

A G E N D A

JUDICIAL NOMINATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Tampa Airport Marriott
October 13, 2017
10:30 am

Judicial Nominating Procedures

The scope and function of the JNP Committee is to assist the Governor and the judicial nominating commissions in discharging their respective duties under Article V, Section 11, Constitution of Florida.

The committee offers assistance to the Governor with organizing and presenting an annual training program for all JNC commissioners. The training program provides authoritative information on the subject of judicial selection and the judicial nominating process. It also constitutes a forum for the mutual exchange of information by commissioners.

The committee will advise judicial nominating commissioners of new legislation or proposed legislation which is related to the judiciary and the judicial selection process. The committee will continue to suggest operating rules and procedures that it believes to be in the best interest of the commissions and the judicial nominating process.

- I. **WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – (last meeting June 23, 2017)
- II. **GUEST SPEAKERS**
 - a. Lorna Brown-Burton, Board of Governors
 - b. Bill Schifino, Past President Florida Bar and CRC Member
- III. **SUBCOMMITTEES AND GOALS FOR 2017-18**
 - A. **Discussion of annual goals and assignments**
 - Establish a committee member liaison with each JNC (26). The liaison would serve as a resource for the assigned JNC by advising them of the resources available through our committee and the Bar, finding out if there are questions about the model rules, and being available to assist in whatever manner necessary, such as assistance with outreach to increase diverse applicants, etc.

- Coordinate the production of a video that addresses implicit bias in the selection process to make applicants and commission members aware of any unconscious biases. The focus on monitoring appointments and the diversity of the JNCs and the Judiciary would continue. Consider whether implicit bias ought to be included in training for JNC members.
- Establish a subcommittee that acts as a liaison between voluntary bars and the JNPC to ensure that voices are being heard and that resources are communicated available.

B. Subcommittee Reports

1. JNPC Member Liaison with each JNC – Matt Posgay
2. Diversity/Implicit Bias – Robert Vaughan
3. Coordination of Implicit Bias Video – Stacy Ross
4. Liaison Between Voluntary Bars and JNPC – Cory Person (See attached materials)
5. Composition and Membership of the JNCs Demographics

IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Booter Imhof, General Counsel

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of EOG Process regarding Nominations

- V. NEXT MEETING - Winter Meeting – January 19, 2018 (tentative)**
DoubleTree by Hilton at Universal Orlando

From: Melendez, Melinda A [<mailto:MMelendez@floridabar.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 9:56 AM

To: Cory Person; Kendron, John

Subject: RE: Bar Journal article info

Dear Cory and John:

I am pleased to inform you that the Editorial Board has approved publication of the special issue on judicial nominating procedures. As guest editors of this issue, I look forward to working with you.

Some members expressed they would like to see certain important issues addressed, including the reduction of JNC independence and the changing political nature of appointments. Please keep that in mind when working with your authors. Those issues might be best addressed in the "Great Oz" Q&A article.

The first thing we need to do is select an issue and establish some deadlines. The Journal works pretty far in advance, so the first available issue would be December.

If we go with December, the deadlines would look something like this:

August 25: Final drafts, forms, bios due. Articles passed to committee of Editorial Board for review

Sept 15: Editorial Board completes reviews. Any revision requests are forwarded to guest editors who forward to authors

Oct 6: Final, revised articles due. All materials must be submitted at this time

As you can see, deadlines are rapidly approaching if you want to get this done sooner than later. Alternatively, the February through June issues are all currently available for a special issue if you need more time.

Please let me know your thoughts. We can schedule a conference call at your convenience to discuss the issue further.

Melinda Melendez

Senior Editor

The Florida Bar Journal

Phone: (850) 561-5681

Fax: (850) 561-9416

mmelendez@floridabar.org

From: Cory Person [<mailto:cperson@butler.legal>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 11:14 PM

To: Melendez, Melinda A <MMelendez@floridabar.org>

Subject: RE: Bar Journal article info

Melinda,

I trust this e-mail finds you well. Please find attached hereto the Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee's Special Issue Request Form with Article Outline. Thank you for all of your assistance with this, and please let me know if you need any additional information.

From: Melendez, Melinda A [<mailto:MMelendez@floridabar.org>]
Sent: Friday, June 09, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Cory Person
Cc: Ocariz, Rebecca; Killian, Mark
Subject: RE: Bar Journal article info

Cory:

What you are proposing would be considered a “special issue” in the Journal.

A good place to start would be with the attached Special Issue Guidelines. That will answer many of your questions about procedures, expectations, and deadlines. My only addition to what is outlined there is that since the Editorial Board usually only meets once per year at the convention, we could present the special issue for their review in written format instead of making an in-person presentation. That would eliminate the need to rush to make this year’s meeting or having to wait until next year.

If you have any additional questions after reading through the materials, please feel free to contact me.

Melinda Melendez
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From: Cory Person [<mailto:cperson@butler.legal>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Melendez, Melinda A <MMelendez@floridabar.org>
Cc: Ocariz, Rebecca <rocariz@shb.com>
Subject: RE: Bar Journal article info

Melinda,

Thank you so much for your reply, and for this information. Would it be possible to run a special feature, similar to the March, 2017 Bar Journal Pro Bono feature? Our hope/goal is to educate the membership about the JNC and Judicial appointment process and also engage and encourage members to consider seeking appointments to the JNC and bench. We think we would need 4 separate articles to accomplish this, as follows: (1) JNC/Judicial Appointment Process; (2) Journalistic interviews with Judicial and JNC appointees; (3) an opinion piece (hopefully by the Bar President); and (4) importance of diversity through a detailed analysis of statewide demographics and statistics. Our subcommittee would do the work to identify authors for the articles and facilitate submissions to the editorial board for the feature. Please let me know if this is possible. I have copied my sub-committee co-chair, Rebecca Ocariz on this e-mail for her information as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

With regards,
Cory J. Person

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From: Melendez, Melinda A [<mailto:MMelendez@floridabar.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Cory Person
Subject: Bar Journal article info

Good morning Cory:

I understand the JNP Committee may be interested in publishing an article in the Journal. Per our Scope and Function, committees are allowed one submission to the Journal per year. The chair of the committee may submit the article to the editorial office. Committee columns must follow the same guidelines as section columns; I have attached those guidelines for your review. The article will be reviewed by a panel of Editorial Board members prior to approval for publication.

Please feel free to contact me with any other questions. Thanks for your interest in the Journal!

Melinda Melendez
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The Florida Bar *Journal*
Author Information Request Form

Author Name:	Primary Area of Practice:	
Firm Name:	Street/Mailing Address:	City/State/Zip Code:
Phone:	Licensed in Florida: Licensed Elsewhere:	Email Address:

Title of Article:
Has this article been previously published*? If yes, please indicate by whom, when:
Has this article been submitted to other persons/entities to be considered for publication? If yes, please elaborate:
Are you or your firm involved in pending proceedings in any cases cited in the article? If yes, please elaborate:
Are all authorities cited in the article final, not pending appellate review? If not, please elaborate:
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The Bar <i>Journal</i> is sensitive to claims of author "conflict" by other members. Do you have an "interest" in the topic or issues discussed in this piece – as an attorney, party, or some other beneficiary? (Which can usually be addressed in the article, by footnote, or some other disclosure.)
Does this article discuss pending/proposed legislation? If so, please elaborate:
Other information pertinent to this submission:

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Signature

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Signature of Author

Print Name of Author

Date

For jointly written articles, the signatures of all co-authors are required

Signature of Co-Author

Print Name of Co-Author

Date

Signature of Co-Author

Print Name of Co-Author

Date

REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE FLORIDA BAR *JOURNAL*

Outline of Proposed Articles

- I. A Look Through the Looking Glass: The JNC and Judicial Nominating Process “Deconstructed”**
 - a. Proposed Author – Linda Bond Edwards or Michael Band (current and immediate past chair of the JNP, respectively)
 - b. This article will detail the various steps involved with applying for appointment to the JNC or the bench, with an explanation of the application and interview process, etc. The purpose of this article will be to inform Florida Bar members of the process for applying to the JNC or for a judicial appointment.
- II. The Great Oz: What Really Happens Behind the Curtain of JNC deliberations**
 - a. Proposed Author – Rebecca Ocariz (current member of the JNP)
 - b. This article will be a “Q&A” style article with several JNC members to discuss what it is like deciding the names that are presented to the Governor for appointment from many qualified candidates. It will also address the appointment from the Governor’s office perspective, and discuss certain “traits” or “characteristics” successful candidates possess.
- III. You Can’t Win if You Don’t Play: The Ongoing Need for Diverse Candidates on our JNCs and Bench**
 - a. Proposed Author – Eugene Pettis, former Florida Bar President
 - b. This article will discuss the history of the JNC and judicial nominating process and will further solidify the need for high quality, diverse candidates to continue to apply for JNC and judicial appointments throughout the state.
- IV. What do the Numbers Say**
 - a. Proposed Author – Cory J. Person & Victoria Cruz-Garcia (JNP Members)
 - b. This article will examine the current state of our statewide JNCs and bench, specifically identifying demographic trends in various counties (i.e. minority judges relative to community population, number of female judges in the state) with the goal of raising awareness and providing potential avenues to address areas of concern