



BAR COMMUNITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS JUNE MEETING REVIEW

The State Bar of Arizona Board of Governors held its annual meeting on June 13, 2017, in conjunction with the State Bar's Convention at the Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa in Tucson.

- ▶ President Lisa Loo called the board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- ▶ **President's Report**—Lisa Loo welcomed those present to the 2017 State Bar Convention and introduced the newly elected and appointed board members:
 - ▶ District 6 (Maricopa County):
 - ▶ Benjamin P. Taylor, Taylor & Gomez LLP
 - ▶ Samuel Saks, Smith Paknejad PLC
 - ▶ Jessica S. Sanchez, Tempe Union High School District
 - ▶ Jennifer R. Rebholz, Law Offices of Farley Choate & Bergin
 - ▶ Pouria Paknejad, Smith

- ▶ Paknejad PLC
 - ▶ David Wm. Engelman, Engelman Berger PC
 - ▶ Tyler J. Carrell, Gallagher & Kennedy PA
 - ▶ Sara A. Siesco, Ely, Bettini, Ulman, Rosenblatt & Ozer
 - ▶ Robert J. McWhirter, The Law Offices of Robert J. McWhirter
- ▶ District 8 (Pinal County):
 - ▶ Denis Fitzgibbons
- ▶ Public Member: Jason E. Cobb, Compass Fiduciary Group
- ▶ YLD President: Daniel J. Mazza, Mazza Law Center
- ▶ At-Large Members:
 - ▶ Dave Byers/Mike Baumstark, Administrative Office of the Courts
 - ▶ Lori Higuera, Freeport-McMoRan Inc.
 - ▶ Paul Senseman, Policy Development Group

▶ **President Loo also:**

- ▶ Summarized changes in the manner in which the board conducts business, as agreed upon at its 2016 retreat, including:
 - ▶ moving policy discussions to the top of the monthly agendas
 - ▶ incorporating the Young Lawyer Division's Strategic Plan into the Bar's Strategic Plan
 - ▶ giving deference to the work and recommendations of the Bar's committees and other working groups
 - ▶ becoming more educated on the Bar's programs, services and activities
- ▶ Attended the American Law Institute May 22-24; the Bar president receives a complimentary membership during their tenure.
- ▶ Was honored by the Arizona Asian American Bar Association on June 6.
- ▶ Applied to serve on the National Conference of Bar Presidents Executive Council, after being encouraged to do so, further elevating Arizona's influence within the national legal community.
- ▶ **Call to the Public**—President Loo made a Call to the Public. Board member-elect and YLD Past President Tyler Carrell thanked outgoing board member Richard Coffinger for his support of the YLD over many decades, beginning with his election as State Bar YLD president in 1979.
- ▶ **CEO/ED Report**—John Phelps:
 - ▶ Busy restructuring Bar entities and developing procedures and scheduling training to comply with the Supreme Court-directed Public Meetings Policy, which takes effect August 1. The policy, along with

- a pending Public Records Policy, are a July board retreat topic.
- CLE full-court press with MCLE deadline the end of June.
- Pulling together final plans for CLE By the Sea, July 9-12 at the Del Coronado Hotel in San Diego.
- State Bar received national awards for its program on dementia within the legal profession from the National Association of Bar Executives and the Association for Continuing Legal Education.
- Public Service Center – Plans for rollout continue; technology aspect has been the most challenging.
- Appointed to the ABA Commission for Bar Services.
- **Certification of Election Results**—Lisa Loo:
- **Motion:** Alex Vakula moved, Hector Figueroa seconded and the motion carried unanimously to certify the results of the 2017 Board of Governors election as submitted by Votenet Solutions.
- **Election of Board Officers**—Lisa

Loo:

- Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 32, promulgated and effective Jan. 1, 2017, the number of board officers has been reduced by one to a total of four.
- Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 32(f), the president-elect automatically becomes president. Alex Vakula was congratulated on his ascension to the presidency.
- Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 32(f), instead of automatic ascension, the board now elects a president-elect.
- **Motion:** Geoffrey Trachtenberg moved the nomination of Jeffrey Willis for the office of president-elect, seconded by Audrey Jennings.
- As there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed.
- The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Willis was congratulated on becoming president-elect.
- Nominations for vice president

were then accepted.

- **Motion:** Hector Figueroa moved the nomination of Brian Furuya for the office of vice president, seconded by Sam Saks.
- As there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed.
- The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Furuya was congratulated on becoming vice president.
- Nominations for secretary-treasurer were then accepted.
- **Motion:** Geoffrey Trachtenberg moved the nomination of Lori Higuera for the office of secretary-treasurer, seconded by Diane Drain.
- **Motion:** Dee-Dee Samet moved the nomination of Hector Figueroa for the office of secretary-treasurer, seconded by Diane Drain.
- As there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed.
- Ms. Higuera and Mr.

Figueroa addressed the board regarding their qualifications for the officer position.

- The candidates and staff were excused as the board met in executive session to discuss the candidates, and then reconvened in open session.
- **Motion:** Geoffrey Trachtenberg moved, Audrey Jennings seconded and the motion carried unanimously to vote by secret ballot.
- After the votes were tallied, it was announced that Lori Higuera had been elected secretary-treasurer. She was congratulated on her election.
- Photos of the new board and executive committee were taken.
- **Consent Agenda**—Lisa Loo:
 - Approval of May 19, 2017, board meeting minutes
 - Approval of Resignations in Good Standing
 - Approval of Reinstatements of Member(s) Suspended for Non-Compliance with Annual

Membership Dues and/or Trust Account Compliance (Rule 32(c)(10) and/or Rule 43, ARIZ.R.S.Ct.

- Dues and/or late-fee waiver requests
- Approval of Suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues (updated June 13, 2017)
- Proposed Reply to R-17-0016, Petition to Amend the Rules of Procedure for Eviction Actions
- Proposed Reply to R-17-0011, Petition to Amend Rule 38, ARIZ.R.S.Ct.
- Proposed Reply to R-17-0006, Petition to Amend Rules 16, 16.1, 26.2, 38 and 38.1, ARIZ.R.Civ.P.

Ms. Loo asked if any item needed to be removed from the Consent Agenda, hearing nothing,

- **Motion:** Hector Figueroa moved, Paul Senseman seconded and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

► **Finance and Audit Committee**—Jeff Willis and Kathy Gerhart:

- Updated Financial Policy Manual
 - CFO Gerhart summarized the revisions to the Manual.
 - **Motion:** Coming as a motion from the F&A Committee requiring no second, the revised Financial Policy Manual as presented was unanimously approved.

► **Lease with Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education:**

- Mr. Willis reported that the Foundation's lease must be reviewed every two years.
- The Foundation would like to reduce the square footage it occupies in the Bar building. The F&A Committee has been negotiating with Foundation board representatives on a new lease for the Foundation and presented them with two options: (1) 10-year lease with \$0.50/square foot increase annually, or (2) 10-year lease with a one-time step-up in rent at year 5.
- To keep the process moving, the F&A Committee requested authority to continue to negotiate and conclude a lease agreement with the Foundation.
- **Motion:** Diane Drain moved, Alex Vakula seconded and the motion carried unanimously to authorize the F&A Committee to continue to negotiate and conclude a lease agreement with the Foundation.

► **Strategic Planning Committee**—Alex Vakula:

- Staff will continue to track the goals within the Strategic Plan, and the committee will update the board periodically on the status of the goals.
- Recent ideas regarding new programs, services and activities submitted by board members will continue to be studied by the

committee in the coming year under the leadership of new Chair Jeffrey Willis.

► **2017-2018 Bar Year**—Alex Vakula:

- The meeting schedules for the board and the executive committee were noted.
- Plans for the board's annual retreat, July 27 and 28 in Prescott, are being finalized and will be shared soon. Theme focuses on the next generation of lawyers with several young lawyers presenting and also facilitating the board's discussions.

► **Recognition of Outgoing Board Members**—

Lisa Loo presented a memento to each of the following outgoing Board members thanking them for their outstanding service to the Board and the State Bar:

- Richard Coffinger, District 6
- Hon. David Derickson, District 6
- Diane Drain, District 6
- Tony Finley, Public Member
- Melissa Ho, District 6 (recognized in absentia)
- Audrey Jennings, Public Member
- Alexia Semlek, YLD President
- Geoffrey Trachtenberg, Past President

► **Recognition of Outgoing President By Staff**—John Phelps:

- CEO Phelps presented Lisa Loo with a personalized coffee table book signed by Bar staff that recapped her year as president. Board members were also encouraged to sign it.

► **Recognition of Outgoing President On Behalf of the Bar**—John Phelps and Alex Vakula:

- CEO Phelps presented Lisa Loo with a leather-bound book containing the *Arizona Attorney* magazines that featured the president's columns she authored during her year. Incoming President Alex Vakula presented Lisa Loo with a gift for her outstanding service to the board and the State Bar. The board gave her a standing ovation.

► **Informational Reports**

- 2016 Division One of Arizona Court of Appeals Annual Report
- Bar Leadership Institute Group 1 Final Project – DV Report (“What Can the Law Do To Help Domestic Violence Victims?”)
- Bar Leadership Institute Group 2 Final Project – Bench Report (“Diversity on the Bench Resource List”)
- 2016-2017 Section and Committee Wrap -Up Reports

CEO Phelps noted that this is the first time that BLI graduates, on their own accord, have continued to serve the Bar by taking on a special research project.

► **Adjournment** – 3:30 p.m.

► **Obituaries**

To honor our members who have passed, a webpage has been created and will be posted at www.azbar.org/NewsEvents/InMemoriam.

- **Meeting Schedule**—The board meeting schedule is posted on the Bar's website: www.azbar.org/aboutus/leadership/boardofgovernors/meetingschedule/

PEOPLE, PLACES, HONORS & AWARDS



Laura A. Van Buren joined **Jones Skelton & Hochuli**, Phoenix, as an associate in the Professional Liability, Bad Faith, and Complex Litigation Trial Group. She is a graduate of Arizona State University School of Law and served as a judicial extern to Judge Mary H. Murguia on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

David L. Axelrod joined **Ballard Spahr**, Phoenix, as a partner in the firm's litigation department. He is a member of the firm's White Collar Defense/Internal Investigations Group and its Securities Enforcement and Corporate Governance Litigation Group.



Dickinson Wright PLLC announced the addition of five attorneys in its Phoenix office.

Ronald Hatcher focuses his practice in real estate transactions, development and financing. He is also a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Timothy McCulloch represents numerous commercial aircraft operators, flight schools, fixed-based operators and airport sponsors. He also represents commercial aviation interests and is experienced in corporate aircraft ownership, aircraft management and leasing structures.

Thomas Nolasco assists clients in a wide variety of areas including breach of contract, real estate, cannabis, products liability, intellectual

property, creditor/debtor and international disputes.

Carlos Gutierrez, Of Counsel, helps clients in commercial and employment-related disputes.

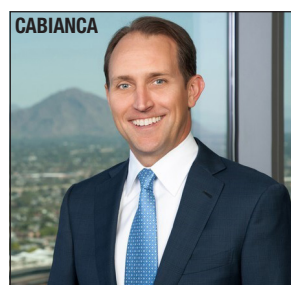
Edward Eynon is a member in the firm's Phoenix and Washington, D.C., offices. He represents clients in government relations and public policy. He was the Deputy Chief of Staff to former Arizona Congressman John Shadegg.



Scott Coleman, previously a Boston corporate attorney, joined **Osborn Maledon**, Phoenix, as an associate.



Maureen Beyers and **Michael J. Farrell** announce the opening of their new business litigation and dispute resolution practice, **Beyers Farrell PLLC**, at 99 East Virginia Ave., Suite 220, Phoenix AZ 85004.



Brian Cbianca, partner in **Squire Patton Boggs**, Phoenix, was named regional chair for the firm's litigation practice. He will now oversee the litigation practices for the firm's Phoenix, Denver, Dallas and Houston offices.

Renaud Cook Drury Mesaros, Phoenix, announced the addition of senior associate **Robert E.M. Smith** to the firm's business litigation practice. He serves clients in commercial, civil litigation, criminal prosecution and defense, personal injury and complex family law litigation among others.

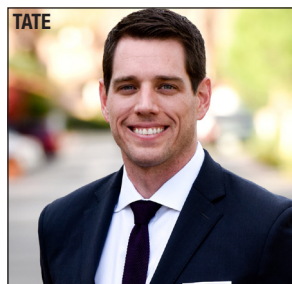
PEOPLE



Osborn Maledon PA, Phoenix, announced **Colin Proksel** joined the firm as a commercial litigator. His experience includes commercial disputes and class actions, with a background in arbitration and insurance matters.



Polsinelli announced **F. Chase Simmons** was nominated as the new Vice Chair and Chair-Elect of the firm. In 2019, he would become the firm's third Chairman, taking the reins following the current Chairman and CEO, Russ Welsh, who has served in the position since 1998.



Withey Morris PLC, Phoenix, announced the hiring of **Benjamin Tate** as a land use and zoning attorney. He has experience in politics on the local, state and national level.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Stephen Wade Nebgen, of The Law Offices of Stephen Wade Nebgen PLLC, was elected to the Board of the **Arizona Film and Media Coalition**, which aims to enhance the economic vitality of the Arizona film and media communities.

HONORS AND AWARDS



Andrea Tazioli, a partner in the Phoenix office of Quarles & Brady LLP, was named to the **Make-A-Wish Arizona** board of directors. She is a member of the firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution, and White Collar Crime and Internal Investigations Practice Groups. In her role, she will work toward the chapter's vision of granting the wish of every eligible child in Arizona.



Sherman & Howard, Phoenix, announced attorney **John Randolph** was selected to **Valley Leadership Institute Class 39**. He is one of 53 individuals chosen from a range of business sectors.



Gallagher & Kennedy attorney **Tyler Carrell** received the **Maricopa County Bar Association** inaugural Steven A. Hirsch Outstanding Young Lawyer Award during the MCBA's 25th Annual Barristers Ball in March. The award is presented to a young lawyer who embodies the mission of the MCBA's YLD, which is to serve the community and enrich the legal profession. Carrell is the first Arizona attorney to serve concurrent presidencies of the MCBA and State Bar YLDs. During his tenure, he was instrumental in raising funds for pro bono legal services. He also served on the State Bar Board of Governors and State Bar Strategic Planning Committee.

Lynda R. Vescio, Vescio Law Firm PC, Glendale, was appointed to the Board of Directors for **West Valley Child Crisis Center** and the Board of Directors for the **Glendale Chamber of Commerce**.



Quarles & Brady LLP announced that Phoenix partner **Rowan Smith** was elected to the **Arizona Science Center** board of trustees. At the firm, Smith focuses his practice on technology and intellectual property law, including patent prosecution, portfolio management, and litigation strategy.



In April, **Jeremy Goodman**, Managing Member and founder of Goodman Law PLLC, Phoenix, was appointed to the national arbitration panel of the **National Futures Association**, the self-regulatory organization for the U.S. derivatives industry, including on-exchange traded futures, retail off-exchange foreign currency, and over-the-counter derivatives.

Judge Richard Weiss of the Mohave County Superior Court was honored with the Sue Gilbertson Leadership Award from **MIKID (Mentally Ill Kids In Distress)** at its 30th Anniversary Celebration in March. The award named after the founder of MIKID is given to individuals who display leadership in improving outcomes for children in the behavioral health systems. He helped coordinate the Mohave County Infant Toddler Court Team, behavioral health providers, DCS, HCIC, MIKID, dependency attorneys and other community partners in implementing a parent engagement project (Parent Support Now).

Attorney **Keri Lazarus Silvyn**, owner and founding partner at Lazarus Silvyn & Bangs PC, Phoenix, was appointed by Gov. Doug Ducey to the **Arizona State Land Department Board of Appeals**. The board consists of five members who are confirmed by the Senate for six-year terms.

BURNS



In July, **Annette Trainor Burns**, a family law attorney in Phoenix, became President of the Board of Directors of the **Association of Family and Conciliation Courts**, an international interdisciplinary association of over 5,000 attorneys, judges, mental health professionals, mediators, educators and other family court professionals dedicated to improving the lives of families and children in the family court system.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Donald F. Arveson, Tucson
Bruce Bayer, Carmel, Ind.
Edward P. Bolding, Tucson
James F. Brook, Phoenix
Jose Antonio Colon, Phoenix
Armando de Leon, Tucson
Sequoia DuBose, Casa Grande, Ariz.
Bram J. Goldman, Tucson
Rita G. Hannah, Tucson
John J. Hebert, Scottsdale, Ariz.
Scott H. Houston, Phoenix
Wendell M. Hughes, Tucson
William R. Jones, Jr., Phoenix
Candace Hewitt Kent, Tempe, Ariz.
Julie M. Lemmon, Tempe, Ariz.
William C. Loftus, Phoenix
Michael L. Murphy, Phoenix
Scott J. Richardson, Scottsdale, Ariz.
Lawrence G. Ruch, Phoenix
William M. Spence, Chandler, Ariz.
Robert M. Struse, Tucson
San E. Vaccaro, Orange, Calif.
Wendell G. Wilson, Tempe, Ariz.
Dale L. Wren, Yuma, Ariz.
Olga Zlotnik, Scottsdale, Ariz.



PEOPLE ITEM SUBMISSIONS

Send items for the People column to
arizona.attorney@azbar.org.

Items run free of charge, but because we receive many submissions, we cannot guarantee when an item will run.

If you also send a photo with the item, we try to use it, depending on that month's space and the photo quality (high-resolution required).

