

Proposed 2022 Amendment to Article 8.4: Local Chapter Autonomy to Discipline

Proponents: National Executive Committee (NEC)

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WHEREAS National Lawyers Guild chapters have autonomy to discipline individual members subject to appeal to the National Convention, which may delay the process up to a year, and members suspended or removed from their chapters become members-at-large via application, we propose appeals go to the National Executive Committee and that applications for at-large membership go to the National Office. These changes would provide more timely appeals and application decisions. All National Executive Committee decisions are reviewable by the National Convention.

Original text: Local chapters shall have complete autonomy with respect to the disciplining of their own members for violation of this Constitution or Bylaws or the local constitution or bylaws, but only after service of charges in writing and a reasonable opportunity for the member to be heard and subject to appeal to the **National Convention**. Any member who has been suspended or removed from membership in a local chapter may apply for membership-at-large, which application may be granted at the discretion of the **National Executive Committee**.

Proposed language: Local chapters shall have complete autonomy with respect to the disciplining of their own members for violation of this Constitution or Bylaws or the local constitution or bylaws, but only after service of charges in writing and a reasonable opportunity for the member to be heard and subject to appeal to the **National Executive Committee**. Any member who has been suspended or removed from membership in a local chapter may apply for membership-at-large, which application may be granted at the discretion of the **National Office**.

Implementation: The National Executive Committee and National Office will implement this amendment. The NEC consented to this amendment.

Compliance with Bylaws Section 8.7: The NEC consulted all chapters to request their consent to the proposed changes. The majority did not respond to the request.

Consented: Columbia Law School, Loyola Law School Los Angeles, University of Arizona College of Law, University of New Mexico School of Law, University of Oregon School of Law, University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Refused: Colorado, Massachusetts