

Appointments Committee
State Bar of Arizona

October 10, 2023
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
ZOOM

Open Session Minutes

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

V = present virtually; A = absent.

Sam Saks, Chair	V	Toysha Martin	V
Caroline Allen	V	Kim Miles	V
Casey Arellano	V	Judy O’Neill	A
Noah Coakley	V	Tim Sparling	V
Stephanie Ehrbright	V	Georgia Staton	A
Alexis Firehawk	V	Lonnie Williams	V
Joey Hamby	V	Chloe Woods	V
Kathryn Krejci	V		

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Guests: Aaron Nash, Director, Certification and Licensing Division, Arizona Supreme Court
Mariann Nystrom, Manager, Attorney Admissions, Arizona Supreme Court

State Bar Staff: Carrie Sherman

Minutes taken by: Carrie Sherman

I. CALL TO ORDER

Called to Order by: Sam Saks, Chair

Time: 3:31 p.m.

II. Call to the Public

Aaron Nash and Mariann Nystrom, from the Supreme Court’s Certification and Licensing Division, were invited guests and served as resources for the Committee’s work.

III. Arizona Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness – Public Members

The committee interviewed five of the six applicants. One applicant was traveling and unable to meet with the Committee.

The due diligence reports had previously been circulated to the full Committee. Committee members voted for their top three candidates. A motion was made, seconded and passed over 2 nays and 1 abstention to recommend the following qualified individuals in ranked order for the Board's consideration in crafting its nominations to the Court for the two public member positions:

- Ms. April Snow, Business Manager, Snow Carpio & Weekley 12 votes
- Ms. Cathie Sylvester, Retired School Principal 10 votes
- Dr. Lewis Heller, Medical Doctor 6 votes
- Mr. James Manos, Retired CFO, Hickmans 4 votes

IV. Arizona Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness – Lawyer Members

The due diligence reports on the seven new applicants and one previous applicant had previously been circulated to the full Committee. After discussion, the Committee agreed to vote on four applicants that it believed were best for consideration by the Court. One other applicant was recommended for the Committee on Examinations given the open spots on that Committee.

Of the four candidates, Committee members voted for their top three candidates. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to recommend the following qualified individuals in ranked order for the Board's consideration in crafting its nominations to the Court for the two lawyer positions:

- Ms. Alane Breland, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community 11 votes
- Hon. (ret.) Richard T. Platt, RT Platt Law PLLC 10 votes
- Ms. Frances Sjoberg, Navajo Nation Department of Justice 10 votes
- Ms. Sabrina Ayers Fisher, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community 2 votes

V. Arizona Supreme Court Committee on Examinations – Lawyer Members

The due diligence reports on the three new applicants had previously been circulated to the full Committee. The Committee notes that the Bar made extensive efforts to recruit applicants using all means available to it. One applicant was removed from consideration due to the lack of response from listed references provided for the due diligence process as well as the lack of response from the candidate himself. Committee members voted for their top two candidates. The Committee recommends the following qualified individuals for the Board's consideration in crafting its nominations to the Court for the five lawyer positions:

- Mr. E. Scott Dosek, Dosek Law Firm 11 votes
- Mr. Thomas Collins, Clean Elections Commission 11 votes

VI. Adjournment: 4:55 p.m.