



# BAR COMMUNITY

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS CANDIDATES

Watch your mail (attorneys and judges in Maricopa County/District 6 and Pinal County/District 8) around April 23rd for your Board of Governors Election Ballot. The Bar's Web site ([www.myazbar.org](http://www.myazbar.org)) contains additional information about the candidates.

Each candidate was asked the following questions:

*Why are you interested in running for election to the Board of Governors?*

*What do you believe are the significant issues facing the members today?*

*If elected, how would you hope to address these issues?*

\* = Incumbent

### District 6 Maricopa County (eight seats)

**Alan P. Bayham, Jr.\***  
*Bayham Jerman, P.L.C.*  
Phoenix



BAYHAM

I have been a member of the Board of Governors since 1999. I was elected by the board as Secretary/Treasurer (2006-07) and Second Vice President (2007-08). I believe the key issues we face are professionalism, fiscal responsibility and diversity. We also have new issues of multi-jurisdictional practice and admission of out-of-state lawyers. As Chair of the Appointments Committee, I have supported appointment of women and minorities. I have required fiscal responsibility as a member and past chair of the Finance Committee. I provide a voice for small-firm lawyers, sole practitioners and public lawyers. The main positions I advocate are:

1. Fight unnecessary bar dues increases
2. Encourage diversity
3. Eliminate disciplinary abuses
4. Stop the unauthorized practice of law

5. Oppose increased CLE  
The board serves the membership and should vigorously advocate for the interests of Arizona lawyers. We should defend our profession, and serve the public.

**Theodore Campagnolo**  
*Office of the  
Arizona Attorney General*  
Phoenix

My legal experience and my involvement in State Bar committees and sections have been fulfilling and rewarding. I would like to continue to contribute my time and talents to the members of the State Bar, and the Board of Governors is a place where I believe I can best do that.

One of the most significant issues facing the members today is improving their quality of life. Regardless of their income bracket, the pressures of society, both legal and otherwise, place a tremendous burden on lawyers and their families. While the State Bar cannot change the pressure, it can certainly continue to bring the issue to the forefront by seeking the involvement



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of private and public firms in the discussion.

One of the most significant issues facing the State Bar is the need to continue its goal of increasing diversity within its sections and committees. The members of these sections and committees are the future leaders of the Bar, so it is critical to ensure that they reflect the diversity of the membership and of the community as a whole.

I hope to work with you on these and other issues as a member of the Board of Governors.

**Richard D. Coffinger\***  
*Sole Practitioner*  
Glendale



COFFINGER

If re-elected as one of the nine elected BOG members representing nearly 12,000 attorneys in Maricopa County, I will continue to oppose:

- Any unnecessary increase in members' dues and SBA staff
- Random audits of attorneys' trust accounts by the SBA without probable cause
- Admission of out-of-state attorneys "on-motion" with-

out being required to pass the Arizona Bar examination

I will continue to support:

- Discipline oversight by the BOG to insure that SBA bar counsel act fairly and professionally in dealing with members charged with professional misconduct
- Expanding member services, especially for solo and small firms, including providing members free access to an online legal research service
- Better communications with members including access for online comments before BOG votes on significant policy issues
- The seniors' dues waiver for active membership, in effect since at least 1962
- The seniors' exemption from Mandatory Continuing Legal Education, in effect since MCLE was adopted by the Arizona Supreme Court in 1989
- Greater accessibility of unpublished state appellate court memorandum decisions, including permanent online posting rather than the current six-month limit in Division 1 and 2, as well as authority to cite as persuasive, but not controlling, and publication of all reversals and non-unanimous affirmances

**Tom Crowe**  
*Crowe & Scott, P.A.*  
Phoenix

I am seeking election to the Board because I believe that I can bring a broad perspective to the table and make a positive contribution.

Significant Issues:

- Fiscal Integrity: The Board has



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an obligation to ensure that the members' dues are prudently spent and that the Bar's assets are well managed. The economic challenges confronting the economy will impact the Bar and should be anticipated to avoid an increase in dues.

- **Admission on Motion:** Attorneys practicing law in Arizona should understand our laws and procedures. I do not favor admission on motion of out-of-state lawyers.
- **Attorney Accountability:** The fairness and effectiveness of the disciplinary process is essential. I do not favor the proposed rule authorizing random trust account examinations, or similar fishing expeditions in lawyers' offices, absent justification for such action.
- **Senior Member Status:** The Board should not make major changes to the longstanding policies regarding the dues and mandatory continuing education requirements applicable to seniors, absent justification for doing so.
- **Open-Door Policy:** The Board should strive to maintain transparency in its workings. I believe in an open-door policy calculated to ensure that the views and opinions of all segments of the Bar are heard and effectively considered.

**Stephen M. Dichter\***  
*Harper, Christian, Dichter & Graif, P.C.*  
 Phoenix

I am completing five years of service on the Board of Governors and am hopeful of winning a third term. I am now, by a goodly num-

ber of years, the oldest elected member of the Board of Governors, having been a lawyer for almost 40 years.

It is obvious that the era of the Baby Boomers is about to crest and that over the next few years more Gen-X and Gen-Y members will be taking over the leadership of, among other things, the State Bar of Arizona. Just as there must be responsible and knowledgeable people to receive the torch, if our State Bar organization is to keep up with the needs and desires of our membership, those passing the torch need to have both the wisdom to know when and how to do so and an optimistic and forward-looking spirit sufficient to avoid resenting having to do so.



DICHTER

As a former prosecutor and present white-collar criminal defense and commercial trial lawyer, as a member of small firms, huge firms, with time as a sole practitioner, and without any interest in seeking higher office in the Bar, I continue to believe that I am well suited to fulfilling this transitional role.

**Diane L. Drain\***  
*Law Office of D.L. Drain, P.A.*  
 Phoenix

We all need to be fiscally responsible, whether dealing with our own funds or those we control as fiduciaries. The State Bar is fiduciary of the funds received from its members. Therefore, the Bar has a duty to spend the members' funds wisely. The Bar has an equally important duty to provide services that aid everyone—bar members, judiciary and public—as related to the practice of law. Sometimes these



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duties may be diametrically opposed.

Members of the Board of Governors are in a difficult position. They are servants to many and masters of none. They must be strong enough to make difficult decisions, but wise enough to seek alternatives in order to mediate opposing opinions. They rarely address issues that are supported by all factions: members, judiciary, public and government. Despite this difficult position, it is incumbent on every member of the Board to put aside personal agendas and concentrate on promoting quality legal services. This can be done by providing answers to ethical conundrums; offering solutions for practicing smarter; mediating attorney-client disputes in a non-adversarial manner; encouraging professionalism; and, but only as a last resort, supporting a fair and equitable discipline system.

**H. Leslie Hall\***  
*Office of the*  
*Arizona Attorney General*  
 Phoenix

Thank you for electing me as your representative in 2006. As a lawyer with litigation and management experience in the public and private sectors, I bring a unique perspective to the Board. I seek your support for another term.

The Board of Governors should advocate and protect the interests of Arizona lawyers. The goals I will continue to pursue are:

- **Bar fiscal integrity:** The Board needs to manage members' dues and Bar assets wisely. I will fight against Bar dues increases.
- **Member services:** The Bar should seek opportunities to

provide services that really aid its members. I supported contracting with Fastcase. This legal research tool, which will soon be available, will be beneficial to all members by reducing online legal research fees.

- Our discipline system needs to be fair and equitable. We need timely resolution of complaints. The reduction in the disciplinary case backlog must be maintained.
- Advocacy and protection of an independent judiciary, including merit selection in Maricopa County.



HALL

- Promotion of diversity in the legal profession, the Bar and the judiciary.
- Defend and improve the image of our profession.
- Make low-cost malpractice insurance available to members.

**Alan R. Hock**  
*Phillips & Associates*  
 Phoenix



HOCK

Arizona has changed a great deal since my childhood in the 1950s. The growth in population has led

to an urbanized Arizona—especially Maricopa County. With the increased population has been an increase in what we label “crime.” Many offenses that could alternatively be deemed public health issues instead became the domain of the criminal justice system. As a result of this reliance upon the government to solve these problems, the largest “law firms” in District Six are the County Prosecutor, County Public Defender and the Attorney General.

I have prosecuted crime, defended the accused in state, federal and municipal courts, presided from the bench and volunteered with the State Bar. Yet it has been my experience that most practitioners in criminal law view the State Bar as a nuisance and not relevant to their professional lives. Instead, their allegiance is to their employer or to the many specialty organizations.

To remain vital, the State Bar must represent the interests of all attorneys in District Six. If elected, I will be a voice for all attorneys,

but especially those engaged in the practice of criminal law to make the State Bar relevant and responsive to their needs.

**Joseph A. Kanefield\***  
*Office of the  
Arizona Secretary of State  
Phoenix*



For eight years I have had the honor to serve as one of your representatives on the Board. Last year I was elected by my fellow Board

members to serve as Secretary/Treasurer.

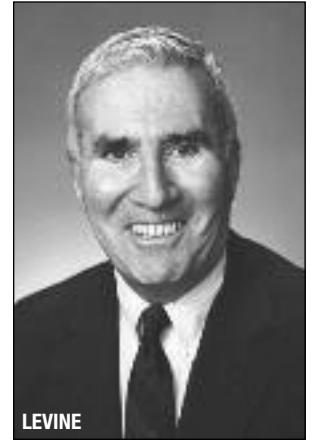
The Board has dealt with many important issues, including major reform to the rules of professional conduct, efforts to curb the unauthorized practice of law, and securing the Bar’s financial future. I have been active in issues of interest to public and private attorneys, such as multijurisdictional practice, and I have led the charge to increase access to justice.

If re-elected, I will continue to represent the interests of public lawyers and the private bar, and I will fight for greater access to justice. I will continue my longstanding pledge to protect the independence and continuing excellence of Arizona’s judiciary and work to assure that your dues are kept low and spent wisely. As always, I will reach out to lawyers in our community to hear their thoughts and concerns.

I have kept my promise to be a working member of the Board. I have devoted hundreds of hours of my time to our Bar in an effort to

improve our legal community. Please visit [www.kanefield.com](http://www.kanefield.com) to learn more about me.

**Jack Levine**  
*Sole Practitioner  
Phoenix*



I am running for the Board of Governors because I favor changes that are long overdue. I am for reducing the size and cost of the State Bar by transferring its CLE and Section activities to our local

County Bar Associations and by transferring lawyer discipline, the specialization programs, and membership records to the Arizona Supreme Court, which is taxpayer funded. I also favor reforms in our CLE program by allowing CLE credit for legal research performed in the course of representing a client. I strongly support the admission of lawyers to our courthouses without being subjected to security measures.

I believe the most significant issue facing us is how to restore the public's faith in our legal system. I will propose reforms designed to simplify the system and reduce its cost. Finally, I will propose changes to our merit selection rules that will require competitive examinations for judicial candidates and make it easier to remove judges who do not meet merit selection standards.

We don't have to put up with the *status quo*. It's not good enough.

**Tajudeen "Taj" O. Oladiran**  
*Collins, May, Potenza,*  
*Baran & Gillespie, P.C.*  
*Phoenix*

I am interested in running for election to the Board of Governors to



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help remedy a significant issue facing the members today: lawyers' general dissatisfaction with the practice of law. I believe that the Bar can, and should, make improving the atmosphere in which we practice a priority.

The reasons for the pervasive lack of job satisfaction are numerous, and few may be within the power of the Bar to remedy. However, the Board should continue to ask the members, "*How can the Bar help you in your practice? What can the Bar do to make running your practice easier?*" Asking these questions will help the Board improve its partnership with the members and increase the

relevance of the Bar to lawyers' everyday practice.

Improving overall job satisfaction and finding solutions to other important issues facing lawyers requires the infusion of energy and innovation that can be provided by the addition of younger, highly motivated, lawyers to the Board. That is why I am volunteering to serve on the Board of Governors.

**District 8  
 Pinal County**

(one seat)

**Richard T. Platt\***  
*Office of the  
 Pinal County Attorney  
 Florence*

The Board of Governors is a diverse group of professionals that manage an organization of lawyers. I bring a unique perspective to this board. I practice in a semi-rural county that is one of the fastest-growing areas in the nation. I manage the largest law firm in Pinal County, all being public lawyers. On the other hand, I have substantial experience in private practice, and I understand the needs of the private practitioner as well.

One of the issues is economics.



PLATT

The members have not seen an increase in annual bar dues for several years. The Bar has operated in the black and with a surplus for a number of years. Through careful management, another dues increase may not be necessary for a few more years to come. I will continue to strive for fiscal responsibility in bar management.

Another issue facing members is discipline. The system needs to be responsive to the complaints from the public and yet maintain the ability to be fair to the respondent. I will continue to support the Bar and the public. I promise to maintain and improve the disciplinary process as it applies to all.