

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING  
FOR THE CORRECTIONS OFFICER RETIREMENT PLAN LOCAL BOARD  
FOR THE JUDICIARY**

A Public Meeting of the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan Local Board for the Judiciary was convened on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom, Arizona State Courts Building, 1501 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Board Members Present by Conference/Video Call:** Kevin Kluge (Chair); Jason Hathcock; Jennifer Fish; Mark Smalley; Scott Mabery

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Also Present by Conference/Video Call:** Kayla Adkins, Board Secretary; Alexi Papalossi, Recorder

**Call to Order:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

March 4, 2025 – Public Meeting Minutes

The Chair acknowledged that corrections had been made to the minutes and inquired whether there were any additional corrections or questions. The Board had no additional corrections.

**MOTION: Mark Smalley moved to approve the public meeting minutes of the March 4, 2025, meeting.** The motion was seconded by Jason Hathcock and passed unanimously. The minutes stand approved. **CORP 2025-14**

**Legislative Update**

Liana Garcia, Government Affairs Director for the Administrative Office of the Courts, was not in attendance. The Chair indicated that he would contact Ms. Garcia and provide an update during the May 6, 2025, meeting.

**Notice of Retiree Return to Work – Leon Archuleta**

The Board received a Notice of Retiree Return to Work from the Maricopa County Judicial Branch for Leon Archuleta, indicating that Mr. Archuleta retired from the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, and Reentry on August 16, 2024, with an effective CORP retirement date of September 1, 2024. He had since accepted an employment offer with the Maricopa County Judicial Branch and returned to work on March 3, 2025, in a non-CORP-designated position as a Security Officer.

Copies of A.R.S. § 38-884.N-O. and Mr. Archuleta’s current position description were provided to the Board.

The Board Secretary noted that Mr. Archuleta appeared eligible to continue receiving a CORP pension because he returned to work in a non-CORP-designated position after retirement.

**MOTION: Jason Hathcock moved that the Board received a Notice of Retiree Return to Work for Leon Archuleta and found that (1) Mr. Archuleta is eligible to continue receiving a CORP pension; (2) Mr. Archuleta’s employer, Maricopa County Judicial Branch, is not responsible for paying the CORP alternate contribution rate on his behalf because he returned to work in a non-CORP-designated position.** The motion was seconded by Scott Mabery and passed unanimously. **CORP 2025-15**

**Approval of Membership:**

The Board voted on the approval of the following requests for membership:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Effective Enrollment Date</b>
Katherine Hernandez	Coconino	3/9/2025
Bianca Ramirez	Maricopa	2/23/2025
Chelsea Opper	Maricopa	2/23/2025
Nghi Hua	Maricopa	3/2/2025
Brandy Anderson	Mohave	3/2/2025
Stephanie Howerton	Mohave	3/2/2025
Tamara Child	Pinal	2/10/2025
Donald Reed	Pinal	2/10/2025
Sabrina Juvera	Pinal	2/23/2025
Tyler Leman	Yavapai	3/16/2025
Darlene Reyes-Velez	Yuma	11/12/2024

**MOTION: Jennifer Fish moved to approve the 11 applicants listed on the agenda for this meeting for membership in CORP pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893.D. and to note for the record that the physical examinations for Katherine Hernandez, Chelsea Opper, Nghi Hua, Brandy Anderson, Stephanie Howerton, Tamara Child, Donald Reed, Sabrina Juvera and Darlene Reyes-Velez identified a physical or mental condition or injury that existed or occurred before their dates of membership in the plan.** The motion was seconded by Mark Smalley and passed unanimously. **CORP 2025-16**

**2025 CORP Electronic Election Update**

In the December 3, 2024 Local Board Meeting, the Chair requested that the Board Secretary provide monthly updates on the CORP Electronic Election.

The following actions were completed by the Board Secretary:

- Ballot submissions ended on 3/14/2025.
- Nominee ballots counted on 3/20/2025.
- Nominees were notified by phone on 3/24/2025.

The Board Secretary reported that there are approximately 26 nominees. Responses from nominees are due on Friday, April 4, 2025. Following this, voting ballots will be created.

Mr. Smalley and Mr. Hathcock were formally informed of their nominations, which they both declined.

### **Discussion**

The Board Secretary provided information from the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) regarding Senate Bill 1173 (SB 1173). PSPRS indicated that this bill allows members to remain in their chosen retirement plan even after changing positions. Ms. Fish asked how members are informed about their ability to stay in their plan after a job change. The Board Secretary explained that the Board Staff directs members and HR staff to the educational resources made available by PSPRS.

The Board Secretary reported that member (Shaquille Howard) did choose to stay in the DB plan.

### **Future Agenda Items:**

- Disability Case #25-01
- Retiree Return to Work
- Legislative update from Liana Garcia, Government Affairs Director for the Administrative Office of the Courts
- May 6, 2025 meeting will be hybrid.

### **Call to the Public:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Transcribed April 1, 2025