

The Florida Bar Board of Governors  
December 2, 2021  
Ritz Carlton Hotel, Amelia Island  
Noon

**1. Roll Call**

Michael G. Tanner, President  
Gary S. Lesser, President-Elect  
Jeremy C. Branning, 1st Circuit  
Lawrence E. Sellers, Jr., 2nd Circuit  
Kris B. Robinson, 3rd Circuit  
Michael Fox Orr, 4th Circuit  
W. Braxton Gillam IV, 4th Circuit  
Gordon J. Glover, 5th Circuit  
Joshua T. Chilson, 6th Circuit  
Sandra Fascell Diamond, 6th Circuit  
Philip J. Bonamo, 7th Circuit  
Stephanie M. Marchman, 8th Circuit  
Thomas P. Wert, 9th Circuit  
Julia L. Frey, 9th Circuit  
Tad A. Yates, 9th Circuit  
C. Richard Nail, 10th Circuit  
Roland Sanchez-Medina, Jr., 11th Circuit  
Nikki L. Simon, 11th Circuit  
Jordan A. Dresnick, 11th Circuit  
Jorge L. Piedra, 11th Circuit  
Jeffrey Rynor, 11th Circuit  
Judge Leslie B. Rothenberg (Ret.), 11th Circuit  
Alice Sum, 11th Circuit  
F. Scott Westheimer, 12th Circuit  
Kenneth G. Turkel, 13th Circuit  
Amy S. Farrior, 13th Circuit  
J. Carter Andersen, 13th Circuit  
Paige A. Greenlee, 13th Circuit  
Clifford C. Higby, 14th Circuit  
R. Sia Baker-Barnes, 15th Circuit  
Ronald P. Ponzoli, Jr., 15th Circuit  
Robin I. Bresky, 15th Circuit  
Michael J. Gelfand, 15th Circuit  
Wayne LaRue Smith, 16th Circuit  
Jay Kim, 17th Circuit  
Lorna E. Brown-Burton, 17th Circuit  
Hilary Creary, 17th Circuit  
Adam G. Rabinowitz, 17th Circuit  
Gregory S. Weiss, 19th Circuit  
Laird A. Lile, 20th Circuit

John D. Agnew, 20th Circuit  
E. Duffy Myrtetus, Out of State  
Donald A. Workman, Out of State  
Eric L. Meeks, Out of State  
Brian D. Burgoon, Out of State  
Todd L. Baker, YLD President  
Iris A. Elijah, YLD President-Elect  
Joseph “Jody” D. Hudgins, Public Member  
Linda Goldstein, Public Member

### **Members Absent**

Melissa VanSickle, 2nd Circuit  
Diana Santa Maria, 17th Circuit  
James G. Vickaryous, 18th Circuit

### **2. Staff in Attendance**

Joshua Doyle, Executive Director  
Gypsy Bailey, General Counsel  
Elizabeth Tarbert, Director, Legal Division  
Terry Hill, Director, Program Division  
Jonathan Grabb, Ethics Counsel  
Mike Garcia, Director, Research, Planning and Evaluation  
Patty Savitz, Staff Counsel  
Jennifer Krell Davis, Director of Communications  
Leslie Reithmiller, Assistant to the President  
Gary Blankenship, Senior Editor, Florida Bar News

### **3. Guests**

President Tanner recognized the following guests:  
Michael Davis, President, Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter, National Bar Association  
Karen Ladis, Legal Aid Representative  
Miriam Ramos, President-Elect, Cuban American Bar Association  
Jenny Scavino Sieg, President, Florida Association for Women Lawyers  
Andrew Sasso, Parliamentarian

### **4. Report of the Special Committee to Improve the Delivery of Legal Services**

President Michael Tanner reported that the board had three remaining recommendations to consider from the Special Committee to Improve the Delivery of Legal Services dealing with the expanded use of Florida Registered Paralegals, allowing changes in Bar rules regarding the structure and governance of nonprofit legal corporations, and on the proposed Law Practice Innovation Laboratory, or legal lab. After discussion, the board:

- Voted 35-13 to partially accept the special committee’s recommendation by having a pilot program to use Florida Registered Paralegals within a legal aid organization and limiting the “authorized areas of law” for those paralegals to “residential landlord/tenant law on behalf of the tenant” and “debt collection defense.” The motion rejected the remainder of the special

committee's recommendation including that the expanded use of paralegals be tested in the proposed legal lab.

- Voted 36-5 to partially accept the special committee's recommendation to permit within Bar rules legal aid organizations to organize as not-for-profit corporations, but to reject the recommendation that this change be done within the legal lab.

- Voted 30-8 to partially accept the special committee's recommendation to allow nonlawyers to serve on the boards of directors of not-for-profit legal aid organizations, but to reject the recommendation that this change be tested within the legal lab.

- Voted unanimously to reject the establishment of the Law Practice Innovation Laboratory.

- Voted 40-3 to approve a motion to ask the Supreme Court for the opportunity to provide further, specific comments on any aspect of the special committee's report that the court believes merits further review.

President Tanner said board members would have a chance to review the board's final report before it is submitted to the court, which he hopes will be by December 15, but definitely by the end of the year.

## **5. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the board, President Tanner adjourned the meeting at 1:13 p.m.