

MINUTES

and

BYLAWS

of

Vermont Trial Lawyers AssociationTM, Inc.,
a non-profit corporation

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STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

The Office of Secretary of State hereby grants a
Certificate of Incorporation

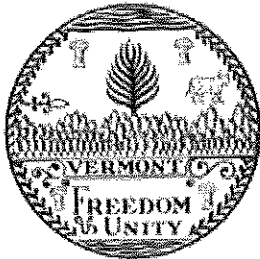
to

VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

A Vermont Domestic Non-profit Corporation, effective September 30, 2017

October 02, 2017

Given under my hand and the seal
of the State of Vermont, at
Montpelier, the State Capital



James C. Condos

James C. Condos
Secretary of State



VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE
Corporations Division

MAILING ADDRESS: Vermont Secretary of State, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1104
 DELIVERY ADDRESS: Vermont Secretary of State, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1104
 PHONE: 802-828-2386 WEBSITE: www.sec.state.vt.us

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

****ELECTRONICALLY FILED****

FILING NUMBER: 0002295418

FILING DATE: 9/30/2017

EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/30/2017

BUSINESS INFORMATION	
BUSINESS ID	0335290
BUSINESS NAME	VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
BUSINESS TYPE	Domestic Non-profit Corporation
BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	This a Charitable Organization, Church or Religious Organization, or Private Foundation (as defined by IRS Code 501(c)(3) for federal tax exemption) formed for the purpose of charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, or preventing cruelty to children or animals and will not be participating in political activity as defined in sections 501(c)(4) (for Action Organizations) or 527 (for Political Organizations) of the IRS Code.
BUSINESS EMAIL	pwinburn@comcast.net

STATUS AS A MEMBER ORGANIZATION
This corporation is a member organization

BENEFIT TYPE
This is a public benefit non-profit corporation

PRINCIPAL OFFICE PHYSICAL ADDRESS			
STREET ADDRESS	409 Main Street ,	CITY	Bennington
STATE	Vermont	ZIP CODE	05201
COUNTRY	United States		

PRINCIPAL OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS			
ADDRESS	409 Main Street ,	CITY	Bennington
STATE	Vermont	ZIP CODE	05201
COUNTRY	United States		

Incorporator Information		
NAME	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS
Patrick Winburn	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA

AGENT INFORMATION		
NAME	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS
Patrick Winburn	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA

AUTHORIZER INFORMATION	
AUTHORIZER SIGNATURE	Patrick Winburn
AUTHORIZER TITLE	Attorney

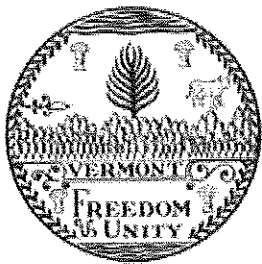
STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Certificate of Trade Name Registration

I James C. Condos, Vermont Secretary of State hereby certify that

VTLA

was registered on 09/28/2017 per copy attached.



Sep 28, 2017

Given under my hand and the seal
of the State of Vermont, at
Montpelier, the State Capital

James C. Condos

James C. Condos
Vermont Secretary of State



**VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE
Corporations Division**

MAILING ADDRESS: Vermont Secretary of State, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1104
DELIVERY ADDRESS: Vermont Secretary of State, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1104
PHONE: 802-828-2386 WEBSITE: www.sec.state.vt.us

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION

****ELECTRONICALLY FILED****

BUSINESS ID: 0335234

FILING DATE: 09/28/2017

EXPIRATION DATE: 11/27/2022

TRADE NAME INFORMATION	
TRADE NAME	VTLA
BUSINESS TYPE	TRADE NAME
BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services All Other Legal Services
EMAIL	pwinburn@comcast.net

PRINCIPAL OFFICE ADDRESS			
STREET ADDRESS	409 Main Street	CITY	Bennington
STATE	Vermont	ZIP CODE	05201
COUNTRY	United States		

MAILING ADDRESS			
STREET ADDRESS	409 Main Street	CITY	Bennington
STATE	Vermont	ZIP CODE	05201
COUNTRY	United States		

OWNERS		
NAME	TITLE	ADDRESS
PATRICK WINBURN	OWNER	409 MAIN STREET, BENNINGTON, VT, 05201, USA

REGISTERED AGENT INFORMATION		
NAME	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS
Patrick Winburn	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA	409 Main Street, Bennington, VT, 05201, USA

AUTHORIZER INFORMATION	
AUTHORIZER SIGNATURE	Patrick Winburn
AUTHORIZER TITLE	Attorney

**Minutes of the First Meeting
of the Incorporators of
Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc.,
a non-profit organization**

The first meeting of the Incorporators was held on October 12, 2017 at 409 Main Street, Bennington in the State of Vermont.

D. Patrick Winburn, a subscriber to the Certificate of Incorporation called the meeting to order and stated the purposes of this meeting.

On motion duly made and carried, D. Patrick Winburn, Charles Capriola and Bernard J. Boudreau were elected Trustees of the organization until the first annual Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™ Meeting takes place and elections are held for those offices.


On motion duly made and carried, D. Patrick Winburn was elected temporary chairperson and Bernard J. Boudreau, was elected temporary secretary (clerk) until the first annual meeting of the Board of Trustees takes place and elections are held for those offices.

The chairperson then read the Certificate of Incorporation as was filed in the office of the Secretary of State on September 30, 2017.

On motion duly made and carried, the Bylaws of Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc., a non-profit corporation dated October 12, 2017 were also approved by the Board of Trustees pursuant to 11 B V.S.A. § 8.24.

On motion duly made and carried the date of the first annual membership meeting was decided to be set to take place at a place and time deemed appropriate by the Incorporators but to occur no later than September 30, 2018.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Bernard J. Boudreau
Acting Secretary, VTLA

**Bylaws
of
Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc.,
a non-profit corporation**

Article One - Organization

1. The name of this organization shall be the Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc., a Vermont non-profit organization (hereinafter referred to as “the organization” or “VTLA”).
2. The organization shall have a seal which shall be in the following form:



Article Two - Purpose

The following are the purposes for which this organization has been organized:

American jurisprudence has always depended on an active, informed and forceful trial bar to protect the rights and interests of their clients, whoever they may be. The Bill of Rights, by the Sixth and Seventh Amendments to the Constitution, sanctified those rights in 1791:

Amendment VI: Rights to fair trial

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII: Rights in civil case

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Trial lawyers in every state have continued the heritage bestowed by our founding fathers since 1791. Famous trial lawyers like John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Clarence Darrow, Thurgood Marshall as well as the many thousands of others who have come after them, uphold this heritage.

Trial lawyers are a fundamental part of the judicial branch of government and the Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™ exists to improve and promote the quality of jurisprudence in the State of Vermont.

The organization's activities specifically consist of presenting public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures or other similar programs.

Article Three - Membership

Membership in this organization shall be open to all who are dues-paying members of the organization, (unless waived) who are licensed to practice law in the State of Vermont, in good standing and who affirm that they have tried one or more cases to conclusion in the Vermont State or Federal Court system including administrative tribunals.

Honorary, lifetime membership and/or other similar honorific awards and election to the Vermont Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame™ may be bestowed on those who are deemed to deserve this honor by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees, and said persons shall not be required to pay dues as long as they maintain their good standing, as determined by the Board of Trustees.

Article Four - Annual Meetings

The time and place of the annual membership meeting of this organization shall be determined by the Board of Trustees. The clerk shall cause the notice of the time and place of the Annual Meeting to be e-mailed, or mailed if no email address is available, to every member in good standing at his or her address as it appears in the membership roll of this organization.

The presence of those members in attendance at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum and shall be necessary to conduct the business of this organization, except for those matters as otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

Special meetings of this organization may be called by the chair when deemed in the best interest of the organization. Notices of such meeting shall be mailed or e-mailed to all members at their addresses as they appear in the membership roll book at least but not less than 7 days before the scheduled date set for such special meeting. Such notice shall state the reasons that such meeting has been called, the business to be transacted at such meeting and by whom called.

No other business but that specified in the notice may be transacted at such special meeting.

Article Five - Voting

At all annual and any other meetings of the entire membership, all votes shall be viva voce and require a show of hands if the chair is uncertain of how many members have voted yea or nay. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted. Decisions shall be made by a majority vote of the members present except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

At all meetings of the Board of Trustees a majority vote is needed for all decisions except as otherwise noted herein.

Article Six - Order of Business

- 1 - Roll call.
- 2 - Reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting.
- 3 - Reports of committees, if any.
- 4 - Reports of Officers.
- 5 - Old and unfinished business.
- 6 - New business.
- 7 - Good and welfare.
- 8 - Adjournment.

Article Seven - Board of Trustees

The business of this organization shall be managed by a Board of Trustees consisting of five VTLA members.

The trustees shall be chosen at the annual meeting of this organization by a majority of members present, viva voce. Two Board members shall serve a two year term, two Board members shall serve a one year term and one Board member shall serve a three year term as more specifically referred to herein and shall be elected accordingly. Trustees shall be eligible to serve as many consecutive terms as the voters of the annual meeting deem appropriate by their votes.

The Board of Trustees shall have the control and management of the affairs and business of this organization. Such Board of Trustees other than the chair, unless otherwise noted herein, shall only act in the name of the organization when it shall be regularly convened by its chairman after due notice to all the trustees of such meetings, as aforesaid.

Three of the members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum and the meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held as deemed necessary, but not less than annually.

Each trustee shall have one vote and such voting may not be done by proxy. Meeting by conference using live interactive medium shall be considered the same as an in-person meeting.

The Board of Trustees may make such rules and regulations covering its meetings as it may, in its discretion determine necessary.

Vacancies in the Board of Trustees shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Board of Trustees for the balance of the term.

The chair of the organization, by virtue of the office shall be presiding officer of the Board of Trustees. The chair may authorize a non-member to assist in any or all administrative tasks, under the chair's supervision.

A trustee may be removed when sufficient cause exists for such removal. A trustee may be represented by counsel upon any removal hearing. The Board of Trustees shall adopt such rules as it may in its discretion consider necessary for the best interests of the organization, for this hearing.

Article Eight - Officers

The officers of the organization shall be as follows:

Chair
Vice Chair
Clerk
Treasurer

Each officer shall be selected from one of their number and elected by majority vote of the members of the Board of Trustees. Each shall serve for all or remainder of their term as Trustee.

The chair shall preside at all membership meetings and by virtue of the office be chairperson of the Board of Trustees, present at each annual meeting of the organization an annual report of the work of the organization, appoint all committees, temporary or permanent, see that all books, reports and certificates as required by law are properly kept or filed, be one of the officers who may sign the checks or drafts of the organization, and have such powers as may be reasonably construed as belonging to the chief executive of any organization.

The vice chair shall in the event of the absence or inability of the chair to exercise his or her office become acting chair of the organization with all the rights, privileges and powers as if he or she had been the duly elected chair.

The clerk shall keep the minutes and records of the organization, perform administrative tasks, file any certificate required by any statute, federal or state, give and serve all notices to members of the organization, be the official custodian of the records and seal of the organization, be required to sign the checks and drafts of the organization, present to the membership at any meetings any communication addressed to the clerk of the organization, submit to the Board of Trustees any communications which shall be addressed to the clerk of the organization, attend to all correspondence of the organization and exercise all duties incident to the office of the clerk and perform any duty of the organization as directed by the chair. The clerk may authorize a non-member to assist in any or all administrative tasks, under the supervision of the clerk.

The treasurer shall have the care and custody of all monies belonging to the organization, collect all dues and be responsible for such monies of the organization and shall sign checks and

be responsible for all matters incident to banking, including online banking of the organization. The treasurer shall render an annual report or more frequent account as the Board of Trustees shall determine which will contain written account of the finances of the organization and shall exercise all duties incident to the office of treasurer. All annual reports of the treasurer shall be available for public scrutiny and be posted prior to the annual meeting on the organization's website at www.vtlassn.org. The treasurer may authorize a non-member to assist in any or all such administrative tasks, under the supervision of the treasurer.

No officer, trustee or any other person acting on behalf of the VTLA shall be entitled to receive any salary or compensation from the organization, other than reimbursement for incidental expenses, if any, that are authorized or approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees.

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)(3). No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 107(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article Nine - Salaries

The Board of Trustees shall hire and fix the compensation of any and all administrative employees. The decision to hire said persons, if any, shall require a unanimous vote and the decision to terminate said persons shall require a majority vote, of the Board of Trustees. Said persons (if any) shall be hired as the Board of Trustees may determine to be necessary in the conduct of the business of the organization. Any employees as herein described shall not be a member of the VTLA, as defined in Article Three herein.

Article Ten - Conflict of Interest Policy

For Trustees and Members of a Committee with Board Delegated Powers

Section A - Purpose

1. The purpose of this Board conflict of interest policy is to protect VTLA's interests when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interests of a trustee of VTLA or a member of a committee with Board delegated powers or might result in a possible excess benefit transaction.
2. This policy is intended to supplement, but not replace, any applicable state and federal

laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

3. This policy is also intended to identify “independent” trustees.

Section B - Definitions

1. Interested person – Any trustee or member of a committee with governing board-delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.
2. Financial interest – A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:
 - a. An ownership or investment in any entity with which the VTLA has a transaction or arrangement,
 - b. A compensation arrangement with VTLA or with any entity or individual with which VTLA has a transaction or arrangement, or
 - c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which VTLA is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. A person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the Board of Trustees decides that a conflict of interest exists, in accordance with this policy.

3. Independent Trustee – A trustee shall be considered “independent” for the purposes of this policy if he or she is “independent” as defined in the instructions for the IRS 990 form or, until such definition is available, the trustee –
 - a. is not, and has not been for a period of at least three years, an employee of VTLA or any entity in which VTLA has a financial interest;
 - b. does not directly or indirectly have a significant business relationship with VTLA which might affect independence in decision-making;
 - c. is not employed as an executive of another corporation where any of VTLA’s executive officers or employees service on that corporation’s compensation committee; and
 - d. does not have an immediate family member who is an executive officer or employee of VTLA or who holds a position that has a significant financial relationship with VTLA.

Section C - Procedures

1. Duty to Disclose – In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the Board of Trustees.
2. Recusal of Self – Any trustee may recuse himself or herself at any time from the involvement in any decision or discussion in which the director believes he or she has or may have a conflict of interest, without going through the process for determining whether a conflict of interest exists.
3. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists – After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, the remaining Board members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.
4. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest
 - a. An interested person may make a presentation at the Board of Trustees meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.
 - b. The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.
 - c. After exercising due diligence, the Board of Trustees shall determine whether VTLA can obtain, with reasonable efforts, a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
 - d. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the Board of Trustees shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in VTLA's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination, it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.
5. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy
 - a. If the Board of Trustees has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.

- b. If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the Board of Trustees determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

Section D - Records of Proceedings

The minutes of the Board of Trustees and all committees with board delegated powers shall contain:

- a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the Board of Trustees' decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.
- b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

Section E - Compensation

- a. No member of the Board of Trustees shall receive compensation from the VTLA. A voting member of the Board of Trustees who receives compensation, even indirectly, from VTLA for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
- b. A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, even indirectly, from VTLA for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
- c. No member of the Board of Trustees or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who received compensation, indirectly, from VTLA either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.

Section F - Annual Statements

1. Each Trustee and member of a committee with Board-delegated powers shall annually sign a statement which affirms such person:
 - a. Has received a copy of the conflict of interest policy,
 - b. Has read and understands the policy,
 - c. Has agreed to comply with the policy, and

- d. Understands that VTLA's purpose is presenting public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures or other similar programs and that in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.
2. Each voting member of the Board of Trustees shall annually sign a statement which declares whether such person is an independent trustee.
3. If at any time during the year, the information in the annual statement changes materially, the trustee shall disclose such changes and revise the annual disclosure form.
4. The Board of Trustees shall regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with this policy by reviewing annual statements and taking such other actions as are necessary for effective oversight.

Section G - Periodic Reviews

To ensure VTLA operates in a manner consistent with the purpose of presenting public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures or other similar programs federal tax exempt purposes and does not engage in activities that could jeopardize its tax-exempt status, periodic reviews shall be conducted. The periodic reviews shall, at a minimum, include the following subjects:

- a. Whether compensation arrangements and benefits are reasonable, based on competent information (if reasonably available), and the result of arm's length bargaining.
- b. Whether partnerships, joint ventures and arrangements with management organizations, if any, conform to VTLA's written policies, are properly recorded, reflect reasonable investment or payments for goods and services, further charitable purposes and do not result in inurement or impermissible private benefit or in an excess benefit transaction.

Section H - Use of Outside Experts

When conducting the periodic reviews as provided for in Section B herein, VTLA may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the Board of its responsibility for ensuring periodic review are conducted.

Article Eleven - Committees

All committees of this organization, if any, shall be determined as necessary by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees.

Article Twelve - Dues

The dues of this organization shall be \$100.00 per annum and shall be payable on or before the 1st day of January of each year. Any dues payments made during September through

December 31 of each year shall be applied to membership of the member for the remainder of the year paid and the following year. For example, dues paid on November 1 of 2017 shall cause that person to be deemed a member from November 1, 2017 until December 31, 2018.

Any and all dues, contributions, distribution of grant money (if any) or funds of any kind received by VTLA shall be maintained and expended in a manner consistent with all State or federal laws including 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article Thirteen - Amendments

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, repealed or added to by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds vote of all members. Any such change shall comply with 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or be deemed null and void, ab initio.

The name of this organization "Vermont Trail Lawyers Association" and "VTLA" shall only change by a unanimous vote of all members.

Article Fourteen - Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for public purpose.

END OF BYLAWS OCTOBER 12, 2017

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: OCT 18 2017

VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
INC
409 MAIN STREET
BENNINGTON, VT 05201-0000

Employer Identification Number:
82-2995080
DLN:
26053683001897
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
September 30, 2017
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Sincerely,

Stephen a. martin

Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Vermont Department of Taxes

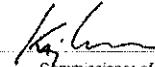
133 State Street PO Box 547 Montpelier, VT 05601-0547

SALES AND USE TAX LICENSE

This License is hereby issued to VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 233 of Title 32, V.S.A., to operate an establishment known as VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, a 501(c)(3) exempt organization, located at 409 MAIN STREET, BENNINGTON, VT

00024

VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
VERMONT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
409 MAIN STREET
BENNINGTON, VT 05201


Commissioner of Taxes

This license is issued effective Sep-30-2017 to Vermont business tax account number SUT-10901636-001. It is not transferable, and must be surrendered upon sale, transfer, merger, termination of business, or revocation of the license.

Display this license in a prominent place at the business location.



United States of America

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Vermont Trial Lawyers Association

Reg. No. 5,526,654

Registered Jul. 24, 2018

Int. Cl.: 35

Service Mark

Supplemental Register

Vermont Trial Lawyers Association, Inc. (VERMONT CORPORATION)
409 Main St
Bennington, VERMONT 05201

CLASS 35: Trade association services, namely, promoting the interests of legal professionals

FIRST USE 9-30-2017; IN COMMERCE 9-30-2017

THE MARK CONSISTS OF STANDARD CHARACTERS WITHOUT CLAIM TO ANY PARTICULAR FONT STYLE, SIZE OR COLOR

No claim is made to the exclusive right to use the following apart from the mark as shown:
"TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION"

SER. NO. 87-806,538, FILED P.R. 02-22-2018; AM. S.R. 06-12-2018



Andrei Iancu

Director of the United States
Patent and Trademark Office

**Minutes of the First Meeting
of the Board of Trustees of
Vermont Trial Lawyers Association, Inc.,
a non-profit organization**

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday January 12, 2018 at the Wing Center, Rutland Superior Court, 83 Center St., Rutland in the State of Vermont.

There were present the following:

D. Patrick Winburn
Bernard J. Boudreau
Bonnie Badgewick
Patrick Biggam
John Paul Faignant
Erin Halton

D. Patrick Winburn, the chair called the meeting to order and stated the purposes thereof. The chair explained that pursuant to the by-laws of the organization, it would be necessary to elect a Board of Trustees.

On motion duly made and carried the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

D. Patrick Winburn, Bonnie Badgewick, Patrick Biggam, John Paul Faignant and Barbara Blackman were duly elected members of the Board of Trustees.

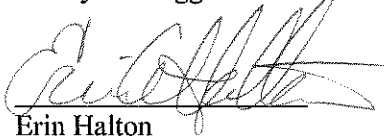
The chair presented a draft brochure for the Annual Meeting to take place on April 27, 2018 and discussed presenters. Bonnie Badgewick stated that she would be able to get discounted room rates for any presenter needing accommodations at the Woodstock Inn. CLE credits were discussed and Bonnie Badgewick suggested they be ethics credits. John Paul Faignant expressed that he would like to have future meetings discuss topics such as supermajority verdict in civil cases

It was asked if VTLA membership was open to Judges. D. Patrick Winburn stated that membership was open to Judges but that the judiciary had been removed from the VTLA emailing list because of some negative feedback from a Judge.

Patrick Biggam asked what the 501(c)(3) mission statement was. D. Patrick Winburn referred to the website that states that trial lawyers are a fundamental part of the judicial branch of government and the Vermont Trial Lawyers Association exists to improve and promote the quality of jurisprudence in the State of Vermont. The specific 501(c)(3) category is that the organization is for professional and educational purposes.

On motion duly made and carried, it was decided that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on the 27th day of April, 2018 or at any other time that any member of the Board of Trustees requests that a meeting be held.

Motion to adjourn made by John Faignant, seconded by Pat Biggam and unanimously agreed.


Erin Halton
Executive Director

**Minutes of the First Annual Meeting of the
Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc.,
a non-profit organization**

The first annual meeting of the Vermont Trial Lawyers Association was held on April 27, 2018 at the Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vermont.

D. Patrick Winburn, Chair called the meeting to order and stated the purpose of the organization as set out in the VTLA By-laws.

Justice Harold Eaton of the Vermont Supreme Court gave a presentation on the Erosion of the Jury Trial and Lawyer Skills and presented statistics indicating the reduction in the number of trials that take place and the multiple problems that poses for the judicial system.

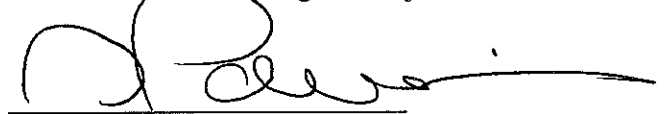
Jack McGehee, President of the National Board of Trial Advocacy gave a speech entitled Proud to be a Lawyer after a brief presentation of what it is to be Board Certified.

D. Patrick Winburn called a business meeting to order. The Board of Trustees and Executive Director were introduced and thanked. Event sponsors O'Brien Reporting Services, Inc., Double D Reporting and Verbatim Reporters were thanked and statements provided by O'Brien Reporting Services, Inc. and Verbatim Reporters were read. D. Patrick Winburn asked for any new business. There was no new business. On Motion made and duly carried the business meeting was adjourned.

Lunch was served by the Woodstock Inn.

F. Lee Bailey gave a speech regarding his new book, Excellence in Cross Examination, and gave various insights about his long career as a trial lawyer.

At the conclusion, a motion was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned.



D. Patrick Winburn
Chair, VTLA

Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting of April 19, 2019
Vermont Trial Lawyers Association™, Inc.,
a non-profit organization

The second annual meeting of the Vermont Trial Lawyers Association was held on April 19, 2019 at the Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vermont. John Paul Fagnant, Chair called the meeting to order and commented on the purpose of the state wide bench-bar meeting.

The Chair then introduced Chief Justice Paul Reiber and Chief Superior Court Judge Brian Grearson for their comments to the group. They discussed the state of the judiciary and the stress on the judicial system. The opioid problem in Vermont is putting great strain on the court system in all courts. There was a discussion about how attorneys can assist in this area and the impact it has on other issues. There is a perception among the legislature that criminal law is primarily what the court system entails and there was also a discussion about how young lawyers can become more involved and develop trial skills. Chief Judge Brian Grearson explained the judicial assignment system and discussed several judicial vacancies. There was a question and answer period in which lawyers inquired as to various aspects of the court system.

The business meeting was then held. John Paul Fagnant and Barbara Blackman were each re-elected to a one year term. It was noted that the annual financial statement is on the VTLA website and expressed the Board's gratitude for Executive Director Erin Miller's efforts throughout the past year.

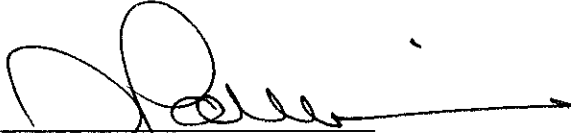
Judges Teachout, Cohen, Glover, Smith and Howard gave their insights as to how lawyers can become more experienced as trial practitioners. Discussion was also had about courtroom etiquette and ways in which lawyers and judges can both make their efforts more effective.

Judge Jeffrey Crawford, Chief Judge at the Federal District Court spoke on the challenges of the Federal Court system in Vermont and responded to numerous questions during the question and answer period.

Senator Richard Sears, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee spoke on a legislator's view of the court system. He surveyed the parameters of the legislature's role in the court system. He stated that he knows that the judicial branch of government is underfunded and explained the various reasons why that remains the case.

Attorney General T.J. Donovan spoke about the efforts of the Attorney General's role in the court system and reviewed various matters being dealt with by the Vermont Attorney General's office.

At the conclusion of Attorney General Donovan's speech, John Paul Fagnant accepted a motion to adjourn and the meeting was duly concluded.



D. Patrick Winburn
Clerk/Secretary, VTLA