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No. 31

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1054

Pursuant to Article 112 paragraph 1 subparagraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, I am hereby making this

DECREE

on promulgation of the Legal Profession Act

Legal Profession Act is hereby promulgated that was passed by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia on the third sitting of the First regular session in 2011, on May 5, 2011.

PR No. 26

In Belgrade, May 9, 2011

President of the Republic

Boris Tadic (sign.)

LEGAL PROFESSION ACT

I - BASIC PROVISIONS

Subject of the Act

Article 1

This Act regulates the legal profession, conditions for the practice of law and forms of attorneys-at-law work, rights, duties and responsibilities of attorneys-at-law and law trainees and the organization and operation of bar associations.

Autonomy, independence and public importance of legal profession

Article 2

Legal profession is an independent and autonomous activity of providing legal aid to physical and legal persons.

Autonomy and independence of legal profession is provided by:

1. independent performance of the legal profession
2. the client's right to free choice of attorney-at-law
3. organization of attorneys-at-law in the Bar Association of Serbia and bar associations within it, as autonomous and independent organizations of attorneys-at-law,

4. adoption of general legislation by the bar associations,
5. deciding on admission to the legal profession and the termination of the right to practice law.

Subject of legal profession

Article 3

Provision of legal aid under Article 2 Paragraph 1 of this Act includes:

- 1) providing oral and written legal advice and opinions;
- 2) writing petitions, requests, suggestions, applications, legal remedies, and submissions;
- 3) drafting contracts, testaments, settlements, statements, general and individual acts and other documents;
- 4) representation and defense of individuals and legal entities;
- 5) mediation for the purpose of concluding a legal transaction or the peaceful settlement of disputes and contentious relationships;
- 6) providing other legal aid on behalf of national or foreign physical or legal persons, based on which to exercise their rights and protect freedom and other interests.

Definition of Terms

Article 4

Certain terms used herein in this Act shall have the following meanings:

- 1) *Legal profession* is conducting attorney-at-law activities;
- 2) *Attorney-at-law* is a person who is registered in the directory of attorneys-at-law and took the Bar oath and practices law;
- 3) *Applicant* is the person who made the request for registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law, until he is entered in the directory of attorneys-at-law and has taken the Bar oath;
- 4) *Competent Bar Association* is the Bar Association in which directory the attorney-at-law is registered;
- 5) *Client* is a physical or legal person who contacted an attorney-at-law for legal aid and a person who is represented or defended by attorney-at-law;
- 6) *Representation* is representation or defense;
- 7) *The Code* is the Code of Professional Ethics of attorneys-at-law;
- 8) *Tariff* is the schedule of the rewards and fees for attorneys-at-law work;
- 9) *Local attorney-at-law* is an attorney-at-law who is a citizen of the Republic of Serbia;
- 10) *Attorneys-at-law directory* is the directory of attorneys-at-law who are citizens of the Republic of Serbia;
- 11) *Register A and B* of the directory of attorneys-at-law is the directory of attorneys-at-law who are foreigners;
- 12) *Directory of joint law offices* is a directory of registered joint law offices;

- 13) *Directory of partnership law offices* is a directory of registered partnership law offices;
- 14) *Law trainee* is a graduate lawyer listed in the directory of law trainees, who is performing the exercises for trainee lawyers, trained to work in the legal profession;
- 15) *Directory of law trainees* the register of law trainees to be trained for work in the legal profession.

II CONDITIONS FOR ENGAGING IN LEGAL PROFESSION

The right to be an attorney-at-law

Article 5

The right to practice law is acquired by passing a decision on registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law and by taking the oath.

The procedure for obtaining the rights to be attorney-at-law is initiated by the request of applicant for the registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law filed to the bar association in which territory the law office of applicant will be.

Conditions for registering in the directory

Article 6

Conditions for making a decision on registering in the directory of attorneys, unless otherwise provided by this Act are:

- 1) a law degree earned in the Republic of Serbia or a law degree earned in a foreign country and recognized in accordance with the regulations governing the University education sector;
- 2) passed bar exam and attorney-at-law exam in the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) citizenship of the Republic of Serbia;
- 4) general health and full working capacity;
- 5) lack of employment;
- 6) no criminal record for a felony that would make an applicant unworthy of confidence for the practice of law;
- 7) the absence of other registered independent activity, or the status of the statutory representative, the Director or Chairman of the Managing Board in a legal entity, member or the President of the Executive Board of a bank, representative of the state capital, receiver, procurator and person who is by employment contract banned from competing;
- 8) worthiness of the practice of law;
- 9) provided convenient workspace for the legal profession and the fulfillment of technical requirements in accordance with an appropriate act of the Bar Association of Serbia;
- 10) at least three years have elapsed since the final decision to refuse the application of attorney-at-law to be registered in the directory of attorneys-at-law of any bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia, if the applicant has previously submitted a request which was rejected.

An applicant shall not be considered trustworthy for the advocacy by whose life and work, in accordance with generally accepted moral standards and the Code, one may conclude that he would not consciously engage in legal profession and preserve its reputation.

Compliance with requirements for registration in the Directory of attorneys-at-law from paragraphs 6) and 8) of this Article the Bar estimates at its discretion.

A candidate that was a judge or held a function in the office of public prosecutor for at least 12 years does not take the bar exam.

Proving conditions for registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law

Article 7

Applicant is obliged to furnish evidence and information on meeting the requirements of Article 6 paragraph 1 subparagraphs 1) to 5) and subparagraphs 7) and 9) of this Act with an application for registration.

The Bar Association ex officio obtains other evidence under Article 6 Paragraph 1, subparagraphs 6), 8) and 10) of this Act.

Legal entities, state and judicial authorities and organizations shall, upon request give accurate and complete data needed for assessing whether the applicant meets the requirements of Article 6 Paragraph 1, subparagraphs 6) and 8) of this Act.

Decision on the applicant's request

Article 8

The Bar Association may postpone making a decision upon the request until final disposition of criminal proceedings, if there is an indictment for a crime against the applicant for a criminal act that would make him unworthy of trust for conducting legal profession that came into effect.

If the applicant meets the requirements of Article 6 Paragraph 1 of this Act, the Bar Association decides on registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law.

Bar Association shall reject the request for attorneys applicants who do not meet one or more of the conditions laid down in Article 6 Paragraph 1 of this Act.

On the decision under paragraph 3 of this Article the Bar Association shall promptly notify the Bar Association of Serbia and all bar associations in its constitution.

Attorney-at-law oath

Article 9

The Bar Association shall, within 30 days of the decision on the registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law, provide to the applicant taking the oath of law, subject to paying the costs of registration, and if he is a foreign national, provided that he has filed a proof on the signed contract of insurance against professional liability in the Republic of Serbia.

Attorney-at-law oath is taken before the Chairman of the Bar, or a person authorized by him.

Attorney-at-law Oath reads:

"I swear that I will conscientiously perform the duties of attorney-at-law, that I'll in my work follow the Constitution, laws and other regulations, Statute of the Bar Association and the Code

of Professional Ethics and shall in my acts and conduct protect the reputation of the legal profession."

Decision on registration and ID

Article 10

Bar Association on the day of taken oath, makes a decision on registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law and issues ID.

Attorney-at-law ID serves as proof of being an attorney-at-law.

ID contains the name and surname of attorney-at-law, his photograph, serial number and year of entry into the directory of attorneys-at-law, and other information relevant for determining the properties of attorney-at-law under the general act of the Bar Association.

The right to insight

Article 11

The authority conducting the proceedings may request a lawyer's ID from the person in front of him immediately prior to acting as attorney-at-law.

In case of doubt on the status of the person who presents himself as an attorney-at-law, the authority conducting the proceedings may obtain from the relevant bar association needed information.

Annuling the decision on registration

Article 12

The bar association which made the decision on registration or the Bar Association of Serbia according to the right of supervision, shall cancel the decision and a decision on entry, or just a decision on admission when the decision is not issued:

- 1) If the applicant does not take the Bar oath in accordance with Article 9 of this Act;
- 2) If after the entry in the directory it is established that requirements for enrollment were not met.

The procedure for annulling the decision on registration is initiated ex officio or at application.

Bar Association that made the decision and a decision on entry shall, without delay, within three days of initiating proceedings under paragraph 2 this Article the latest, notify the Bar Association of Serbia and the attorney-at-law against whom proceedings are instituted about the procedure.

Admission without questioning conditions

Article 13

An attorney-at-law, who moves the law office from the territory of one to the territory of the other bar association within the Serbian Bar Association, is entered in the directory of attorneys-at-law of another bar association without questioning requirements for entry, except the conditions specified in Article 6 Paragraph 1 Subparagraph 9) of this Act.

Attorney-at-law of Paragraph 1 of this Article is obliged to submit the request for removal from the list of attorneys to the Bar from which territory the law office moved because of the change of seats and offices and within 15 days after deleting file a request for registration in the

directory of attorneys-at-law of the bar association to which territory the head office moved upon presentation of evidence under Article 6 Paragraph 1 Subparagraph 9) of this Act.

If the attorney-at-law does not file an application for registration within the period prescribed in paragraph 2 of this Article, it shall be deemed to have terminated his right to engage in legal profession within the meaning of Article 83 Paragraph 1 Subparagraph 1) of this Act.

Attorney-at-law listed in the Register B of the directory of attorneys-at-law - foreign nationals who is at least three consecutive years practicing law in the Republic of Serbia, is entitled to apply for entry in the list of local attorneys-at-law without examination of the requirements for entry.

Registration in the directory of attorneys - foreign nationals

Article 14

A foreign national may be registered in the directory A and directory B of attorneys-at-law if he practices law in his state of origin in accordance with the laws of that state and if, depending on the type of registration, meets the requirements of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article.

To enter in the register A directory of lawyers, an applicant must meet the requirements of Article 6 Paragraph 1 Subparagraphs 4) to 10) of this Act.

To enter into the register B directory of lawyers, an applicant must meet the requirements of paragraph 2 of this Article and conditions of Article 6 Paragraph 1 Subparagraph 2) of this Act.

With an application for registration in A directory a lawyer – foreign citizen is obliged to furnish evidence of citizenship of the state whose citizen he is and a certificate of the bar association of which he is a member certifying that in the state of origin he has the status of attorney-at-law. Documents should be originals and verified translations into Serbian, not older than three months, as well as evidence of fulfillment of conditions of Article 6 paragraph 1 subparagraphs 4) to 7) and 9) of this Act.

With an application for registration in B directory a lawyer – foreign citizen is obliged to besides stated in paragraph 4 hereof, furnish evidence on fulfilled conditions of paragraph 3 hereof.

Authorized bar association is notified on the registration of attorney-at-law – foreign citizen in his state of origin.

III - RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Basic duties

Article 15

Attorney-at-law shall:

- 1) really and constantly practice law;
- 2) provide legal aid professionally and conscientiously in accordance with the law, the statute of the bar association and the Code;
- 3) keep a professional secret;
- 4) in the professional work and private life that is available to the public he will protect the reputation of legal profession.

The field of activity

Article 16

Attorney-at-law has the right to practice law in the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia.

The Attorney-at-law has the right to practice law in the territory of the foreign state, in accordance with the ratified international agreements and regulations of that state about the right to work of foreign lawyers.

Professional development

Article 17

Attorney-at-law is obliged to continuously acquire and improve knowledge and skills necessary for professional, independent, autonomous, effective and ethical practice of law, in accordance with a program of professional development adopted by the Bar Association of Serbia.

Attorney-at-law who has a law trainee is obliged to provide him proper conditions for work and training in accordance with the purpose of trainee practice, to implement the plan and training program and to supervise trainee's work and his professional development.

Freedom and obligation to provide legal aid

Article 18

Attorney-at-law is free to decide whether to accept providing legal aid, except as provided by the law.

Attorney-at-law may not refuse to provide legal aid if he is a representative or counsel in accordance with the law set up by the court, another state agency or bar association, unless there are reasons provided by law for which he was obliged to refuse representation.

The obligation to refuse to provide legal aid

Article 19

Attorney-at-law is obliged to refuse providing legal aid:

- 1) if he represented the opposing party in the same legal matter;
- 2) if he was a law trainee in a law office in which the same matter is represented, or the opposing party is represented;
- 3) if he is a member or was a member of a joint law office or law partnership, where the same matter was represented or defended, or the opposing party was represented or defended;
- 4) if he in the same matter acted as a judicial office or official in the state body, territorial autonomy or local self-government unit;
- 5) If the interests of party seeking legal aid is in conflict with his interests or those of his close relatives, friends, associates or clients, in accordance with the statute and the Code of Professional Ethics;
- 6) in other cases stipulated by law, statute of the Bar Association and Code.

Attorney's Secret

Article 20

Attorney-at-law shall, in accordance with the statute of the bar association and the Code, keep as a professional secret and ensure that also persons employed in his law office do the same, all that his client or his authorized representative entrusted to him or that he otherwise learned or acquired in a case where he provides legal aid, in preparation, during and after the termination of representation.

The obligation to keep a secret has no time limit.

The manner of keeping attorney secret and actions in relation to that secret is organized by the statute of the bar association and the code.

Incompatible jobs

Article 21

Attorney-at-law shall not engage in professions that are contrary to the honor and independence of the legal profession.

Attorney-at-law cannot have another registered independent activity.

Attorney-at-law has no right to get employed except in law partnership, to be statutory agent, director or chairman of the managing board in a legal person, member or chairman of the executive board of the bank, the representative of the state capital, procurator or person to whom the prohibition of competition is established.

Statute of the bar association and code establish jobs of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article and may foresee other jobs that are incompatible with the honor and independence of legal profession.

Substitution of attorney-at-law

Article 22

Attorney-at-law may be replaced only by a law trainee employed in his office, or another attorney-at-law directly or through his law trainee, in accordance with the law.

Attorney-at-law is liable for all the failures of law trainee working in his office.

Awards and compensations of expenses

Article 23

Attorney-at-law is entitled to fees and expenses for his work in accordance with the tariff, approved by the Bar Association of Serbia.

The reward for attorneys work is determined by attorney tariff depending on the type of proceedings, actions taken, the value of the dispute or the amount of prescribed sanctions.

The reward for defense ex officio is determined by the act passed by the Minister of Justice.

Attorney-at-law is obliged to issue a billing to client on rewards and compensations for actions taken and expenditures made.

Calculation of costs and fees of lawyers is a credible instrument in execution.

Prohibition of advertising

Article 24

Attorneys-at-law, joint law offices and law partnerships cannot advertise.

The prohibition of advertising and permissible methods of representation shall be regulated by the statute of the bar association and the Code.

Attorney-at-law a foreign national

Article 25

Legal profession of a foreign citizen, registered in the register A is limited to giving oral and written legal advice and opinions regarding the application of law of his home country and international law.

Legal profession of a foreign citizen, registered in the register B, is equated with the activities of domestic attorney-at-law, provided that in the period of three years from the date of registration, he can act in the Republic of Serbia only in conjunction with a local counsel.

The provisions of this Act referring to domestic attorneys-at-law apply to the work of attorneys-at-law foreign nationals, unless otherwise prescribed by this Act, the statute of the bar association and the Code.

Limits to the rights of foreign attorneys-at-law

Article 26

Attorney-at-law listed in the directory A and B is not entitled to:

- 1) elect and be elected as a member of bodies and holders of positions in the Bar Association of Serbia or in the authorized bar association;
- 2) hire law trainees to perform the trainee exercises in accordance with this Act;
- 3) be appointed as a temporary agent, tax agent or counsel ex officio, nor to provide legal aid in accordance with applicable regulations or to be agent of a party that is exempt from payment of court costs, or be the mediator.

Law office

Article 27

Attorney-at-law may have only one law office.

The location and arrangement of the law office must be in accordance with the importance and reputation of the legal profession and the conditions necessary for keeping law secrets, in accordance with standards established by the general act of the Bar Association of Serbia.

Attorney-at-law may provide legal aid only in his law office, except when he represents at the hearings, inquiries, conversions, negotiation or conclusion of legal affairs.

As an exception, because of the particular circumstances of the case and the nature of legal aid attorney-at-law can provide legal aid both in the home or business premises of client.

Attorney-at-law is obliged to notify on the change of the seat of his law office in the territory of the same bar association, the bar association, in which directory he is entered, within 15 days of the change of seats.

Notice board

Article 28

Attorney-at-law shall at the building where he has a law office post a distinguished board that includes the name: "Attorney-at-law" and his name and surname.

Attorney-at-law - a foreign national on the board states also the names of the profession in the language of their native country.

Seal

Article 29

Attorney-at-law has a seal bearing the name: "Attorney-at-law ", the name and surname of Attorney-at-law and address of law office.

Joint law office has a seal with the name: "Joint law office", the name and address of the headquarters of joint law office, in accordance with the Memorandum of Association.

A law partnership has a seal bearing the name of a law partnership and address of the headquarters.

Attorney-at-law who is a member of the joint law office and partnership has a right to besides seal of Paragraph 2 and Paragraph 3 of this Article use the seal of Paragraph 1 of this Article.

Attorney-at-law is bound to put his signature and seal on every document, letter or submission he issues.

Cancellation of representation

Article 30

Attorney-at-law has the right to terminate the representation (power of attorney).

Attorney-at-law is obliged to immediately inform the authorized authority on the termination of representation (power of attorney).

Attorney-at-law shall within 30 days of notification under paragraph 2 this Article continue to provide legal aid, unless the client has explicitly liberated him of that obligation, or if it is not against the law.

Dealing with records and documents

Article 31

Attorney-at-law shall within the periods prescribed for the preservation of archival material keep files and documents vested to him by the client, unless the agreement with the client otherwise prescribes.

Attorney-at-law must submit to the client, upon request, all his files and documents.

Material obligations to the Bar Association

Article 32

Attorney-at-law is obliged to pay fees to the Bar and fulfill other financial obligations.

The Bar Association shall deny the renewal of ID to attorney-at-law who did not fulfill obligations under paragraph 1 of this Article in accordance with the statute of the bar association.

Responsibility for a legal opinion

Article 33

Attorney-at-law shall not be held accountable in criminal or tort liability for the legal opinions expressed in providing legal aid in court or other authority.

Inviolability of the law office

Article 34

Law office, items that are in it, and the data contained in the law office may be subject to control only under the terms of Article 35 of this Act.

The decision on a temporary or permanent termination of the law office may be made only by the competent authority of the Bar Association in a specially foreseen procedure.

In relation to the law office the measure of closing or sealing may not be applied, neither in the criminal nor in the offense procedure, or in the process of economic offense, or in any other proceedings brought against an attorney-at-law.

Detention of attorney-at-law and law office search

Article 35

Attorney-at-law may not be detained for criminal offenses in connection with the performance of legal profession, without the decision of the competent court.

The search of a law office can be determined only by the competent court for precisely determined papers, articles or documents.

The search of a law office may be made only in the presence of a lawyer appointed by the president of the authorized bar association.

Items, files or documents, except documents from paragraph 2 of this Article, as well as data obtained in the search of law office, cannot be used for legal proceedings against the attorney's client of that law office.

The Court or another state organ shall immediately inform the bar association of which attorney-at-law is a member on initiation of procedure against attorney-at-law or custody or retention.

The right to information

Article 36

Attorney-at-law has the right, in order to provide legal aid, from government bodies, institutions and businesses to seek and obtain timely information, documents and evidence in their possession or under their control.

State agencies, institutions and enterprises shall, in accordance with the law, provide access to information, documents and evidence referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article to attorney-at-law.

Mandatory professional liability insurance

Article 37

Attorney-at-law is obliged to conclude an agreement on compulsory professional liability insurance with organizations registered for this type of insurance.

The Bar Association may conclude a contract on collective professional liability insurance for all attorneys registered in its directory of attorneys-at-law.

The Bar Association of Serbia shall determine the minimum amount of insurance to the detriment of professional responsibility.

The Bar Association shall withhold issuance or renewal of ID to attorney-at-law who has not concluded a contract of insurance, except when there is insurance in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Tax liability of attorney-at-law

Article 38

Attorney-at-law is obliged to pay taxes on revenues generated from activities in accordance with tax regulations.

IV - TEMPORARY TERMINATION AND PROHIBITION OF LEGAL PROFESSION

Temporary Suspension of the right to practice law

Article 39

Attorney-at-law shall be entitled to a temporary cessation of the right to act as attorney-at-law:

- 1) for professional development or other justifiable reason, as long as the reasons last;
- 2) during the temporary incapacity to act due to illness, maternity leave, leave for child care and other health conditions;
- 3) the election for an MP or legate for the duration of the MP or the member's term of office.

An attorney-at-law shall not later than 30 days prior to the use of right referred to in paragraph 1 subparagraph 1) hereof and within 30 days after the temporary inability of paragraph 1 subparagraphs 2) and 3) of this Article submit a reasoned request to the authorized Bar with the appropriate evidence and data on the start and duration of temporary cessation of work.

Procedure in case of incompatible activities

Article 40

Attorney-at-law is temporarily suspended from the right to practice law in the case of elections, nomination or appointment to public office in the authority of the Republic of Serbia, autonomous regions or local authorities.

Attorney-at-law of paragraph 1 of this Article shall, within 30 days from the date of holding public office, file a request to the authorized Bar for a temporary cessation of practicing law.

If attorney-at-law fails to comply with the obligation of Paragraph 2 of this Article, the authorized bar association will officially issue a decision on his removal from the directory of attorneys-at-law.

If the attorney-at-law, within 60 days from the date of termination of office under paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to be approved for further continuation of being an attorney-at-law,

authorized bar association will decide on his removal from the directory of attorneys-at-law as of the date of termination of office.

Interim deputy attorney-at-law

Article 41

Based on the decision on temporary cessation of the right to practice law (Articles 39 and 40) the authorized bar association will determine the temporary deputy to attorney-at-law.

The interim deputy referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article can only be attorney-at-law registered in the directory of attorneys-at-law of the same bar association.

As a temporary deputy shall be designated a person who is proposed by a temporarily replaced attorney, if he furnishes a written consent of that attorney-at-law, and if there are no such proposals or consent, then attorney-at-law appointed by the Bar, taking into account the mutual relations between temporarily replaced attorney-at-law and his deputy and possible the similarity of the area of law that they deal with in practice.

The temporary ban on legal profession

Article 42

A temporary ban on engaging in legal profession can only be determined according to the conditions prescribed by this Act.

Attorney-at-law shall be temporarily prohibited from engaging in legal profession if against him:

- 1) custody was determined;
- 2) proceedings were initiated for the annulment of an entry in the directory of attorneys-at-law.

Attorney-at-law can be temporarily prohibited to practice of law:

- 1) if against him there is an ongoing criminal or disciplinary proceedings for an act that renders him unfit for the practice of law;
- 2) if his conduct hinders or prevents the conduct of disciplinary proceedings against him.

The authorized bar association shall issue a ruling ordering a temporary ban on engaging in legal profession:

- 1) to determine the duration of the ban;
- 2) to provide a temporary deputy, taking into account the criteria of Article 41 Paragraph 3 of this Act.

The effect of a legal remedy and notification obligation

Article 43

An appeal against the decision on temporary prohibition to act as attorney-at-law does not retain its execution.

Bar Association shall notify all courts in the Republic of Serbia on temporary prohibition as well as Bar Association of Serbia and bar associations within it.

V - FORMS OF WORK

Forms of work

Article 44

Attorney-at-law practices law independently and in a joint law office or as a member of a law partnership.

Joint law office

Article 45

Two or more attorneys-at-law may by contract, which regulates mutual business and property relations, establish a joint law office (hereinafter referred to as Joint Law Office).

The contract referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and request for entry in the list of joint law firms contracting parties are obliged to submit to the relevant bar association within 15 days of the conclusion.

All attorneys-at-law from the joint law office have the same main office.

Joint Law Office should have a prominent board titled: "Joint law office" and the name of joint law office, in accordance with the Memorandum of Association and the statute of the Bar association.

The joint law office is not a legal entity.

The joint law office shall dissolve according to the agreement or if only one attorney-at-law remains.

Representation and accountability in the joint law office

Article 46

The client may delegate a single attorney-at-law for representation, some attorneys-at-law or all attorneys-at-law in the joint law office.

For the obligations of joint law office, arising from legal relationships with clients and third parties, the authorized attorney-at-law is responsible, and if the client authorized more than one attorney-at-law, jointly and severally are liable all the authorized attorneys-at-law.

Law partnership

Article 47

Two or more attorneys-at-law can establish a partnership law office (hereinafter: Partnership).

Partnership is established by contract which, except for the conditions laid down by law, must contain the following provisions:

- 1) legal profession is the only activity of the Partnership;
- 2) only members of that Partnership may provide legal aid;
- 3) the members of the Partnership cannot engage in legal profession outside the company.
- 4) the Partnership cannot be a founder of other legal entities.

Entry in the directory of partnerships

Article 48

Partnership, upon filed application, is registered in the directory of partnerships:

- 1) if the memorandum of association is in accordance with the provisions of Article 47 of this Act;
- 2) if all members of the Partnership are attorneys-at-law entered into the directory of the same bar association and have the same headquarters office;
- 3) if the partnership has office space suitable for the legal profession in such a form of work;
- 4) if the partnership paid provided costs of registration to the Bar Association of Serbia;
- 5) if the partnership entered into a contract of insurance against professional liability in accordance with the provisions of Article 37 of this Act.

The Company shall be entitled to practice law by entry in the directory of partnerships of the authorized bar association.

The directory of partnerships of law is exclusively kept by the Bar Association of Serbia, according to the procedure and in the manner determined by a bar association act.

Registration and enrollment of changes in partnership

Article 49

The Partnership shall inform the Bar Association of Serbia of each of its status and other changes within 15 days of its occurrence.

Any change of Paragraph 1 of this Article, the Bar Association of Serbia enters in the directory of law partnerships:

- 1) If a contract is signed on the accession, which contains all the provisions of Article 47 paragraph 2 of this Act, when the new member joins the Partnership;
- 2) if agreement on withdrawal of the company founder is signed, when a member founder withdraws from the Partnership;
- 3) if the Partnership pays the Bar Association of Serbia provided costs of registration of changes.

Partnership office

Article 50

The partnership may have only one law office.

Partnership may not have branches.

Partnership must have a distinguished board titled: "Law partnership" and the name of the partnership, in accordance with the Memorandum of Association and the Bar Association of Serbia statute.

Partnership dissolution

Article 51

The Bar Association cancels the registration if after the registration in the directory of law partnerships it is established that conditions for registration have not existed under Article 48 Paragraph 1 of this Act.

Partnership is deleted from the directory of law partnerships:

- 1) if a bankruptcy or liquidation procedure is opened, on the date when the decision on the conclusion of such proceedings is absolute;
- 2) if they are not practicing law for more than six months;
- 3) if, apart from the legal profession, it starts engaging in another activity;
- 4) if the number of members no longer meets the requirements for the establishment of the partnership of Article 47, paragraph 1 of this Act including members of the partnership to whom temporary cessation of work is ordered or temporary prohibition to practice law.

The right to engage in legal profession the partnership loses by deletion from the directory of law partnerships.

The competent court i.e. receiver shall inform the Bar Association of Serbia about a final end of bankruptcy or liquidation.

Application of regulations

Article 52

To work and business of law partnership, the provisions of the law governing operation of partnerships are applied, unless this Act provides otherwise.

The rights and duties that are prescribed by this Act for attorneys-at-law also apply to attorneys who are members of a partnership.

VI - LAW TRAINEES

Law trainee

Article 53

Law trainee can begin performing the trainee exercises if he is registered in the directory of law trainees and, if he took an oath of law trainee.

Requirements for registration in the directory of law trainees

Article 54

Conditions for making a decision on registration in the directory of law trainees are:

- 1) a law degree acquired in the Republic of Serbia, or a law degree earned in a foreign country and recognized in accordance with the regulations governing the field of university education;
- 2) the citizenship of the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) general health and full legal capacity;
- 4) lack of employment;
- 5) no criminal record which would make applicant unworthy of confidence for the practice of law;
- 6) the absence of other registered independent activity, or the status of the statutory representative, or the Director in legal entity, Chairman of the Managing Board in a legal entity, member or the President of the Executive Board of a bank, representative of the state capital, procurators and persons who are by employment contract banned from competing;

- 7) lack of passing the bar examination or work experience that gives the right to applicant to take the bar exam;
- 8) worthiness to practice law activities;
- 9) entered employment contract with an attorney who has at least 3 years of law practice, the headquarters office in the territory of the same bar association and a valid ID, or entered contract of employment with a law partnership in which the same attorney who meets the requirements indicated will be in charge for the implementation plan and training of trainees and supervise their work and professional development.

Proving conditions and deciding on the request for registration

Article 55

With an application for registration an applicant is required to submit evidence and information on meeting the requirements of Article 54 of this Act.

Trustworthiness in relation to Article 54 subparagraphs 5) and 8) of this Act, the authorized Bar Association estimates in accordance with Article 6 Paragraph 2 of this Act.

The Bar Association decides on the request of applicant with application of the provisions of Article 6 Paragraph 3 and Article 8 Paragraphs 2 to 4 of this Act.

Trainee's oath

Article 56

The authorized bar association shall, within 30 days of the decision on registration in the directory of law trainees enable the applicant trainee to take the trainee oath.

Trainee oath is taken before the Chairman of the bar association or a person authorized by him.

Trainee oath reads:

"I swear that I will perform the duties of a law trainee in good faith, that I will in my work follow the Constitution, laws and other regulations, Statute of the bar association and the Code of Professional Ethics and shall by my actions and conduct protect the reputation of legal profession."

The decision on entry and trainee ID

Article 57

On the day of taken trainee oath, the bar association makes a decision on entry in the directory of law trainees and issues ID.

The provisions of Article 10 of this Act accordingly apply to trainee ID.

Cancellation of registration

Article 58

If an applicant does not take the trainee oath or after the registration in the directory of law trainees it is established that all the requirements for registration have not been fulfilled for the registration, shall be accordingly applied the provisions of Article 12 of this Act.

In case of revocation of registration in the directory of law trainees, the time spent by law trainee at work in a law office is not recognized as working experience for taking the bar exam.

Rights of law trainee

Article 59

The law trainee has the right to adequate working conditions and training in accordance with the purpose of trainee progress and curriculum training that is made by the Bar Association of Serbia.

During the trainee practice law trainee is entitled to salary and other employment rights, in accordance with the law and employment contract.

Obligations of the law trainee

Article 60

Law trainee is obliged to act on the instructions and within the authority given by attorney-at-law with whom he attends exercise, unless these instructions are contrary to the Constitution, law, statute of the bar association and Code.

Before the state body or another person, a law trainee can represent only attorney-at-law with whom he attends exercises, both in the case when the attorney-at-law represents, and when the attorney-at-law replaces another attorney-at-law.

When attorney-at-law replaces another attorney-at-law through their law trainee, law trainee shall, under the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, act on orders of replaced attorney-at-law.

Law trainee cannot independently be engaged in the practice of law.

Provisions of this Act on duties and disciplinary responsibility of attorneys-at-law are applied accordingly to law trainee.

Termination of trainee work

Article 61

Internship ceases to law trainee if even after two years after he acquired the right to take, he fails to pass the bar exam.

After passing the bar exam internship can last another year the longest, but not longer than the period referred to in paragraph 1 above.

After the period specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 expires of this Article the Bar shall issue a decision on removal from the directory of law trainees.

Law trainees - volunteers

Article 62

The provisions of this Act shall apply accordingly to law trainees and special regulations on volunteer work.

During the internship, a volunteer law trainee has no rights under Article 59 Paragraph 2 of this Act.

VII - THE BAR ASSOCIATIONS

The legal nature of the bar association

Article 63

Bar Association of Serbia and bar associations in its constitution are autonomous and independent professional organizations of attorneys-at-law, established by the law and statute of the Bar Association of Serbia, responsible for execution of public powers and the conduct of affairs of common interest, in accordance with this Act and its statute.

Bar associations in paragraph 1 of this Article are legal entities.

Bar Association of Serbia and bar associations in its constitution

Article 64

In the Republic of Serbia there is the Serbian Bar Association, based in Belgrade, for the territory of Serbia, which includes:

- 1) The Bar Association of Vojvodina, with main office in Novi Sad;
- 2) The Bar Association of Kosovo and Metohija, with main office in Kosovska Mitrovica;
- 3) The Bar Association of Belgrade, with main office in Belgrade;
- 4) The Bar Association of Zajecar, with main office in Zajecar;
- 5) The Bar Association of Kragujevac, with main office in Kragujevac;
- 6) The Bar Association of Nis, with main office in Nis;
- 7) The Bar Association of Pozarevac, with main office in Pozarevac;
- 8) The Bar Association of Cacak, with main office in Cacak;
- 9) The Bar Association of Sabac, with main office in Sabac.

Statute of the Serbian Bar Association defines the areas of jurisdiction of bar associations within it.

By enactment of the Serbian Bar Association according to its statute, other bar associations may be formed within the Serbian Bar Association.

Enactment of paragraph 3 of this Article defines main office, area of jurisdiction, transfer of public authorities and other issues of relevance for the work of newly found bar association within the Serbian Bar Association.

Public authorities

Article 65

Serbian Bar Association and bar associations in its composition have the following public authorities:

- 1) deciding on applications for entry in the directory of lawyers, directory of joint law offices, directory A and B of attorneys, the directory of law trainees and the directory of law trainees - volunteers;

- 2) deciding on applications for entry, deletion and revocation of registration in the directory of law partnerships, and deciding on requests to change the seat and keeping the directory of partnership law offices,
- 3) deciding on applications for temporary cessation of right to work within legal profession;
- 4) deciding on applications for continuation of the legal profession after a temporary cessation of right to work as attorney-at-law;
- 5) deciding on temporary prohibition to practice law;
- 6) determination of temporary deputy to take over the law office;
- 7) decisions on initiating and conducting disciplinary proceedings against attorney-at-law or law trainee, on their disciplinary responsibility and the imposition of disciplinary measures;
- 8) editing of content and method of managing and maintaining the directories of subparagraphs 1) and 2) of this paragraph and their unique keeping for the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia;
- 9) keeping the directory of subparagraph 1) of this paragraph;
- 10) the issuance and extension of validity of the IDs of attorneys-at-law and IDs of law trainees;
- 11) creating programs and planning the organization and taking the bar exam;
- 12) adoption of the Code;
- 13) passing tariff;
- 14) determining the cost of entry to the directory of attorneys;
- 15) determining the amount of regular duties to the competent bar association for its territory.

The Bar Association of Serbia is in charge of a public authority under paragraph 1 subparagraph 2) and subparagraphs from 11) to 14) hereof, and as a second instance organ and for the public powers under paragraph 1 subparagraphs 1), 3) to 10) and 15) of this Article.

Bar associations within the Bar Association of Serbia in the first instance are authorized for the competent public authorities under paragraph 1 subparagraph 1), 3) to 10) and subparagraph 15) of this Article.

The Bar Association of Serbia is responsible for the lawful and proper exercise of public authority and is authorized to take measures to remedy the identified deficiencies in the exercising public authority or the work of the bar associations within it, including the deprivation of public authorities, according to this Act and statute of the Bar Association of Serbia.

Directories of paragraph 1, subparagraphs 1) and 2) of this Article are public books. Excerpts from these directories and certificates issued based on data of the directory are public documents.

Activities of the bar association

Article 66

Serbian Bar Association and bar associations in its constitution perform the following tasks:

- 1) make the statute and other general enactments;

- 2) represent the interests of attorneys-at-law before the state and other agencies and organizations;
- 3) achieve international cooperation in the field of legal profession;
- 4) represent attorneys-at-law before the domestic and international professional associations and organizations, companies and individuals;
- 5) organize and conduct ongoing training of attorneys-at-law, law trainees, graduate lawyers and employees in the law offices and law partnerships and specialized professional training of attorneys-at-law;
- 6) issue regular and occasional publications to inform lawyers and the public on issues of interest to the legal profession and professional development of attorneys-at-law and law trainees;
- 7) organize the provision of free legal aid in accordance with the law;
- 8) issue opinions on draft laws and other regulations of interest for the position of legal profession;
- 9) other matters of general interest, according to the law and other regulations.

The bodies of the Bar Association of Serbia

Article 67

The bodies of the Bar Association of Serbia are: assembly, managing board, supervisory board, president, one or more vice-presidents, the disciplinary court, the disciplinary prosecutor, the council and other organs determined by the Statute of the Bar Association of Serbia.

A person may not hold more than one position in the organs of the Bar Association of Serbia, unless this Act or the statute of the Bar Association of Serbia provide otherwise.

The procedure of election, tenure of office, dismissal, scope of work and composition of the bodies referred to in paragraph 1 hereof and number of vice-presidents shall be determined by the statute of the Bar Association of Serbia.

Assembly of the Bar Association of Serbia

Article 68

Assembly of the Serbian Bar Association consists of representatives of bar associations that are part of the Serbian Bar Association.

Assembly of the Serbian Bar Association adopts the Statute of the Bar Association of Serbia and other general regulations prescribed by the law and statute.

Assembly of the Serbian Bar Association convenes at least once a year.

The bodies of the bar associations within the Bar Association of Serbia

Article 69

The bodies of the bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia are: Assembly, Managing Board, Supervisory Board, President, Disciplinary Tribunal, the disciplinary prosecutor and other bodies established by the statute of the bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia.

The nomination and election of applicants, causes and manners of their impeachment, the duration of the mandate, scope of work and composition of the bodies specified in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regulated by the bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia.

A person cannot hold more than one function in the bodies of the bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia, unless this Act, statute of the Serbian Bar Association or statute of paragraph 2 hereof, defines differently.

Assembly of the bar association of paragraph 1 of this Article shall convene at least once a year.

Compatibility of statutes

Article 70

Statute of the Bar Association of Serbia shall be in accordance with this Act.

Statute of the bar association within the Bar Association of Serbia must be in accordance with this Act and statute of the Bar Association of Serbia.

Publication of documents

Article 71

Statute of the Serbian Bar Association, Code of Professional Ethics and Law tariffs are published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia."

The statutes within the Bar Association of Serbia shall be published in the appropriate official gazette.

Material management

Article 72

Bar associations are financed from its own resources.

Source of funding the bar association is revenues from subscription, membership and other means in accordance with the law.

The amount of fees and costs of entry shall be determined by statute of the bar association.

Funds for the work of the Bar Association of Serbia shall be provided in the manner prescribed by its statute.

The decision of the Bar Association on the amount of debts arising from membership fees, on costs of registration and other regular material obligations of attorneys-at-law to the Bar has the status of valid document in execution.

Free legal aid

Article 73

The bar association can arrange for free legal aid to citizens in their area or part of the area, either independently or under a contract entered into with local authorities, in accordance with the law.

Liabilities to the courts and other bodies

Article 74

The Bar Association is obliged to courts and other bodies in its territory provide a list of attorneys-at-law who provide legal aid to parties in judicial or administrative proceedings.

The criteria for determining a list of attorneys-at-law of Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regulated by the Bar Association act, in accordance with the law.

VIII - DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITY AND CESSATION OF RIGHTS TO ENGAGE IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Responsibility for misconduct

Article 75

Attorneys-at-law and law trainees are responsible for professional and conscientious practice of law and preservation of its reputation.

Attorneys-at-law and law trainees are responsible for disciplinary minor and major violations of duty and honor of legal profession, regulated by the Statute of the Bar Association of Serbia.

A serious breach of duty by attorney-at-law and the reputation of legal profession is any violation of duty and honor of legal profession under law, statute of the Bar Association of Serbia and the Code, and particularly evident bad faith in the work within legal profession, providing legal aid in cases where attorney-at-law is obliged to refuse to provide legal aid, business activities that are contrary to the honor and independence of attorneys-at-law, injury of duty to keep a secret, asking for compensation greater than the fees prescribed and refusing to issue a bill to the client for the amount received.

Minor violations of duties and good practice of legal profession are violations of the duty and honor of the legal profession, of less importance.

Disciplinary bodies

Article 76

Disciplinary proceedings are initiated and led by disciplinary bodies of the authorized bar association, i.e. Bar Association of Serbia.

The disciplinary bodies are: the disciplinary prosecutor and the disciplinary court.

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated on the basis of report submitted by interested stakeholder or state agencies, as well as at the proposal of the Bar Association organs or ex officio.

Disciplinary report or petition is submitted to the disciplinary prosecutor of the authorized bar association.

Organization, composition, competence, decision-making of disciplinary bodies and disciplinary proceedings shall be regulated by statute of the bar association.

Disciplinary measures

Article 77

For violations of duties and violation of the reputation of the legal profession, an attorney-at-law may be imposed with the following disciplinary measures:

1) warning;

2) fine;

3) removal from the list of attorneys-at-law.

For minor violations of duties and reputation of the legal profession a warning or a fine is sentenced.

The amount of fines for minor violations of duty and honor of legal profession cannot be less than ten times the minimum award rates prescribed by the tariff, nor above thirty times the lowest award by tariff, which applies on the day of the imposition of disciplinary measure.

For a serious breach of duties of attorneys-at-law and reputation of legal profession, attorney-at-law can be fined or erased from the directory of attorneys-at-law.

The fines for serious violation of duty and honor of legal profession cannot be less than thirty times the minimum award for attorneys' work nor more than sixty times the minimum award, by tariff, which applies on the day of the imposition of disciplinary measures.

The measure of removal from the directory of attorneys may be imposed for a period from six months to a permanent loss of rights to practice law.

Attorney-at-law to whom measure was sentenced to be deleted from the directory of attorneys-at-law for a certain period of time may apply for re-registration in the directory after the lapse of time that the measure of deletion was imposed.

Statute of the Bar Association of Serbia determines minor breach of duties and reputation of legal profession which can be fined, a serious breach of duties, which can impose a measure of removal from the directory of attorneys-at-law and the conditions under which such sentence can be conditioned.

Final disciplinary measures shall be entered in the records of disciplinary measures, and a copy of the decision is put into file of an attorney-at-law who is found responsible in the disciplinary procedure.

Expiration of initiation and disciplinary proceedings

Article 78

Expiration of disciplinary action goes into effect after six months of learning of the violation, and in any case after the lapse of two years after the violation occurred.

Expiration of conducting a disciplinary procedure goes into effect after one year of initiating the proceedings.

Expiration is interrupted by any action taken to conduct disciplinary proceedings.

Expiration is interrupted when the attorney-at-law during the time period of expiration commits equally severe or even more severe breach of duty and honor of the legal profession.

After each interruption expiration begins to run again.

Expiration of disciplinary procedure is on in any case when two years lapse from the initiation of disciplinary proceedings.

Expiration of initiation and conduct of disciplinary proceedings for the violation that has characteristics of a criminal offense shall be valid after a certain time is lapsed for the prosecution expiration.

Expiration to the execution of disciplinary measures

Article 79

Expiration of disciplinary measure goes into effect after one year from the day the decision is made.

Expiration is interrupted by any action taken for the enforcement of disciplinary measures.

After each interruption of expiration the period begins to run again, but obsolesce in any case goes on when two years lapse since the day of final decision that sentences the measure.

Erasure of disciplinary measure

Article 80

Sentenced disciplinary measure of warning or fine shall be deleted from the records of the authorized bar within one year from the date of finality of judgments of the disciplinary tribunal, unless the attorney-at-law in that period made a new violation of duties and reputation of attorney-at-law.

Sentenced disciplinary measure of removal from the attorney directory is erased from the records of the authorized bar by double expiration date that is designated as a period in which the attorney-at-law is deleted from the directory of attorneys-at-law by the final ruling of the disciplinary tribunal.

If the verdict of the disciplinary court conditioned enforcement of the disciplinary action, disciplinary action is deleted from the records of the Bar by double expiration date that is designated as the period of suspension, provided that in the period of checking, the attorney-at-law does not make another breach of duty and reputation of attorneys.

Deadlines for the removal of imposed measures begin to run from the final decision on the ordered measures.

Such decision of a disciplinary action to erase from the directory shall, ex officio be made by the disciplinary court of authorized bar association.

Collection of fines and costs

Article 81

Final decision of the disciplinary court of the bar association has the capacity of executive document in executive proceedings in respect of the imposed fines and costs of the disciplinary proceedings.

Funds generated through the collection of fines are revenue of the authorized bar association.

The responsibility of law trainees

Article 82

The provisions on disciplinary responsibility of attorneys-at-law shall be applied to law trainees accordingly.

Termination of the right to engage in legal profession

Article 83

The right to engage in legal profession is terminated to attorney-at-law:

- 1) at personal request, from the time appointed in the request, and in the event that in the request for removal from the list of attorneys-at-law it is not determined day of the termination of the rights to act as an attorney, or a certain date is defined that precedes the date of application – from the day of making a decision on removal from directory;
- 2) in the event of death or declaration of the deceased - date of death i.e. declaration of death;
- 3) in the event of total or partial deprivation of working capacity – from the day the decision of the competent court goes into effect;
- 4) in the case of imposition of disciplinary measure of removal from the directory of attorneys - from the date of finality of the decision on removal from the directory;
- 5) in the case of imposition of security measures prohibiting practicing law in criminal proceedings – from the day the verdict by competent court is final;
- 6) in case of conviction for a crime that renders him unfit for the practice of law - from the day of the verdict by competent court;
- 7) in case of conviction for a criminal offense to an unconditional prison sentence lasting more than six months - from the date of execution of sentence, of which the authorized bar association shall be informed by the court competent for criminal sanctions;
- 8) in case he does not practice law for more than six months – from the day of making a final decision on removal from the directory;
- 9) in the case of employment outside the legal profession or the entry in the register of entrepreneurs, acquiring the status of the statutory representative, his appointment as director or chairman of the legal entity, election or appointment as a member or the President of the Executive Board of a bank, the appointment as the representative of the state capital or the procurator – from the date of employment, registration, appointment or election;
- 10) in the event that he does not conclude a contract of professional liability insurance – from the day the final decision on removal from the directory is made;
- 11) if the attorney-at-law listed in the directory A and directory B of lawyers loses a status of attorney-at-law or he is barred from work in the home country – from the day of making a decision of the competent authority of the state of origin.

It shall be deemed that attorney-at-law is not practicing law for more than six months, if within that period documents could not have been forwarded to him to the address of his law office, or if he fails to fulfill material obligations towards the bar, which is established by the decision of the authorized bar association.

The authorized bar association shall, within 15 days from the date of any reason for the cessation of the practice of law stated in paragraph 1 of this Article enforce removal from the list of attorneys-at-law and appoint a transferee.

If attorney-at-law stopped practicing law at his personal request, he has the right to suggest the transferee for his law office.

The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article shall apply to law trainees accordingly.

IX PROTECTION OF RIGHTS

The right to a legal remedy

Article 84

In the procedure led by the bar association when deciding on rights, obligations or legal interests the regulations are applied of the law that regulates general administrative procedure.

All first-instance decisions of bar association may be appealed within 15 days of receipt to the Bar Association of Serbia.

The lodged appeal shall postpone the execution of the original decision, unless this Act provides otherwise.

An applicant may file an appeal in case a decision was not made within the time set by the law.

The right to administrative action

Article 85

Administrative action can be initiated against the second instance, i.e. the final decision of the Bar Association of Serbia.

There is no improper application of regulations in decision making of the bar association by which it was decided with discretion, based on, under the restrictions and in accordance with the prescribed authorities and against such a decision one cannot initiate administrative proceedings of full jurisdiction.

The right referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article exists even if second instance organ has not made a decision on the appeal within the prescribed deadline.

X - LAW ACADEMY AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW EXAM

Law Academy

Article 86

Serbian Bar Association hereby establish the Law Academy, as a special body responsible for the continuous professional training of attorneys-at-law, law trainees, graduate lawyers and persons employed in law offices and law partnerships, for the improvement of theoretical and practical knowledge and skills of attorneys, necessary for professional, independent, autonomous, effective and ethical legal profession, the specialization of attorneys-at-law and the issuance of certificates of specialization in a particular area of law and the legal profession.

The establishment, organization and operation of the Law Academy and the adoption of general and specialized training shall be determined by the statute of the Bar Association of Serbia and other general acts.

Subject and taking the attorney exam

Article 87

Attorney exam consists of testing the knowledge of domestic and international regulations and legal documents relating to the legal profession.

The right to take the attorney exam has the person who passed the bar exam.

The Attorney exam is taken before the committee for the attorney examination.

The program for the attorney exams, certification of having passed the exam, the manner of forming the Commission for taking the bar exam, the members, manner of work and decision making of the Commission shall be prescribed by the statute and general regulations of the Bar Association of Serbia.

XI – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Adoption of general acts of the bar association

Article 88

Statute and other general acts of the Bar Association of Serbia shall be issued within three months from the date of this Act.

Bar associations within the Bar Association of Serbia will bring their statutes and other general by-laws within six months from the date of enactment of this Act.

If the bar associations within the composition of the Bar Association of Serbia do not bring their statutes and enactments within paragraph 2 this Article, the Statute shall be applied directly and general acts of the Serbian Bar Association.

Until the enactment of statutes and general by-laws of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the valid statutes and other general enactments shall be valid that do not conflict with this Act.

The obligation to call for elections

Article 89

The managing board of the Bar Association of Serbia is obliged to call elections for all bodies of the Bar Association of Serbia, within 6 months from the date of enactment of this Act.

Until the election of the bodies of the Bar Association of Serbia in accordance with paragraph 1 hereof, the competence of those bodies shall be performed by existing bodies of the Bar Association of Serbia.

Delayed application of certain provisions

Article 90

Provisions of this Act referring to the attorney-at-law examination and the provisions of Article 37 this Act will apply after the expiration of one year from the date of enactment of this Act.

Requests submitted before the Act went into effect

Article 91

Requests for the registration in the directory of attorneys-at-law i.e. directory of law trainees who filed before the entry into force of this Act, and which are not resolved to its entry into force, will be resolved in accordance with the regulations in force at the time of submission.

Disciplinary proceedings initiated before the Act went into effect

Article 92

Disciplinary proceedings initiated before the entry into force of this Act are not binding pending its entry into force, and will be conducted in accordance with the regulations in force at the time of initiation of disciplinary proceedings.

Continuation of attorneys' work, of joint law offices and entries of law partnerships

Article 93

Attorneys-at-law and joint law offices registered in the directory of attorneys-at-law and directory of joint law offices until this Act goes into effect shall continue to work.

Law partnerships are required to be registered within six months from the date of enactment of this Act in the directory of law partnerships according to this Act.

Termination of Prior Law

Article 94

Upon entry into force of this Act, the Legal Profession Act ceases to be valid ("Official Gazette" No. 24/98, 26/98 – correction, 60/00 – decision of the Federal Constitutional Court, 11/02 and 72/02 – decision of the Federal Constitutional Court).

Entry into force

Article 95

This Act shall come into force eight days after publication in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia."