

Appointments Committee
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

September 16, 2020
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Location: State Bar of Arizona

Open Session Minutes

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

V = present virtually; A = absent.

Jessica Sanchez, Chair	V	Juan Flamand	V
Casey Arellano	V	Marla Hudgens	V
Hon. John Blanchard	V	Adrienne Jones	V
Nicholas Chapman-Hushek	V	Cid Kallen	V
Alison Crane	V	Judy O'Neill	V
Judith Dávila	V	Amanda Parker	V
Maguette Eluyode	V	Andrew Reilly	V
Alison Ferrante	A	Javier Torres	V
Alexis Firehawk	A	Shayna Watts	V

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Guests: Mark Wilson, Director, Certification and Licensing Division, Arizona Supreme Court; Carol Mitchell, Attorney Admission Manager, Certification and Licensing Division, Arizona Supreme Court

State Bar Staff: Carrie Sherman

Minutes taken by: Carrie Sherman

I. CALL TO ORDER

Called to Order by: Jessica Sanchez, Chair

Time: 3:07 p.m.

II. Call to the Public: None.

III. Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2020, Committee meeting as disseminated.

IV. Executive Session: Mr. Wilson and Ms. Mitchell oversee the work of the Supreme Court's Committee on Character and Fitness and its Committee on Examinations. As resource experts, they were invited to participate in the meeting. As there were

no other members of the public attending the meeting, the Committee proceeded to screen applications without the need to move into Executive Session.

- V. Board of Legal Specialization – Public Member:** The Committee received due diligence reports on the two candidates. After discussion, the Committee agreed that both candidates were very qualified and should be recommended to the Board of Governors. The Board is asked to submit nominations to the Supreme Court for its consideration and ultimate appointment. The Committee chose not to rank the candidates.

Ms. Kimberly Heldt, Legal Assistant, City of Apache Junction
Mr. Steven Jeras, Assistant Superintendent of Leadership, PV Unified School District

- VI. Committee on Character and Fitness:** There are three openings on the C&F Committee and the Supreme Court requests three nominations/opening. The Committee received the due diligence reports on the 20 new applicants and the five previous applicants. Each Committee member then cast three votes for his/her top three candidates.

MOTION: A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to recommend the top nine candidates to the Board of Governors for its consideration in sending its nominations to the Supreme Court:

Ms. Tamika N. Wooten, Law Office of Tamika Wooten	9 votes
Ms. Ashley D. Adams, Adams & Associates, PLC	6 votes
Mr. Gary J. Cohen, Mesch Clark & Rothschild PC	6 votes
Ms. Donna Lee Elm, Law Practice of Donna Elm	6 votes
Mr. David Nicolas Hernandez, David N. Hernandez	4 votes
Mr. Joseph A. Brophy, Jennings Haug & Cunningham	3 votes
Mr. Troy P. Foster, The Foster Group	3 votes
Mr. Boyd T. Johnson, Esq.	3 votes
Ms. Colleen Marie DiSanto, DiSanto & DiSanto PLC	2 votes

- VII. Committee on Examinations:** There are two openings on the Exams Committee and the Supreme Court requests three nominations/opening. The Committee received due diligence reports on the 11 new and four previous applications. Each Committee member cast three votes for his/her top three candidates.

1st Round of Voting

Ms. Donna Lee Elm, Law Practice of Donna Elm	7 votes
Ms. Ashley D. Adams, Adams & Associates, PLC	6 votes
Mr. Boyd T. Johnson, Esq.	5 votes
Ms. Amber Danielle Hughes, Dickinson Wright PLLC	3 votes
Mr. Jeremy Adam Rovinsky, National Paralegal College	3 votes
Mr. William Marshall Cawthon, Maricopa County Office of the Public Advocate	2 votes
Mr. Gary J. Cohen, Mesch Clark & Rothschild PC	2 votes

Ms. Colleen Marie DiSanto, DiSanto & DiSanto PLC	1 vote
Ms. Jane H. Williams, Esq.	1 vote

The Committee members then agreed to cast their votes for one of the two applicants tied with 2 votes each in order to identify the sixth top candidate.

2nd Round of Voting

Mr. Gary J Cohen, Mesch Clark & Rothschild PC	7 votes
Ms. Colleen Marie DiSanto, DiSanto & DiSanto PLC	2 votes

The Committee voted unanimously to recommend the top six (6) qualified candidates to the Board of Governors for its consideration in sending its nominations to the Supreme Court:

Final Recommendations

Ms. Donna Lee Elm, Law Practice of Donna Elm	7 votes
Ms. Ashley D. Adams, Adams & Associates, PLC	6 votes
Mr. Boyd T. Johnson, Esq.	5 votes
Ms. Amber Danielle Hughes, Dickinson Wright PLLC	3 votes
Mr. Jeremy Adam Rovinsky, National Paralegal College	3 votes
Mr. Gary J. Cohen, Mesch Clark & Rothschild PC	7 votes in tie breaker for 6 th candidate

Mr. Wilson and Ms. Mitchell were thanked for their time and participation in the meeting.

VIII. Phoenix Judicial Selection Advisory Board: Due to the lateness of the hour, the Committee agreed to defer this business item to a future meeting.

IX. Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m.