

**District of Columbia Bar  
Board of Governors Meeting  
April 11, 2023**

**Call to Order  
(Agenda Item 1)**

President Ellen M. Jakovic called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone with some members attending in person and others via Zoom teleconference.

The following members of the Board of Governors were in attendance: President-Elect Charles R. Lowery Jr., Secretary Shayan Davoudi, Treasurer Shaun M. Snyder, Immediate Past President Chad T. Sarchio, Catherine Bertram (remote), Rebecca F. Cady (remote), Karen A. Newton Cole, Brian K. Flowers (remote), Elizabeth “Sally” Gere (remote), Janene D. Jackson (remote), Natalie M. Koss (remote), June B. Kress (remote), Andrea Mangones (remote), Fatema K. Merchant (remote), Steven R. Miller (remote), Peggy Lansbach O’More (remote), Roger Lu Phillips, Ramya Ravindran, Diane A. Seltzer (remote), and Courtney Weiner (remote).

Board members Megan Lacchini and Lisa A. Lipsky did not attend.

D.C. Bar Chief Executive Officer Robert J. Spagnoletti and D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center Executive Director Kelli Neptune attended the meeting, along with the following D.C. Bar staff: Matthew Butler (remote), Jessica Carlson (remote), David Chu (remote), Dennis Cuevas, Akil Ellis, Carla Freudenburg, Amy Hackett (remote), Rhonda Jackson, Meredith Janssen (remote), Gabriella Lewis-White (remote), Margarita Lorenzetti, Erum Mirza, Maurice Morrow, Monica Page, Querry Raobelina (remote), Pamela Robinson (remote), Darrin Sobin, Hope Todd, Crystal White, and Adriana Zick (remote). Other attendees included Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee Chair German A. Gomez (remote), Vice Chair Elizabeth T. Simon (remote), and Subcommittee Chair Stephen H. Marcus. Also attending the meeting was ABA State Delegate Robert N. Weiner (remote).

**President's Report  
(Agenda Item 2)**

President Jakovic presented her report and recapped some of the programs, meetings, and events that she attended, including the Constitution in the Classroom program with the American Constitution Society and the ABA Civil Rights and Social Justice Section's Economic Justice Forum. President-Elect Charles Lowery gave a brief report on the ABA Bar Leadership Institute in March. President Jakovic also briefed the Board on the Bar's ongoing efforts to support Access to Justice Commission funding requests.

**Consent Agenda  
(Agenda Item 3)**

President Jakovic presented the Consent Agenda to the Board, which included the draft minutes of the March 14, 2023, meeting.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda.

*See Tab 3.*

**CEO's Report  
(Agenda Item 4)**

CEO Spagnoletti presented his report, noting that the D.C. Bar continues to operate on a hybrid basis with an increasing number of in-person events. CLE Director Dennis Cuevas reported on the launch of a new training program for paralegals and legal assistants. CEO Spagnoletti also provided a general update regarding D.C. Bar members who pay late fees in renewing their bar licenses.

*See Tab 4.*

**Report on the 2023 ABA Mid-Year Meeting  
(Agenda Item 5)**

ABA State Delegate Robert N. Weiner presented a report on the 2023 ABA Mid-Year Meeting.

*See* Tab 5.

**Report of the Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee  
(Agenda Item 6)**

German A. Gomez, Stephen H. Marcus, and Elizabeth T. Simon presented the Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee’s proposed amendments to D.C. Rule 1.15(e) regarding the duty to obtain written consent from a client when advanced fees are not held in a trust account.

*See* Tab 6.

**General Counsel Update  
(Agenda Item 7)**

General Counsel Mirza gave a brief report on the upcoming, proposed changes to the D.C. Bar Bylaws and Procurement and Contracting Policy.

**Proposed Charters – Select D.C. Bar and Board Committees  
(Agenda Item 8)**

General Counsel Mirza presented her report and recommendations on the proposed charters for 10 Board and Bar committees including the Audit, Budget, Continuing Legal Education, Governance, Investment, Judicial Evaluation, Leadership Development, Nominations, Pension, and Screening Committees.

The Board approved the proposed charters with the exception of the Screening Committee charter which will be presented to the Board again in June.

*See* Tab 8.

**Budget Committee Report  
(Agenda Item 9)**

President-Elect and Budget Committee Chair Charles R. Lowery presented the Committee's proposed budget and license fees for fiscal year 2023-2024.

The Board approved the proposed budget.

*See Tab 9.*

**Executive Session  
(Agenda Item 10)**

The Board met in Executive Session.

**Adjournment  
(Agenda Item 11)**

There being no further business, President Jakovic adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shayan Davoudi  
Secretary