



THE FAMILY LAW BAR ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF ELECTIONS and THE AGM – 9th NOVEMBER 2019 THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with paragraph 12(a) of the Constitution I give notice that the AGM will take place at The Said Business School, Park End St, Oxford OX1 1HP between **11.15am and 11:45 am on Saturday 9th November 2019** during the Association's twentieth National Conference. Details of the event and how to book are to be sent out separately, so please don't forget to reserve your place. The National Conference has become a very popular event and, as in previous years, there will be something for everyone

An Agenda for the AGM will be sent out in due course. If there are any particular matters that you wish to see included on the Agenda will you please email them to me (Malek Wan Daud, the Association's Secretary), by Friday 11th October 2019 at the very latest on the following email address malekwd@gclaw.co.uk. Please use "FLBA AGM 2019" as the subject line. These will then be passed on to our Vice Chair (and new Acting Chair) Cyrus Larizadeh QC who shall decide how best to deal with them.

Under Article 12(d) of the Constitution you are free to table a written question to any Officer of the Association at the AGM provided at least 7 days' notice in writing is given. Any such questions should please be sent to me by email (as above). Once again, please use "FLBA AGM 2019" as the subject line. A little extra in terms of notice would be greatly appreciated.

Apologies for absence should be sent by email to admin@flba.co.uk

ELECTIONS TO THE POSTS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Chair, Frances Judd QC, resigned in August 2019 as she was appointed to the High Court Bench, the Vice-Chair (and current Acting Chair), Cyrus Larizadeh QC and the Treasurer, James Roberts QC both complete their 2 year term of office on 31st December 2019. Malek Wan Daud was elected as Secretary in 2018 for 1 year after Ian Bugg went on to the Circuit Bench and also completes his term of office on 31st December 2019. Under the terms of paragraph 4(b) of the Constitution Cyrus, James and Malek stand down on that

date, although they remain eligible for re-election for a further term. There are, therefore, 4 vacancies to be filled.

Under paragraph 4(d) of the Constitution only existing members of the Committee or past members of the Committee who have served for at least a period of 2 years (in either case whether elected, co-opted or as a regional representative) are eligible to stand for one of these positions.

The term of office will be for a period of 2 years with effect from 1st January 2020, the results being declared at the forthcoming AGM.

Traditionally, the Vice-Chair has succeeded to the office of Chair assuming he or she is willing to do so. Cyrus Larizadeh QC Vice Chair (and the current Acting Chair) has indicated he is so willing. James Roberts QC and Malek Wan Daud have indicated they are willing to continue in the office of Treasurer and Secretary. However, other candidates are free, and welcome, to stand for election to these positions if they wish to do so.

All candidates, proposers and seconders must be fully paid-up subscribing members of the Association. Candidates must be proposed and seconded in writing and must countersign their nomination forms indicating that they are **“willing to serve and to provide the time and commitment required to play a full part as an Officer of the Association”**. As any Officer or member of the Committee, past or present, will tell you this commitment is both time consuming and demanding.

There is no nomination form as such but all 3 names, signatures and professional addresses (including email addresses) should appear on a single sheet of paper. The nomination should also be accompanied by a brief “personal profile” of no more than 100 words, which will be sent to members in the event that there is more than one nomination for any of the vacancies. Please be sure to state on the document the post to which you are seeking election.

There is no bar to those seeking election to the post of an Executive Officer also applying to serve on the Committee in the event that they are unsuccessful. If this is your intention, please state this clearly on the nomination. Nominations to serve as more than one Executive Officer in the alternative will not however be accepted.

Nominations should be sent to Khadija Khan by email to admin@FLBA.co.uk or by post to **The FLBA, PO Box 857, Haywards Heath, RH16 9PR**. If in writing, the envelope should be clearly marked “FLBA Elections – Officers”. The nominations must arrive no later than **12 noon on Wednesday 25th September 2019**. Nominations received after this will not be accepted.

Although all nominations will be acknowledged by email, late applicants would be wise to contact Khadija Khan shortly before the closing date to ensure that their forms have been received.

The election is by an online vote using the single transferable vote system. As in previous years, the ballot will be counted by Electoral Reform Ballot Services. In the event that more than one nomination is received for any one of the vacancies ballot papers will be distributed to all subscribing members of the Association as soon as possible after the close of nominations.

The last date for receipt of digital ballot papers will be **5th November 2019**. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the election in advance of the AGM.

ELECTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

Under paragraph 5(e) of the Constitution there are 18 elected members of the Committee, one third of whom retire annually by rotation and are eligible for re-election. There are accordingly **6 vacancies** to be filled.

Paragraph 6(f) of the Constitution provides that each year there shall be **at least one member elected who is under 7 years' call** as at the date of close of nominations.

The term of office is for 3 years with effect from 1st January 2020.

All candidates, proposers and seconders must be fully paid-up subscribing members of the Association. Candidates must be proposed and seconded in writing and must countersign their nomination confirming that they are **“willing and able to serve and to provide the time and commitment required to play a full part as a Committee Member of the Association”**. As any Officer or member of the Committee, past or present, will tell you this commitment is both time demanding and rewarding and you will be expected to attend approximately 10 meetings per year, in person or by telephone, and to make a meaningful contribution to the business of the committee.

There is, again, no specific nomination form, but all 3 names, signatures and professional addresses should appear on a single sheet of paper. This document should also be accompanied by a brief “personal profile” of no more than 100 words, which will be sent to members in the event that there is more than one nomination for any of the vacancies.

The nomination ‘form’ should state the date of call to the Bar for those in the under 7 years’ call category.

Nominations should be sent to Khadija Khan by email to admin@FLBA.co.uk or by post to **The FLBA, PO Box 857, Haywards Heath, RH16 9PR**. If in writing, the envelope should be clearly marked “FLBA Elections – Committee”. The nominations must arrive no later than **12 noon on Wednesday 25th September 2019**. Nominations received after this will not be accepted.

Although all nominations will be acknowledged by email, late applicants would be wise to

contact Khadija shortly before the closing date to ensure that their forms have been received.

As with the Officer elections, the Committee elections will be conducted using an online vote using the single transferable vote system. The ballot will be counted by Electoral Reform Ballot Services. In the event that more than one nomination is received for any one of the vacancies ballot papers will be distributed to all subscribing members of the Association as soon as possible after the close of nominations.

The last date for receipt of digital ballot papers will be **5pm on 5th November 2019.** Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the election in advance of the AGM. The Committee meets in London, usually on a monthly basis. Please do not let that deter members who practise in the regions from applying. The Association will reimburse the reasonable travelling expenses of those coming from outside London. We also arrange for a 'phone-link and/or video link at the Committee meetings to avoid the inconvenience of travel and ensure full participation.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on the following email address malekwd@gclaw.co.uk.

Malek Wan Daud
Secretary

September 2019