

Florida Bar Board of Governors
December 13, 2022
Meeting Virtually

1. Roll Call

Gary S. Lesser, President
F. Scott Westheimer, President-elect
Jeremy C. Branning, 1st Circuit
Lawrence E. Sellers, Jr., 2nd Circuit
Kris B. Robinson, 3rd Circuit
Melissa VanSickle, 2nd Circuit
Michael Fox Orr, 4th Circuit
Gordon J. Glover, 5th Circuit
Joshua T. Chilson, 6th Circuit
Sandra Fascell Diamond, 6th Circuit
Thomas P. Wert, 9th Circuit
Julia L. Frey, 9th Circuit
Tad A. Yates, 9th 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
Alice Sum, 11th Circuit
Amy S. Fariior, 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
Michael J. Gelfand, 15th Circuit
Wayne LaRue Smith, 16th Circuit
Jay Kim, 17th Circuit
Diana Santa Maria, 17th Circuit
Lorna E. Brown-Burton, 17th Circuit
Hilary Creary, 17th Circuit
James G. Vickaryous, 18th 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
Iris A. Elijah, YLD President
Anisha Patel, YLD President-elect
Joseph "Jody" D. Hudgins, Public Member
Linda Goldstein, Public Member

Members Absent

W. Braxton Gillam, IV, 4th Circuit
Philip J. Bonamo, 7th Circuit
Stephanie M. Marchman, 8th Circuit
Victor Smith, 10th Circuit
Judge Leslie B. Rothenberg, 11th Circuit
Jesse Butler, 12th Circuit
John Schifino, 13th Circuit
Robin I. Bresky, 15th Circuit
Adam G. Rabinowitz, 17th Circuit
Gregory S. Weiss, 19th Circuit
Laird A. Lile, 20th Circuit
John D. Agnew, 20th Circuit

2. Staff in Attendance

Joshua Doyle, Executive Director
Elizabeth Clark Tarbert, Director, Lawyer Regulation Division
Gypsy Bailey, General Counsel & Director, Division of Ethics & Consumer Protection
Terry Hill, Director, Programs Division
Cynthia Jackson, CFO & Director, Administrative Division
Jonathan Grabb, Ethics Counsel
Kelly N. Smith, Senior Attorney
Patricia A. Savitz, Staff Counsel
Jennifer Krell Davis, Director of Communications
Jim Ash, Senior Editor, Florida Bar News

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Board member Thomas Wert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Guests and Liaisons

President Gary Lesser recognized the following guests and liaisons:
Andy Sasso, parliamentarian
Valeria I. Obi, Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter, NBA
Robert Johnson, Legal Aid Representative, Brevard Legal Aid
Giselle Gutierrez, Cuban American Bar Association
Carlos Martinez, Miami-Dade Public Defender
Craig Shoup, Jacksonville Bar Association

5. Authorization to Use Florida Bar Seal

President Gary Lesser presented.
President Gary Lesser moved, pursuant to Bylaw 2-1.2 (Usage), to permit the family of former Florida Bar President Jay White to inscribe The Florida Bar seal on his memorial headstone. The board voted without objection to approve.

6. Opening Remarks, President Gary Lesser

President Gary Lesser identified items for discussion prior to consideration of final approval of the Special Committee on Greater Public Access to Legal Services report: Whether to reinsert a recommendation to adopt the ABA Model Court Rule on Provision of Legal Services Following Determination of Major Disaster, whether to remove a recommendation regarding the awarding of CLE credit for pro bono service in conjunction with a legal aid group, and whether to append late-supplied data.

7. Special Committee on Greater Public Access to Legal Services Report

Co-Chairs Wayne Smith and Jay Kim presented.

Former President Michael Tanner and then President-Elect Gary Lesser appointed the committee to provide recommendations to improve the delivery of legal services to Florida consumers while continuing to assure lawyers play a proper and prominent role. The committee sought data from Florida court clerks and the Office of State Courts Administrator and consulted with legal aid, pro bono, and prepaid legal services experts. It studied the highest-ranking jurisdictions on the National Center for Access to Justice Index, including California, Illinois, Maryland, New York, and Washington, D.C. A motion was made and seconded to remove a recommendation regarding the awarding of CLE credits for pro bono service performed in conjunction with a legal aid program. The board voted, with objection, to defeat the motion.

President Gary Lesser called for a motion to restore a recommendation regarding the ABA Model Court Rule on Provision of Legal Services Following Determination of Major Disaster. The motion failed for lack of a sponsor.

President Gary Lesser said data that arrived too late to be included in the final draft will be appended before the final report is submitted to the Supreme Court.

The board voted, without objection, to approve the report.

8. Time and Place of Next Meeting

There being no further business before the board, President Gary Lesser adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. The next board meeting is January 27 at the AC Marriott Hotel in Tallahassee.

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