, GEORGIA 31709

PHONE (229) 924-3678  
(Ask for the Clerk of Court)

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Dear Members of the Southwest Georgia Circuit Bar:

The following is a 1907 Americus Bar Association booklet. The original is housed at the Sumter County Courthouse in a display case.

Since this pdf is stored on the website it is of low quality. I have a very high quality version which I will send on a CD disk if anyone wants a better copy for printing.

Sincerely,  
*/s/ J. Michael Greene*  
J. Michael Greene  
Judge, Municipal Court  
City of Americus

JMG/pan

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

● — OF THE — ●

**AMERICUS BAR ASSOCIATION**

**AMERICUS, GA.**

**1907.**

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**SOUTHERN PRINTERS**  
**AMERICUS, GEORGIA.**

## APPLICATION FOR CHARTER.

### GEORGIA--SUMTER COUNTY:

To the Superior Court of Said County:

The petition of E. A. Hawkins, J. A. Hixen, J. E. D. Shipp, J. E. Sheppard, W. P. Wallis, R. L. Maynard, W. T. Lane, R. E. Lee, E. A. Nisbet, Zach Childers, G. R. Ellis, L. J. Blacklock, G. S. Cobb, W. W. Dykes, F. A. Hooper, G. C. Webb, Z. A. Littlejohn, C. R. Crisp, J. R. Williams, W. M. Harper, W. A. Dodson, J. E. Hudson, James Taylor, Howell Simmons, Hollis Fort, Allen Fort, Sr., respectfully show unto the court:

#### I.

That they desire for themselves, their associates and successors, to be made a body politic for a term of twenty years, with the usual privilege of renewal.

#### II.

The name of said proposed corporation shall be the "AMERICUS BAR ASSOCIATION." Its only office and place of business shall be at Americus, Sumter County, Ga.

#### III.

The purpose and object of such proposed corporation shall not be pecuniary gain, but it shall

be to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of law; to cultivate social intercourse among its members; to promote legal science and the administration of justice.

#### IV

They desire the right to have and use a common seal; to sue and be sued; to plead and be impleaded; to purchase, own and sell property, real, personal and mixed as may be necessary. To make and enforce such Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations as may be necessary for the accomplishment of its purposes; and generally to do and perform all such things as may be necessary to carry out the general plans and purposes for which it is organized.

W. P. WALLIN,  
E. A. HAWKINS,  
W. T. LANE,

Petitioner's Attorneys.

Filed in office this 16th day of November, 1906.

S. R. HEYS,

Deputy Clerk Superior Court.

STATE OF GEORGIA—County of Sumter.

I, S. R. Heys, Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy in the files of said court, of the application for charter of the Americus Bar Association.

Witness my hand and seal of said Court, this 16th day of November, 1906.

S. R. HEYS,  
Deputy Clerk Superior Court.

### *Application of E. A. Hawkins, et. al., to incorporate the Americus Bar Association.*

NOVEMBER TERM,  
SUMTER SUPERIOR COURT, 1906.

It appearing unto the Court that the application of E. A. Hawkins, et. al. for charter for the Americus Bar Association, has been duly published in the Times-Recorder, a paper published in the city of Americus, by publishing said application once a week for four weeks prior to this date.

And it further appearing that the purposes of petitioners are legitimately within the purview of the law in such cases made and provided.

It is therefore considered, ordered and adjudged by the court, the premises considered, that the application of petitioners be and the same is hereby made a body corporate, with all the rights, powers, privileges as prayed for, together with all other rights, powers and privileges that may be necessary to carry on the object of said incorporation, provided the same are not inconsistent with the constitution of the laws of Georgia, and of the United States.

It is further ordered that the Clerk of this court, do issue a certified copy of said petition, and of this order, as a certificate of incorporation.

In open court, this January 4th, 1907.

U. V. WHIFFLE,  
J. S. C. C. C., Presiding.

**CONSTITUTION**  
OF THE  
**Americus Bar Association.**

**ARTICLE I.**

This Association shall be called the "Americus Bar Association."

**ARTICLE II.**

This association is established to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of law; to cultivate social intercourse among its members, and for the promotion of legal science and for the administration of justice.

**ARTICLE III.**

SEC. 1. White members of the Bar residing in Sumter County, Georgia, who shall sign this Constitution, and pledge themselves to abide thereby, and such changes as may be hereafter made therein, and who shall pay to W. W. Dykes, Secretary of the Association, as the first year's dues, the sum of six (\$6.00) dollars, within thirty days after

the report of said committee, and this Constitution, shall be approved at a meeting of the Association, whereat said matter shall be formerly considered, are hereby declared to be charter members of this association.

SEC. 2 Any member of the profession in good standing, residing in Sumter County, Ga., may become a member by vote of the Association, after having been recommended for membership by the Executive Committee thereof, as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 3. Application for membership in said association shall be made to the association, and referred to the Executive Committee, who shall recommend admission or rejection of the candidate as they deem proper, after an examination of him. Upon being recommended, a vote by ballot shall be taken in the association, and one negative vote in every five votes cast shall exclude the candidate.

**ARTICLE IV.**

SEC. 1. Judge R. L. Maynard shall be the first President; W. P. Wallis the

First Vice-President, and W. W. Dykes the first Secretary and Treasurer of this association. Hereafter their successors in office in shall be elected annually on the first Saturday in October. Those elected shall hold over until their successors are elected and qualified; provided, the President and Vice-President shall not be eligible to re-election to their respective offices.

SEC. 2. The President of this association shall, within thirty days after his election, appoint the following standing committees to consist of three members each:

(a.) Executive Committee.

(b.) Grievance Committee, whose duty it shall be to consider all grievances or complaints filed by members.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of the association, subject to its charter, constitution and by-laws.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The association may provide by the by-laws for such other standing committees as it may deem necessary.

#### ARTICLE VII.

There shall be an annual meeting of the association on the first Saturday in October of each year, and such other meetings as shall be called from time to time by the President of the association, or ten members of the association.

Notice of said called meetings shall be given in writing to the members of the association at least one day before the time fixed, by mailing said notice, and no business shall be transacted at said called meeting other than that specified in the call, except by unanimous consent of those present at such meeting. At any meeting of the association, the presence of ten members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

Any member of the association may be suspended or expelled for misconduct in his relations to this association, or in his profession, on conviction thereof by the association in such manner as may be prescribed by the by-laws. All interest in the property of the association of persons resigning, expelled or otherwise

ceasing to be members thereof, shall vest in the association.

#### ARTICLE IX.

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the association by notice of the proposed amendment, subscribed by five members, being given at least five days previous to the next regular annual meeting, or by including it in the notice of the call for a special meeting called for that purpose, provided at least two-thirds of all the members present at such meeting shall vote for the amendment.

#### BY-LAWS

OF THE

### Americus Bar Association.

#### I.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the association. In case of his absence the Vice-President shall preside. The parliamentary rules and orders contained in Cushing's Manual, except as otherwise herein provided, shall govern all meetings of the association.

#### II.

The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the association, and of all other matters of which a record shall be deemed advisable by the association, and shall conduct the correspondence of the association, with the concurrence of the President. He shall notify the officers and members of their election, shall keep a roll of the members, and shall issue notices of all meetings.

### III.

The Treasurer shall collect, and under the direction of the Executive Committee or association, disburse all funds of the association; he shall report annually and oftener if required; he shall keep regular accounts, which shall at all times be open to inspection of the members of the association.

### IV.

The Executive Committee shall meet upon the call of the Chairman. They shall have power to arrange the programme of the annual meetings, make such regulations not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws, as shall be necessary for the protection of the property of the association, and for the preservation of good order in the conduct of its affairs. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, which shall be read at the ensuing meeting of the association, and it shall be their duty to present business for the association. They shall perform such other duties as are required of them by the association, or as may be assigned to them by the President.

### V.

If any person elected does not within thirty days after the notice of his election, signify his acceptance of membership, by subscribing to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, and paying the annual dues for the year in which he is elected, he shall be deemed to have declined to become a member.

### VI.

There shall be the following standing committees annually appointed by the President, to consist of three members each: (a.) A Committee on Grievances, which shall be charged with the hearing of all complaints which may be made in matters affecting the interest of the legal profession and the administration of justice, reporting the same to this association, with such recommendations as they may deem advisable; and said committee shall in behalf of the association institute and carry on such proceedings against offenders, and to such extent as the association may order.

### VII.

Each of the standing committees shall



committee, the President shall appoint some member of the association as attorney to represent the association before said committee in the investigation of such charges; and should said committee recommend prosecution of the offender to the association, the President shall appoint some member of the association to represent it in the trial of the charges against such offender in the association, and the Grievance Committee shall prosecute such charges therein.

#### X.

Whenever it is deemed advisable by the association to prosecute, in the State courts a member of the association, or any member of the profession, not a member of this association, it shall be the duty of the President to appoint counsel from the membership of this association to represent it as prosecutor in the trial of such cases in the State courts.

#### XI.

All charges or complaints against members of this association shall be made in writing and filed with the

Grievance Committee, and a copy thereof served on the accused at least five days before the day fixed for the hearing or investigation of such charges before said committee; and when said committee recommends to the association prosecution of such charges or complaints before it, they shall transmit the written charges or complaints made before them together with such facts in their possession to the Secretary of the association, and the offender shall be given five day's notice of the day fixed for the hearing of such charges before this association. Any notice to him by the Secretary shall be sufficient.

#### XII.

The annual dues of members of this association shall be \$3.00, after the first year's dues, and shall be payable in advance on the first Saturday in October each year.

#### XIII.

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the association by two-thirds vote of those present.

