



## MINUTES

Thursday, February 6, 2020  
Conference Room 119A/B  
Arizona State Courts Building  
1501 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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**Present:** Frankie Jones (Chair), Honorable Lisa I. Abrams, Professor Paul Bennett, Honorable David Cunanan, Edgardo Gonzalez, William Knight, Judge Evelyn Marez, Judge Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.), Judge Alisha Villa, Honorable Joan Wagener

**Telephonic:** Associate Dean Alfred Ray English, Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, Catharina Johnson

**Absent/Excused:** Mike Baumstark, Honorable David Gass, Honorable Geraldine Hale, Judge Maurice Portley (Ret.), Honorable Alicia M. Skupin, Dawn Walton, Judge Penny Willrich (Ret.)

**Guest/Presenter:** Linus Kafka, Diana Newmark, and Keith Swisher, University of Arizona; Elise Kulik, AOC Legislative Officer

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Staff:** Angela Pennington, Stacy Reinstein

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## REGULAR BUSINESS

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

The February 6, 2020, meeting of the Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary (COM) was called to order at 1:07 p.m. by Frankie Jones, Chair. Ms. Jones had the commission announce themselves.

### Approval of Minutes from November 7, 2019

The draft minutes from the November 7, 2019 meeting were presented for approval.

<p><b>Motion:</b> To approve the November 7, 2019 minutes by Judge Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.) <b>Second:</b> Judge Lisa I. Abrams <b>Vote:</b> Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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## BUSINESS ITEMS AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

Update: 2020 Arizona State Bar Convention – Enhancing Diversity: the Chris Nakamura Judicial Workshop, Meeting Judges Up Close and Personal

Ms. Jones gave the committee a rundown of the staff that would be participating and a brief overview of the agenda for the event.

### Comments/Concerns:

- Members of the bench from almost all the counties will be participating.
  - For future events, Justices of the Peace should be identified and included.
- Will be held in conjunction with the State Bar Convention, so the program is open to all lawyers and judges in the state.

### Legal Futures Event: April 3, 2020

Ms. Jones asked Associate Dean Alfred Ray English to share with the commission information about the students that would be attending the Legal Futures Event. Stacy Reinstein let the commission know that she had also been in contact with some of the high schools in the Phoenix area. Ms. Jones presented a draft agenda. Judge David Cunanan discussed the law activity exercise.

### Comments/Concerns:

- Are we reaching out to school outside of Phoenix and Maricopa County?
  - The commission would be happy to include high school and college students from all parts of the state.
  - The commission would like to include all the state universities.
- The max number of students was discussed.
- Several of the members offered to reach out to their contacts to assist with bringing students into the program.
- The possibility of another Legal Futures Event to take place in Southern Arizona was discussed.

### The University of Arizona's Undergraduate Law Program as a Diversity Pipeline

Professor Paul Bennett, University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, introduced Keith Swisher, University of Arizona, to make a presentation on their Bachelor of Arts in Law program. The University of Arizona offers the only undergraduate degree in law. The program is taught by legal professionals and allows qualified students to start at the university's law school, the James E. Rogers College of Law, after their junior year. Mr. Swisher also discussed the high level of diversity within the program.

Mr. Swisher answered questions about the program's statistics, e.g. student numbers, how many go on to law school, LSAT preparation and scores, bar passage rate. He also spoke about their involvement in a Latin student mentorship program and offered the school's assistance to the Legal Futures Event or any other upcoming events.

### AOC Legislative Update

Elise Kulik, AOC Legislative Officer, introduced herself to and addressed the commission. She discussed several bills and asked the commission to forward any feedback they might have to her. Ms. Kulik informed the committee that legislative liaisons advocate for the court's budget requests and mentioned several requests that had been made. There was minimal discussion about the bills presented.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

### New & Announcements

- Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – AZ Minority Bar Association Scholarship Banquet
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – Asian Bar Association Banquet

Good of the Order/Call to the Public:

- No one answered the call to the public.

Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting was made by Lisa I. Abrams **Second:** Judge Evelyn Marez **Action:** By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 7, 2020**  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
Arizona State Courts Building  
Conference Room 119A/B



## MINUTES

Friday, August 14, 2020

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

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### Present:

**Telephonic:** Frankie Jones (Chair), Honorable Lisa I. Abrams, Mike Baumstark, Professor Paul Bennett, Honorable David Cunanan, Associate Dean Alfred Ray English, Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, Honorable David Gass, Honorable Geraldine Hale, Catharina Johnson, William Knight, Judge Boyce “B.J.” D. Little, Jr, Judge Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.), Judge Alisha Villa, Honorable Joan Wagener, Dawn Walton, Judge Roy “Chuck” C. Whitehead

**Absent/Excused:** Edgardo Gonzalez, Honorable Alicia M. Skupin, Judge Penny Willrich (Ret.)

**Guest/Presenter:** Chief Justice Robert Brutinel, Arizona Supreme Court

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Staff:** Theresa Barrett, Angela Pennington, Laura Ritenour

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## REGULAR BUSINESS

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

The August 14, 2020, special meeting of Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary (COM) was called to order at 11:06 p.m. by the Honorable Frankie Jones, Chair. Judge. Jones thanked the committee for their attendance, introduced and welcomed new members, Judges Boyce “B.J.” D. Little, Jr and Roy “Chuck” C. Whitehead. She also congratulated Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee on her article publication in the Arizona Attorney magazine and let the committee know that the editor is looking for additional contributions for future articles on racial justice. Judge Jones then introduced and welcomed Laura Ritenour, new staff for the commission.

### Purpose of the Special Meeting

Judge Jones gave a brief overview of the reasons for the special meeting. She then greeted Chief Justice Robert Brutinel and thanked him for her reappointment as chair and for the reappointment of the other commission members.

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## BUSINESS ITEMS AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

### Special Address by Chief Justice Robert Brutinel

Chief Justice Brutinel thanked Judge Jones for her welcome and introduction and thanked the commission for their service. He also recognized Judge Jones and congratulated her on her appointment to the Phoenix Municipal Court.

Chief Justice Brutinel asked the commission for their assistance, feedback, and recommendations, based on current events regarding the political climate to address issues of racial inequality in the justice system. He discussed some of the strides that have been made but stressed there is still much work to be done.

### Summary of Recent Projects

Laura Ritenour provided a recap of the projects and work that COM has completed over the years. Donald Jacobson laid out the achievements of the Fair Justice for All Task Force, Post-Conviction Actions Task Force Subcommittee, and the Fair Justice Mental Health & Criminal Justice Workgroup.

Paul Julien and Gabe Goltz presented on the curriculum provided by the Judicial Education Center (JEC) during the Annual Judicial Conference, annual trainings, and new judge orientation. They also provided information on how and why certain trainings are presented.

There was some discussion with the commission. There was a comment made that the focus on awareness for implicit bias has been met. What actions are being taken on the “bias interrupter” part? Mr. Goltz stated that the JEC has been moving toward including mitigation strategies in their training and also finding presenters who can speak more on the applicability of the concepts. Additional suggestions from the commission included better and additional training to a broader audience and Dr. Kimberly Scott as a presenter.

### Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2020

The draft minutes from the February 6, 2020 meeting were presented for approval.

<p><b>Motion:</b> To approve the February 6, 2020 minutes by Judge Lisa I. Abrams. <b>Second:</b> Judge David Cunanan. <b>Vote:</b> Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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### Roundtable Discussion on Future COM Priorities

Judge Jones opened the floor for the roundtable discussion. The commission members discussed more training on release conditions for implicit bias and suggested the need for mandatory classes on racial bias, cultural competency, and inclusion. Mr. Goltz stated that these topics are included in the ethics provided by the JEC. Additional education for the public on how the judiciary functions was also suggested.

Other Issues the members would like to see a focus on include overrepresentation of youth minority in the justice system, better diversity data collection, and how to get a fair cross section representation in the jury pool. To create change in these areas, it was suggested to connect with local law enforcement and foster families charged with the care of children in the system to collaborate. Also, speak to the different minority bars about their information and information gathering. Theresa Barrett let the commission know that there is a possible new committee on jury, jury pool, and jury selection. Another member suggested pulling reports on what other committees are doing in this field. Ms. Barrett suggested a minimal focus for the time being, with the option to present recommendations to the committee later.

There was a suggestion to change the name of the commission to the Commission on Diversity and Inclusion. This would provide the opportunity to revamp the mission and mission statement while honing the focus to encompass a broader range of concerns. It was asked if the group would like to consider addressing the population we're trying to help in the name of the commission. There was some dissent in regard to the change. A member suggested that if the commission is not effecting change in the manner or as much as they would like, then the change could inspire new movement.

Lastly, workgroups were discussed. The commission discerned three new workgroups: one to review the charge and direction of the commission, one to collaborate with the JEC, and one to continue work on the pipeline (encouraging minority students in the study of law).

### Next Steps

Send out an email to determine interest in workgroups, schedule workgroup meetings.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

### New & Announcements

- There were no announcements at this time.

### Good of the Order/Call to the Public:

- No one answered the call to the public.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

**Next Meeting:**            **Thursday, September 17, 2020**  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



## MINUTES

Thursday, September 17,  
2020 **VIRTUAL MEETING**

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### Present:

**Telephonic:** Judge Frankie Jones (Chair), Mike Baumstark, Professor Paul Bennett, Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, Judge David Gass, Judge Geraldine Hale, Catharina Johnson, William Knight, Judge Boyce “B.J.” D. Little, Jr, Judge Alisha Villa, Judge Joan Wagener

**Absent/Excused:** Edgardo Gonzalez, Judge Alicia M. Skupin, Judge Penny Willrich (Ret.), Judge David Cunanan; Associate Dean Alfred Ray English; Judge Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.); Dawn Walton, Judge Roy “Chuck” C. Whitehead; Judge Lisa I. Abrams

**Guest/Presenter:** Brianna Segay, Extern, Court of Appeals, Division I; Amy Stuart, Juvenile Automation and Research Manager, AOC; Mary Hoyle, Research Analyst, AOC Juvenile Justice Services; Jane Price, Administrative Service Unit Operations and Research Manager, AOC

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Staff:** Theresa Barrett, Sabrina Nash, Angela Pennington, Laura Ritenour

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## REGULAR BUSINESS

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

The September 17, 2020, meeting of Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary (COM) was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Judge Frankie Jones, Chair.

### Approval of Minutes from August 14, 2020 Minutes

The draft minutes from the August 14, 2020 meeting were tabled until the November 5<sup>th</sup> COM meeting.

## BUSINESS ITEMS AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

### [Planning for Equitable Treatment of Minority Youth FY 2017 – 2017 \(Seventh Statewide Report Card\)](#)

Judge Jones introduced Amy Stuart, Juvenile Automation Research Manager, and Mary Hoyle, Research Analyst, both from the Administrative Office of the Court's (AOC) Juvenile Justice Services division. Ms. Stuart and Ms. Hoyle gave a presentation on the past Equitable Treatment of Minority Youth report cards. They asked for feedback on the type of data that has been collected and the presentation of that data. They provided some new ideas for the members to consider and asked for their feedback and ideas. The members ideas for new data points included: charge types, if the juvenile has an active dependency petition or an adjudication of dependency, age, offense severity, referred or accepted into diversion, referrals from schools, and race of probation officers. It was also suggested that the researchers modify the Relative Rate Index (RRI) to base race comparisons on the general juvenile population and not just the white juvenile population.

Members pointed out a spike of case activities in 2016. Ms. Stuart and Ms. Hoyle stated they'd research the occurrence. It was mentioned that "administrative issues" seem to be causing a large proportion of juveniles to have their probation extended with no new offenses. More data in this area was requested.

Ms. Stuart, Ms. Hoyle, and the commission members also discussed race: how race is determined and how the juvenile's family could identify their race. It was noted there are no biracial categories in the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (iCIS) and Juvenile Online Tracking System (JOLTS) but hopes for that to change. Judge Jones thanked Ms. Stuart and Ms. Hoyle and stated the commission looks forward to reviewing their report.

### [Discussion: September 9<sup>th</sup> State Bar of Arizona Collaborative Bar Webinar – Dialogue on Racism, Discrimination, and Injustice in the Legal Profession by the State Bar of Arizona](#)

Judge Jones initiated a discussion on the September 9th State Bar of Arizona Collaborative Bar Webinar and asked for feedback on the event. Several members attended and thought the webinar was a useful beginning to the discussion of racism, discrimination and injustice in the legal profession. Higher attendance due to being held online. Attendees hoped more defined discussions and outcomes would be presented in future webinars. Judge Jones mentioned that the Collaborative Bar is hoping to host more events soon. The Collaborative Bar will also be presenting at the State Bar Conference in December. Several members of the commission are involved in planning future webinars. The to collaborate with Arizona Town Hall for more input and action steps was raised.

### [Update from COM Workgroups](#)

Judge Jones introduced the various workgroup leaders and asked them to give updates on their workgroups work. Judge Jones announced that if any members would like to join a workgroup, they should contact Ms. Ritenour.

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### **COM Education Workgroup**

Judge Joan Wagener gave the Education Workgroup status report. The workgroup met on September 3rd, chose co-leaders, Judges Wagener and Judge Lisa Abrams, and began brainstorming the types of trainings they would like to see. Trainings ideas included: implicit bias and “next step” training, jury selection, pre-trial decisions, and hiring panels.

### **COM Pipeline Workgroup**

Ms. Ritenour gave the Pipeline Workgroup status report. The workgroup met on September 4th and chose Ray English as their leader. The workgroup decided to learn more about all the pipeline events and law exposure programs currently being held throughout the state before deciding on their next steps Ms. Ritenour shared with the members for their review a form and email that will be sent out to solicit information on the pipeline events and programs.

### **COM Review Workgroup**

Ms. Ritenour stated that the COM Review Workgroup was scheduled to meet on September 21<sup>st</sup> and would have a status report at the November meeting.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

### [New & Announcements](#)

- Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee reported that Jeremiah Chin, previous presenter and colleague, accepted a position at St. Thomas University Law School in Florida.

### [Good of the Order/Call to the Public:](#)

- No one answered the call to the public.

### [Adjournment](#)

Judge Jones adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

### [Next Meeting](#)

**Thursday, May 7, 2020**

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting



## MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2020

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

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### Present:

**Telephonic:** Honorable Frankie Jones (Chair), Honorable Lisa I. Abrams, Mike Baumstark, Professor Paul Bennett, Honorable David Cunanan, Associate Dean Alfred Ray English, Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, Honorable David Gass, Edgardo Gonzalez, Honorable Geraldine Hale, Catharina Johnson, William Knight, **Honorable** Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.), **Honorable** Alisha Villa, Honorable Joan Wagener, **Honorable** Roy “Chuck” C. Whitehead

**Absent/Excused:** **Honorable** Boyce “B.J.” D. Little, Jr, Honorable Alicia M. Skupin, Dawn Walton, **Honorable** Penny Willrich (Ret.)

**Guest/Presenter:** Adriana Genco; Kevin Heade; **Honorable** Joseph Kreamer, Maricopa County Superior Juvenile Court; Kay Radwanski, **Sr. Court Policy Analyst**, AOC; Honorable Sharron Sauls, Kyrene Justice Court

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Staff:** Theresa Barrett, Mark Meltzer, Angela Pennington, Laura Ritenour

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## REGULAR BUSINESS

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

The November 5, 2020, meeting of the Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary (COM) was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Judge Frankie Jones, Chair.

### Approval of the Minutes from August 14, 2020 and September 17, 2020

The draft minutes from the August 14, 2020 and September 17, 2020 meetings were presented to the commission for approval.

<p><b>Motion:</b> To approve the August 14 and September 17, 2020 minutes by Mike Baumstark. <b>Second:</b> William Knight. <b>Vote:</b> Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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## BUSINESS ITEMS AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

### 2021 Commission Meeting Dates

Judge Jones presented to the committee the meeting dates for 2021 to be voted on. Those dates are:

- February 11, 2021
- May 13, 2021
- September 9, 2021
- November 4, 2021

Judge Jones asked the commission for comments and any known conflicts before the vote.

<p><b>Motion:</b> To approve the 2021 Commission meeting date by Judge Roxanne Song Ong. <b>Second:</b> Hearing Officer Alisha Villa. <b>Vote:</b> Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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### Superior Court of Maricopa County Commission Recruitment

Judge Jones introduced Judge Joseph Kreamer, who provided information about commissioner recruitment for the Maricopa County Superior Court. He explained that recruitment takes place about every 18 months, though it is a little earlier this time and is beginning again. They need a number of recruits to cover governor appointments and upcoming retirements. The recruitment commission members have been asked to actively recruit and mentor to the extent possible to assist in increasing the diversity on the bench. They are attempting to have the bench reflect the demographics of the community. They are also meeting with different organizations to enrich the candidate pool. Minimal discussion took place.

- One member noted that candidate applications are kept on file for approximately a year, so if a candidate isn't sure they are interested now, they should still apply to have their application considered.
- A member asked if Maricopa County has any events focusing on non-retained positions.
  - They do not.
  - Commissioner recruitment is discussed at the Chris Nakamura Workshop.
    - This could be considered for a separate event.
- The Collaborative Bars should be advised of the processes for other judicial positions, or perhaps have a CLE training.
- November 20, 2020 is the deadline for applications.
- Several members volunteered to put on a Q&A event on 11/13/2020 for candidates considering applying.
  - It was decided that a flyer would be sent out and the event will be sponsored by the Commission, hosted by Judge Gass and coordinated by AOC staff.

It was noted during this conversation there was an issue with the meeting ID number on the website, however, it was quickly rectified.

### Update on the Collaborative Efforts of the ASU Center for the Study of Race & Democracy, State Bar of Arizona and Collaborative Bar

Judge Song Ong gave a brief overview of the discussion held by the ASU Center for the Study of Race & Democracy, State Bar of Arizona and Collaborative Bar, "Racism, Discrimination and Injustice in the Legal Profession" Attendees were polled on four focused questions:

- How have you experienced or witnessed racism or bias, and has it impacted you in the legal field?
- Are there successful or unsuccessful strategies that you or your colleagues have used to address racism, discrimination, and injustice?
- What are the steps the legal community can take to achieve justice for all?
- When can silence inhibit how you address acts of racism, discrimination, and injustice in the profession legal spaces in which you work?

Discussion points were reviewed with the attendees. While the group won't be meeting again until after the state bar convention, subcommittees were established at this meeting based on the discussion in the chatrooms at the event. The planning committee was asked to join 1 or 2 of these subcommittees. Judge Jones informed members the transcript and discussion highlights were included in the meeting packet.

On a related note, Mike Baumstark informed the members that he had discussed with Chief Justice Robert Brutinel and Vice Chief Justice Ann Scott Timmer the recent collaborations and the work being done by the commission. Chief Justice Brutinel and Vice Chief Justice Timmer would like to the commission to bring their ideas and recommendations to the Arizona Judicial Council (AJC). Mr. Baumstark had provided a list of concerns to Chief Justice Brutinel and Vice Chief Justice Timmer including cash bail, plea bargaining, representative juries, and disproportionate contact within the juvenile court system. He believes this will be a great opportunity to gauge reaction, get feedback, and garner support and resources as initiatives and rules changes go through the AJC. Will Knight volunteered his assistance for this project.

Mr. Knight then spoke to the committee about addressing [Batson](#) and making changes in jury trial selection to address disproportionate peremptory strikes being used against black and brown jurors. He introduced Kevin Heade to the committee and suggested consideration be given to allowing the new Legal Paraprofessionals to provide services at initial appearances. He stated as this is when bonds are set in felony cases and most defendants do not have a lawyer or public defender at this point. He believes Legal Paraprofessionals could assist in this area.

### Creation of FY 2017 – 2019 Equitable Treatment of Minority Youth Report (“Seventh Statewide Report Card”) Workgroup

Judge Jones moved the conversation to the Minority Youth Report. Indicating he Juvenile Justice Services Division is seeking input and assistance in finalizing the Equitable Treatment of Minority Youth Report (“Seventh Statewide Report Card”). Laura will send out information after the meeting to those who would be willing to assist. Lisa Abrams, Paul Bennett, Catharina Johnson, and Joan Wagener volunteered.

### Updates from COM Workgroups

#### Pipeline Workgroup

Associate Dean A. Ray English gave an update on the Pipeline Workgroup. The group put together a survey and a list of organizations that they are going to reach out to, to ask about pipeline programs throughout the state. They have received some responses. The workgroup is hoping that they will a preliminary report with recommended goals and next steps at the next meeting.

#### Education Workgroup

Judge Joan Wagener reported that the workgroup's focus has been on training. They have been looking at different approaches such as a diversity, equity and inclusion topic or plenary session to

the upcoming judicial conference or having the topics embedded in the new judge orientation. The workgroup has also been discussing a recommendation for a specific number of hours of training for judiciary staff. Judge Wagener stated the research shows education alone doesn't work. Long term strategies and policies, mentoring, and the examination of systems in place for employee development are also needed. Other ideas that have been discussed were that of a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) coordinator or each county having a DEI committee or group. Additionally, they have conducted an informal survey of all of the counties asking what steps they are taking to implement diversity or unconscious bias training, what are the barriers they have met, and how often are they providing services. They have discussed the possibility of a survey of the public and/or court employees. Lastly, they have reached out to other (out-of-state) court systems. There was minimal discussion with members suggested that executive-level AOC involvement would need to move these initiatives forward and another member advocated for including these ideas in the recommendations.

### Recommendations from the Commission ACJA Code Review Workgroup

The objective of this workgroup was to review Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-107 and make recommendations to the commission. The members looked at all the states which have similar commissions, along with their names, mission statements and their codes, and compared them to the current commission charter. They then revamped the charter and mission statement, beginning with a recommendation to change the name to the "Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Justice in the Judiciary." Laura Ritenour delivered the general purpose and directives to the members. Discussion ensued. Important points included:

- Support for the name and the broader, updated mission
  - The group wanted to update the language, make it more easily understood and modernized.
  - It was suggested that the new language could move to "diverse person" and away from "minority."
- It was noted that the original mission was increasing diversity in the bench. The new mission doesn't seem as focused on this.
  - Several of the points are broad enough to cover a multitude of issues, including diversity on the bench.
- The role of the commission would be expanding quite a bit. The commission may need to expand the membership.
  - A conjoined request for changes to charter and additional membership could address this.
  - The commission does currently and has in the past had representation from probation.
  - Membership is at the discretion of the Chief Justice.
    - Contributors do not have to be members of the commission. They can still participate in workgroups, events, or projects

Mr. Baumstark discussed the process that will need to take place to solidify the changes and the timeline that would be required. Staff will begin the paperwork to send the commission's recommendations to the other standing committees for recommendations of approval. The members decided to allow themselves time to consider the new code section and make comments and suggestions. Dependent upon responses, the code section could be adjusted and will be recirculated.

**Motion:** To support the proposed ACAJ § 1-107 as drafted with revisions at the Chair's discretion based on recommendations from the members by Judge Gass. **Second:** Will Knight. **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

### New & Announcements

- Judge Jones thanked the members for their contributions to Dr. Jeremiah Chin's card.
- Judge Jones mentioned an Arizona Republic article on which she gave comments, "Judges, attorneys overwhelmingly white in justice system for Maricopa County" .
- Kevin Heade, representative from the Arizona State Bar's Batson Challenge working group and the Central Arizona National Lawyers Guild, addressed the committee.
  - Mr. Heade submitted a petition in January to the Supreme Court to adopt a new rule with a broader purpose to eliminate the unfair exclusion of jurors on base and ethnicity by replacing the third step of the Batson analysis with a more objective analysis of 'any reasonable person' standard.
  - Mr. Heade wanted to inform the committee of the work being done and to invite the members and their associates to attend their public meetings and invited them to speak to him in detail about this issue.
  - Mr. Knight recommended his support for the project. Judge Jones asked Mr. Heade to forward information to staff to be passed along to the members, and Judge Gass asked that this topic be made an agenda item at the next commission meeting.
  - The Batson Challenge Workgroup's next meeting is November 17, 2020.
- Judge Jones congratulated Judge Gass on his win of the State Bar's Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Award.

### Good of the Order/Call to the Public:

- Will Knight asked to have an agenda item added for the February meeting.
  - Legal Paraprofessionals should be allowed to represent defendants in felony cases for the purpose of initial appearances.
- There were no other public members present at the meeting who requested to speak at this time

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, February 11, 2020**  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.