PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The State Bar Appointments Committee is currently accepting applications from active members in good standing to fill the following vacancy. Application forms are due at the State Bar office by Wednesday, January 12, 2011, and can be obtained by calling Nina Benham in the State Bar's Phoenix office at (602) 340-7329 or Amy Ihrke in the State Bar's Tucson office at (520) 623-9944. An application form can also be downloaded from the Bar's Web site www.myazbar.org (refer to Appointments Committee News).

Arizona Commission on Appellate Court Appointments
Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Purpose: This non-partisan commission is chaired by the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court (or her designee). Primary responsibility is to screen, interview and recommend judicial candidates to the Governor of Arizona for her final selection to fill judicial vacancies.

Openings: One. Commissioner Louis A. Araneta (Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Office of the Courts, Phoenix) just recently resigned from the Commission. The Board of Governors submits several nominations per opening to the Governor of Arizona for her appointment, which is subject to the advice and consent of the Arizona State Senate.

The other attorney-commissioners are:

William J. Ekstrom, Jr., Mohave County Attorney's Office, Kingman
Jill Harrison, WL Gore & Associates, Inc., Flagstaff
Michael "Mick" J.S. Rusing, Rusing & Lopez PLLC, Tucson
Ted A. Schmidt, Kinerk Schmidt & Sethi PLLC, Tucson

Candidate Criteria/Qualifications: Applicants must be active members of, and in good standing with, the State Bar of Arizona. Applicants shall have resided in the state, and shall have been admitted to practice before the Arizona Supreme Court, for not less than five (5) years.

Applicants for this position may not be registered Republicans nor reside in Pima County. The Arizona Constitution states that of the five attorney-commissioners, no more than two may be from the same county and no more than three may be from the same political party. Commissioners Ekstrom, Rusing and Schmidt fulfill the criteria restrictions as described.

None of the attorney or non-attorney members of the Commission shall hold any governmental office, elective or appointive, for profit and no attorney member is eligible for appointment to any judicial office of this state until one year after membership in the Commission terminates. The Commission meets as necessary when judicial openings occur.

Arizona’s Constitution (Article 6, Section 36.C.) provides for ethnic and gender diversity on the Commission. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply for these positions.
**Term:** Four years.

**Link to Application:**
http://www.mvyazbar.org/SecComm/Committees/APPT/AttorneyApplicationInteractive.doc

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The Standing Appointments Committee and the Board of Governors consider all aspects of diversity in their recommendations and appointments.
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