The Florida Bar Board of Governors
May 22, 2015
Westin Hotel
Key West, Florida

1. Roll Call
Gregory W. Coleman, President
Ramon A. Abadin, President-elect
Stephen H. Echstner, 1st Circuit
Lawrence E. Sellers, Jr., 2nd Circuit
William H. Davis, 2nd Circuit
Bruce W. Robinson, 3rd Circuit
Fred D. Franklin, Jr., 4th Circuit
Michael G. Tanner, 4th Circuit
Renée Elise Thompson, 5th Circuit
Andrew B. Sasso, 6th Circuit
Sandra Fascell Diamond, 6th Circuit
Sam Nicholas Masters, 7th Circuit
Carl B. Schwait, 8th Circuit
Paul Louis SanGiovanni, 9th Circuit
Wayne L. Helsby, 9th Circuit
C. Richard Nail, 10th Circuit
Roland Sanchez-Medina, Jr., 11th Circuit
Dori Foster-Morales, 11th Circuit
Leslie J. Lott, 11th Circuit
Michael J. Higer, 11th Circuit
Dennis G. Kainen, 11th Circuit
Steven W. Davis, 11th Circuit
John H. (Jack) Hickey, 11th Circuit
F. Scott Westheimer, 12th Circuit
William J. Schifino, Jr., 13th Circuit
Lansing C. Scriven, 13th Circuit
Margaret Diane Mathews, 13th Circuit
John W. Manuel, 14th Circuit
David C. Prather, 15th Circuit
Ronald Peter Ponzoli, Jr., 15th Circuit
Michelle R. Suskauer, 15th Circuit
Gary Shepard Lesser, 15th Circuit
Timothy J. Koenig, 16th Circuit
Walter G. Campbell, Jr., 17th Circuit
Diana Santa Maria, 17th Circuit
Lorna E. Brown-Burton, 17th Circuit
Jay Cohen, 17th Circuit
Adam Glenn Rabinowitz, 17th Circuit
O. John Alpizar, 18th Circuit
John M. Stewart, 19th Circuit
Laird A. Lile, 20th Circuit
Marcy L. Shaw, 20th Circuit
Richard A. Tanner, Out of State
Eric L. Meeks, Out of State
Brian D. Burgoon, Out of State
Michael F. Orr, YLD President
Gordon J. Glover, YLD President-elect
Winston W. Gardner, Jr., Public Member

Members Absent
Mary Ann Morgan, 9th Circuit
Michael S. Hooker, 13th Circuit
Ian M. Comisky, Out of State
Anthony Holloway, Public Member

2. Staff in Attendance
John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director
John Berry, Director, Legal Division
Adria Quintela, Director, Lawyer Regulation
Mary Ellen Bateman, Director, Ethics and Advertising, UPL, and Special Projects
Lori Holcomb, Director, Client Protection
Francine Walker, Director, Public Information and Bar Services
Rosalyn A. Scott, Assistant to the President
Mark Killian, Managing Editor, Florida Bar News

3. Guests
Manuel Crespo, President, Cuban American Bar Association
Robin Bresky, President, Florida Association for Women Lawyers

4. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Board member Tim Koenig delivered the invocation and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Appearance by Monroe County Mayor Danny Kolhage
Mayor Kolhage welcomed the board to Key West, and talked about the important role lawyers and the legal profession plays. He presented President Coleman with an honorary Conch Republic citizenship.

6. Swearing in of New Board Member
President Coleman swore in Sam Masters as the new board member representing the 7th Circuit.

7. Introduction of Incoming Board Members
President Coleman recognized incoming members Bernadette Restivo, representing the 16th Circuit, and incoming Young Lawyers Division President-elect Katherine Hurst Miller.
8. Approval of Consent Agenda
The board approved the consent agenda, including:

• Appointing Scott Bennett Saul as an attorney member of UPL Committee 11A, Harvey A. Goldman as an attorney member of UPL Committee 11B, Martin Cass as a public member of UPL Committee 15B, and Dr. J. Preston Jones as a public member of UPL Committee 17A.

• Appointing Amy Dawn Envall, Joel D. Fritton, and Kellie D. Scott as attorney members of the Standing Committee on UPL.

• Appointing Karen R. George and La’Tashua Hugans as paralegal members and Michele Bruner and Linda Sims as public members of the Florida Registered Paralegal District Committee.

• Approving on second reading Rule 3-7.16, Limitation on Time to Bring Complaint: The rule is amended to comply with the Court's style guidelines. There are no substantive changes to the rule.

• Approved on second reading Rule 3-7.17 Vexatious Conduct and Limitation of Filings: The rule is amended to comply with the Court's style guidelines. There are no substantive changes to the rule.

• Amending Rule 4-1.5, Fees and Costs for Legal Services (Editorial Correction): Within subdivision (f)(4)(B)(ii), changes "division" to "approval."

• Amending Rule 4-7.18, Direct Contract with Prospective Clients: Within subdivision (b)(2)(B), changes the requirement for the contrasting "advertisement" mark from each page or panel to each separate enclosure. Within subdivision (b)(3), adds communications at a prospective client's request to the written communications that need not comply with the technical requirements of the direct mail rule.

• Amending Rule 5-1.1(g)(4), Trust Accounts: Amends subpart (g)(4) of Rule 5-1.1 to reflect the change in address of The Florida Bar Foundation. The newly proposed rule refers bar members to the bar's website for the current Florida Bar Foundation address.

• Amending Rule 15-2.1: Membership and Terms (Increase membership of Advertising Committee): Changes composition of the Standing Committee on Advertising from 4 lawyers and 3 nonlawyers to a number at the discretion of the Board of Governors, but no more than 20 members, including 3-5 nonlawyers.

• Creating Bylaws - Animal Law Section: Bylaws for the new Animal Law Section.

• Approving a refund of the part of Bar membership fees devoted to legislative activity for one Bar member who objected to legislative positions authorized for the Legal Needs of Children Committee.

9. Approval of Minutes
The board approved the minutes from its March 27, 2015, meeting. That approval included ratifying the actions taken by the Executive Committee since the March meeting, including:

• At a March 31, 2015, meeting, the Executive Committee voted 12-0 to approve the First DCA Judicial Nominating Commission Screening Committee nominations for Linda B. Edwards, Kelly O. Johnson, and Christine M. Russell for a vacancy on the First DCA JNC.

• At an April 6, 2015, meeting, the committee voted 12-0 to not oppose the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section opposing efforts to adopt the Physician Ordered Life Sustaining Treatment in Florida without appropriate procedural safeguards to protect the wishes of patients and prior advance directives made by the patient, including current Senate Bill 1052. The committee voted 12-0 to allow the RPPTL Section to file an amicus brief as requested by the
Fourth DCA in *Saadeh v. Connors, Meyer et al* to address this question: In light of F.S. §§ 744.331(2)(b) and 744.3031(1), which requires the court to appoint an attorney to represent an alleged incapacitated person, does the attorney for the guardian owe a duty of care to the alleged incapacitated person? The brief was coordinated with the Elder Law and Health Law sections. The committee also voted 12-0 to approved refunds for two Bar members of the portion of their annual membership fees devoted to legislative activities after they objected to Bar legislative positions.

- At an April 7, 2015, meeting, the committee recommended approval by a 10-0 vote of Civil Procedure Rule Committee rule amendments to Fla.R.Civ.P. 1.115 and Forms 1.944 (a) - (d), which respond to comments received by the Supreme Court case no. SC13-2384.
- At an April 28, 2015, meeting, the committee voted 8-0 to forward to the governor two slates of nominees for vacancies on judicial nominating commissions, one of the First DCA JNC to replace a member who resigned and six candidates for two vacancies on the 19th Circuit JNC. Those nominated were Ben A. Andrews, Audra M. Bryant, and Richard E. Doran, all of Tallahassee, for the First DCA JNC, and Jason D. Berger of Palm City, Barbara A. Kreitz Cook of Stuart, Leif J. Grazi of Stuart, Usha Maharajh of Stuart, Jason L. Odom of Vero Beach, and Louis B. (Buck) Vocale of Vero Beach, for the 19th Circuit JNC seats.
- At an April 28, 2015, meeting, the committee reviewed the recommendations of the Board of Governors’ JNC screening committees and ratified slates for all 26 JNCs to be presented at the board’s May 22 meeting.
  - At a May 4, 2015, meeting, the committee by an 11-0 vote recommended approval of amendments to Fla. R. of App. P. 9.210 as proposed by the Appellate Court Rules Committee, which was responding to the Supreme Court’s request for comments in SC15-146. The committee's proposed amendments reorganized subdivisions (a)(5)-(a)(6) to allow for the removal of repetitive language and provide greater clarity to the end user.
  - On May 11, 2015, the committee voted 11-0 to recommend for approval procedural rule amendments presented by two rules committees. The Juvenile Court Rules Committee proposed amendments to Fla. R. Juv. P. 8.231, 8.305, 8.310, 8.355, and 8.415, and Forms 8.960 and 8.961 are in response to comments received in Supreme Court case number SC 15-150. The Rules of Judicial Administration Committee recommended changes to Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.425(b)(8) on exceptions for filings in criminal and traffic cases, adding two new exceptions to the list.

10. Alternative Dispute Resolution Section Report
Chair-elect Robert Hoyle reported the section, which was formed five years ago, now has a membership of more than 1,000 and will work to increase that number in the coming year. He said section recently presented a webinar on issues relating to mediation in Florida and plans to present additional webinars on ADR throughout the year. The ADR section will also present a seminar on mediation and arbitration at the 2015 Florida Bar Annual Convention in Boca Raton. The section also launched the new ADR section website at [www.fladr.org](http://www.fladr.org) and a newsletter. The section also plans to host programs with other Florida Bar sections that will not only benefit members of the ADR section, but all members of The Florida Bar.

11. Budget Committee Report
Incoming Budget Chair Dori Foster-Morales said only one comment was received after the 2015-16 Bar budget was published in the *News*, “which was satisfactorily answered.” The budget will now be submitted to the Supreme Court. Chair Michael Higer also noted a major
improvement in the new budget is a change in the method for allocating overhead to various programs. This change, he said, will upgrade accounting and transparency for sections in their basic operations as well as their CLE programs. The budget does not change annual membership fees for active and inactive members.

12. Audit Committee Report
Chair Paul SanGiovanni reiterated that the Bar’s received a “very clean” audit for the 2013-14 budget year. He also reported that the committee reviewed a first draft of a “business recovery plan,” document prepared by management that spells out how the Bar would move forward if hit by a natural disaster or other calamity. He said Bar has released a request for proposal for a firm to conduct the annual audit, with an eye toward holding costs down.

13. Investment Committee Report
Vice Chair Leslie J. Lott reported that the Bar’s investments are up by just over 4 percent year-to-date. At the recommendation of the Bar’s advisors, Lott said the committee has also slightly reduced the Bar’s real estate investment trust holdings and moved that money into “international inflation protected bonds” and large cap stocks.

16. Board Review Committee on Professional Ethics Report
Chair Carl Schwait noted that the Supreme Court heard oral arguments on the Bar’s proposed rules for-profit lawyer referral services and recounted the committee’s activities over the past year.

17. Legislation Committee Report
Chair Michael Tanner and outside legislation consultant Jim Daughton said the that the Bar will keep an eye on court funding issues during the special session of the legislature that begins June 1. Daughton said some of the funding issues still in play include increased money for the Third DCA courthouse, phase two of a pay parity initiative for court employees, and salary increases for judges.

18. Rules Committee Report
Chair Marcy Shaw presented one item on first reading, on recommendation from the Vision 2016 Technology Committee. Rule 4-1.1, Competence: Within the comment, adds that lawyers may need to associate with nonlawyers with technological competence, that lawyers must safeguard confidentiality of information including electronically stored information, and that lawyers must understand the benefits and risks of technology used. She also reported that the Rules Committee voted 6-0 to reject a Florida Bar member's proposal to amend Rule 4-1.8(e) to allow a lawyer to advance living expenses on behalf of the client if no interest is charged on these advances and they recoverable only after the completion of a case.

19. Young Lawyers Division Report
YLD President Michael Orr reported on the division’s May Health & Wellness Month initiative, which seeks to bring awareness to the mental and physical stress often associated with the practice of law. Each day during the month of May 2015, the YLD posted on social media easy health and wellness challenges, tips, video clips, and relevant articles using the hashtags
President Coleman called the YLD program “wonderful” and “extraordinarily timely.”

**20. Disciplinary Procedure Committee Report**
Chair Ron Ponzoli presented one item on first reading. Rule 3-7.5, Procedures Before the Board of Governors: Within subdivision (e), adds that the Bar may re-open a case in which no probable cause has been found if there is later a reason to re-open. Non-substantive edits conform the rule to the Supreme Court of Florida style guide.

Board member Laird Lile said the commission continues to monitor e-filing and e-service issues to address practical concerns, such as standardization. He said the FCTC is trying to find “as unified approach as possible.” He also reported the Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers brought to the FCTC a proposal that attorneys should indemnify clerks of court if the attorneys fail to identify confidential information, which is then accidentally made public. The FCTC referred that recommendation to the Bar’s Rules of Judicial Administration Committee, which will take it up at its meeting during the June Annual Convention in Boca Raton.

**22. President’s Report**
President Coleman said the Bar has teamed with Clio, a leader in cloud based practice management software, to present "InSession: Transforming Practices Through Technology" on June 24 in Boca Raton at the Bar’s Annual Convention. He said the seminar will help members get up to speed on ever-improving technological options and issues in an ever-changing legal environment. He said world class speakers will present the latest on law and technology issues along with legal futurist and international speaker Richard Susskind as the luncheon keynote speaker. Coleman encouraged all board members to attend.

**23. Member Benefits Committee**
Chair Peter Sweeney presented three new companies for the Member Benefits Program. Two of the benefits are technology related practice management benefits and the third is a travel discount member benefit. The companies include:
- Chrometa – which captures a lawyers’ time as they work on their PC, Mac, iPhone, and Android.
- Logikcullself – a serviced cloud-based eDiscovery product.
- Expedia (through National Purchasing Partners – a partnership that pairs the nation’s largest online travel agency with the country’s fastest growing group purchasing organization.

The board approved the three proposals.

**24. President-elect Report**
President-elect Ramón Abadin announced the location of next year’s board meetings. He also reported the Bar’s committee appointments have been completed and the board approved the standing committees’ officers. The board also elected Gary Lesser, Lansing Scriven, and John Stewart as their representatives to the board’s Executive Committee for 2015-16. They join Michael Hooker and Carl Schwait, who were appointed by Abadin, and the seven automatic Executive Committee members: President Abadin, President-elect Bill Schifino, Budget Committee Chair Dori Foster-Morales, Legislation Committee Chair Michael Tanner,
Communications Committee Chair Renée Thompson, Disciplinary Review Committee Chair Michelle Suskauer, and Young Lawyers Division President Gordon Glover.

25. Criminal Law Section Report
Chair David Rothman said the Criminal Law Section acts as the unified voice of Florida’s state and federal trial and appellate criminal justice lawyers (prosecutors and private and public defenders), judges, and academics. He said this year the section’s Executive Council again unanimously supported a review of the death penalty process in Florida without taking a position in favor of or opposed to the death penalty. He said the section will continue to work to get government lawyers more involved in the work of the Bar.

26. Special Appointments
The board reviewed the nominations forwarded by its judicial nominating commission screening committees and the Executive Committee for one vacancy on each of the state’s 26 JNCs. After adding Thomas Robert Thompson for the Second Circuit JNC, the board approved the nominations as submitted. Board member Leslie Lott did not vote on the Supreme Court JNC candidates. The nominees approved by the board were:

• Supreme Court JNC; Michael T. Moore of Coral Gables, Jeanne T. Tate of Tampa, and Robert C.L. Vaughan of Ft. Lauderdale.
  • First DCA JNC; Joseph R. Boyd, Jerome M. Novey, and Amy W. Schrader, all of Tallahassee.
  • Second DCA JNC; Bradford D. Kimbro, Elba Caridad Martin-Schomaker, and Cynthia S. Oster, all of Tampa
  • Third DCA JNC; Robert M. Klein of Miami, Richard D. Lara of Miami, and Mindy Lee Pallot of Miami Beach
  • Fourth DCA JNC; Kathryn S. Pecko of Hollywood, Christian D. Searcy, North Palm Beach, and Glenn J. Waldman of Ft. Lauderdale.
  • Fifth DCA JNC; Daniel M. Greene of Windermere, April S. Kirsheman of Winter Park, and Milo S. Thomas of Ponte Vedra.
  • First Circuit JNC; Jeremy C. Branning of Gulf Breeze, Thomas F. Gonzalez of Pensacola, and Anne M. McBride of Ft. Walton Beach.
  • Second Circuit JNC, Frederick R. Dudley of Havana, Thomas R. Thompson of Tallahassee, and Melissa N. VanSickle of Tallahassee.
  • Third Circuit JNC; John J. Kendron of Lake City, James A. McCain of Perry, and Elizabeth A. Rosado of Live Oak.
  • Sixth Circuit JNC; Deborah A. Bushnell of Dunedin, Stephen O. Cole of Clearwater, and John S. Lucas Fleming of St. Petersburg.
  • Seventh Circuit JNC; Ivan K. Clements, Jr. of DeLand, Aaron D. Delgado of Daytona Beach, and Horace Smith, Jr., of Ormond Beach.
  • Eighth Circuit JNC; Ronald F. Bendekovic of Gainesville, Brian S. Kramer of Gainesville, and Peggy-Anne O’Connor of Gainesville.
The board made several other appointments and nominations, including:

• For two-year terms on the ABA House of Delegates, Herman Russomanno and Edith Osman, both of Miami.
• For three-year terms on the Florida Lawyers Assistance, Inc., Board of Directors, Matthew A. Linde, Ft. Myers; Nanette J. Rudolf Olson, Pompano Beach; William Fargo Sansone, Tampa; Allen von Spiegelfeld, Tampa; and Barbara J. Williams, Orlando.
• For two-year terms on the Florida Legal Services, Inc., Board of Directors, the Bar appointed Edrick E. Barnes, West Palm Beach; Steven C. Dupré, Tampa; Monique L’Italien, Palm Springs; William John Manikas, Boynton Beach; Theresa L. Prichard, Tallahassee; and John Michael Shea, Tampa.
• For the remainder of a three-year term on Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc., Board of Directors Wendi J. Adelson of Miami Beach.
• To replace David B. Rothman of Miami, who has become an officer, on The Florida Bar Foundation Board of Directors, Murray B. Silverstein of Tampa.
• For two positions with five year terms on the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, the board nominated to the Supreme Court David C. Reeves of Jacksonville; Carlos A. Rey of Tallahassee; Patrick P. Coll of Jacksonville; Chet Kaufman of Tallahassee; Deborah S. Minnis of Tallahassee; and Alan F. Wagner of Tampa.
28. Leadership Academy Report
Board member Renée Thompson, chair of the Leadership Academy Committee, said the second class will graduate at the Bar’s Annual Convention in June and 52 “fellows” have been selected for participation in the third class of the Wm. Reece Smith, Jr., Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy’s third class will be chaired by former Board of Governors’ member Juliet Murphy Roulhac of Plantation and Vice Chairs Melanie Shoemaker Griffin of Orlando and Kevin Anthony McNeill of Lake City.

29. Program Evaluation Committee
Chair David Prather presented three rules on first reading. The second related to recommendations from the Vision 2016 Technology Committee to raise continuing legal education requirements for Bar members from 30 to 36 hours every three years, with some or all extra hours being devoted to technology training:

- Rule 6-10.1, Continuing Legal Education Requirement: Within subdivision (b), clarifies that all members are required to complete and report continuing legal education requirements except those exempt under rule 6-10.3, and which CLE exempt members are automatically qualified and which must apply for the exemption.

- Rule 6-10.3 Minimum Continuing Legal Education Standards: Within subdivision (a), clarifies that all members are required to complete and report continuing legal education requirements except those exempt under rule 6-10.3, and which CLE exempt members are automatically qualified and which must apply for the exemption. Within subdivision (b), increases continuing legal education requirement from 30 to 36 hours within a 3-year cycle, and adds requirement of a minimum of 6 of the 36 hours in technology. Within subdivision (b), deletes the requirement that the Professionalism Center approve courses offering professionalism credit. Within subdivision (g), changes the requirement from 8 to 12 months for basic skills completion prior to admission to The Florida Bar.

- Rule 6-10.4 Reporting Requirements: Within subdivision (a), clarifies that all members are required to complete and report continuing legal education requirements except those exempt under rule 6-10.3, and which CLE exempt members are automatically qualified and which must apply for the exemption.

Prather said his committee has a request from the Criminal Law Certification Committee to increase their membership size from 9 to 12 members to better handle their work load. He said according to Rule 6-3.2(b), a certification committee can be adjusted to no fewer than 5 members or no more than 15 members, with the recommendation of the BLSE, and the approval of The Florida Bar Board of Governors.

Prather also said PEC concluded its review of all 16 series of the Bar’s Standing Board Policies and proposed revisions will be presented to the board in July.

30. Communications Committee Report
Chair John Stewart said the committee has completed work on its electronic communications etiquette handbook and the e-etiquette guide will be ready for distribution soon. He also said the committee plans to explore putting together a remarketing plan for the Bar’s social media to significantly increase the number of followers so that social media will become a major form of communication.
31. **Vision 2016 Technology Committee Report**
Chair John Stewart led a discussion with the board on reviewing the overall CLE requirement of 30 hours every three years, and considering whether some of those hours or additional hours be devoted to technology training. Stewart said after two years of study, his committee concluded that lawyers cannot practice law competently if they don’t have a basic level of technological competence in their practice area. The committee recommended increasing the amount of required CLE from 30 to 36 hours every three years, with the extra hours being devoted to technology matters. Stewart said the necessary technology training could not be included in the current 30-hour requirement without degrading other necessary training.

32. **Comments for the Good of the Order**
Outgoing board members Greg Coleman, Richard Tanner, public member Bud Gardner, Timothy J. Koenig, FAWL president Robin Bresky, an ex officio member of the board, and Outgoing Young Lawyers Division President Michael Orr offered thoughts and suggestions for the Bar.

33. **Time and Place of Next Meeting**
There being no further business before the board, President Coleman adjourned the meeting. The board next meets July 24 at The Biltmore in Coral Gables.
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