



Location: Conference Room 109/Zoom

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Arizona Supreme Court
1501 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

COMMITTEE ON ALTERNATIVE
BUSINESS STRUCTURES
Meeting Agenda

The public may attend the meeting virtually or in-person.

General Inquiries Call: (602) 452-3378
(Certification and Licensing Division Line)

Regular Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting Video Recording: [May 12, 2026 Committee Meeting](#)

For any item listed on the agenda, the Committee may vote to go into Executive Session for advice of counsel (under ACJA Sec. 1-202(C)(5)(c)) or for discussion or consideration of records or matters made confidential or privileged by statute, court rule, or the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (under ACJA Sec. 1-202(C)(5)(b)).

Note: Vote counts reflect Ayes-Nays-Abstain-Recused-Absent

Member Attendance	In Person	Zoom	Absent
Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)	X		
Hon. Michael Catlett (Vice Chair)	X		
Andy Kvesic			X
Lynda Shely	X		
Steve German			X
Mike Widener		X	
Patrick Barnes	X		
Andy Halaby		X	
Taylor Bell	X		
Kami Hoskins	X		
Andrea Liburdi	X		

Staff

Abby Raddatz
Diane DeDea
Marquita Brazil
Daisy Cambron-Perez
Sarah Wille
Victoria Rodriguez

Guest	Guest	Guest	Guest
Moshe Ben-Jacob	Sherry Metzger	Trish Arias	Mark Sullivan
Sam Rocereta	Ian Friedman	Jason Connelly	Rishabh Sambare
Priscilla Weller	Stephanie Long	Laura Ruhl	Jordan Rose
Cindy Vanegas	Christopher Davies	Garrett Bell	Charles Armstrong
Sarah Covington	Holly Lee	Leigh Bernstein	Georgie Turner
Scott B. Seymann	Kevin Smith	Steve Mingle	Zoila Mena Harpin
Kathy Brody	Paul Silivos	Jason Brown	Ryan Melcher
Johan Maunsbach	Wilson Tsu	Leff Lipschutz	Ed Gehres
Bob Bearden	Doug Kreis	Don Bivens	Mark Rinehart
Crispin Passmore	Bryan Aylstock	S. Gibson	Crystal Utley
Preston Alexander	Justin Wetkin	Vanessa Noel	Carolina Johnson
Travis Crabtree	Sam Wathen	Rachel Rippetoe	Matthew Winkler
Eric	Lone Wolf Law	Susanna	SBS

1) Call To Order.....*Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)*

2) Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes.....*Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)*

2-A: Review, discussion, and possible action regarding adopting the regular session recording and written minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2026.

Motion to accept the April 14, 2026 First: Patrick Barnes
minutes:

Second: Andrea Liburdi

Pass/Fail: Pass 9-0-0-0-2

3) Call to the Public.....*Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)*

Limited Response to Call to The Public..... *Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)*

Individual members of the Committee may take one or more of the following actions: (a) respond to criticism made in Public Comment; (b) ask staff to review a matter raised in public comment; or (c) ask that a matter raised in public comment be put on a future agenda. **NOTE: Neither the Committee as a whole nor Staff are permitted to discuss a matter raised in public comment and the Committee is not permitted to vote on a matter raised during an open call to the public unless the matter was otherwise properly noticed on the meeting agenda for discussion and legal action.**

Note: Public comments may be subject to limitations at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

4) Initial License Applications.....*Division Staff*

4-A: Review, discussion, and possible action regarding application for initial licensure as an Alternative Business Structure for the following applicants with the following conditions:

- i. The ABS’s compliance lawyer shall conduct semi-annual audits to review the firm’s internal policies and procedures to ensure compliance with Arizona Supreme Court Rule 33.1, ACJA § 7-209, and at the completion of each audit, prepare and retain a written report of the findings.
- ii. The ABS shall operate in a manner consistent with the representations it has made as part of its ABS application and any supplements thereto.

iii. Pursuant to Rule 33.1, upon the Committee's determination of whether to recommend licensure, the application and the Committee's determination shall be forwarded to the Supreme Court for review and further action.

1. Newland Chase Legal, LLC

Motion to accept the Division's recommendation for licensure approval. First: Taylor Bell

Second: Lynda Shely

Pass/Fail: Pass 9-0-0-0-2

Judge Catlett left meeting at 9:28 A.M.

2. Forward Slash Health Law, LLC

Motion to recommend approval of the application after an informal interview with the applicant. First: Andy Halaby

Second: Mike Widener

Opposed: Lynda Shely & Patrick Barnes

Recused: Taylor Bell

Pass/Fail: Pass 5-2-0-1-3

Discussion: Committee members discussed concerns regarding Ms. Covington's limited legal experience and her residency and current firm outside of Arizona. Committee members Patrick Barnes and Lynda Shely opposed pursuant to ACJA 7-209(G)(3)(A)(6), regarding concerns about the experience of the proposed compliance lawyer. (See timestamp 21:08)

3. Wit Law, Inc.

Motion to accept the applicant's request to withdraw application. First: Kami Hoskins

Second: Andy Halaby

Recused: Lynda Shely

Pass/Fail: Pass 7-0-0-1-3

4. Variegas Law & Co, LLC

Motion to accept the Division's recommendation for licensure approval. First: Taylor Bell

consideration of ACJA 7-209 (E)(2)(a)(1).

Pass/Fail: Pass Second: Andy Halaby
9-0-0-0-2

8. DMX Partners, LLC

Deferred to allow Division staff time to review new information, no motion made.

9. The Mesothelioma Center, LLC

Deferred to allow a representative to be present, no motion made.

5) Renewal License Applications.....*Division Staff*

5-A: Review, discussion, and possible action regarding application for renewal licensure as an Alternative Business Structure for the following applicants:

1. Cartiga Legal, LLC – Licensure Period April 2026 to April 2028

Motion to accept the Division’s recommendation for compliance lawyer update and licensure renewal. First: Andrea Liburdi

Second: Patrick Barnes
Recused: Judge Foster, Judge Catlett, & Lynda Shely

Pass/Fail: Pass 6-0-0-3-2

2. Copper State Legal Services, LLC – Licensure Period May 2025 to May 2027

Motion to accept the Division’s recommendation for licensure renewal. First: Lynda Shely

Second: Taylor Bell

Pass/Fail: Pass 9-0-0-0-2

3. Bad Drug Law Firm, PLLC – Licensure Period April 2026 to April 2028

Motion to accept the Division’s recommendation for licensure renewal. First: Lynda Shely

Second: Taylor Bell
Pass/Fail: Pass 9-0-0-0-2

4. Meta-Attorney PC – Licensure Period September 2024 to September 2026

Deferred to allow a representative to be present, no motion made.

5. Reliant Law Group, PLLC – Licensure Period November 2024 to November 2026

Deferred to allow a representative to be present, no motion made.

6. McRae Management Services, LLC – Licensure Period November 2024 to November 2026

Informational, no motion made.

7. Swyft Legal, LLC (aka Smart Books, LLC) – Licensure Period September 2024 to September 2026

Motion to accept the Division’s recommendation for new licensure renewal period. First: Taylor Bell

Second: Patrick Barnes
Recused: Lynda Shely
Pass/Fail: Pass 8-0-0-1-2

6) Licensee Updates.....Division Staff

6-A: Review, discussion, and possible action regarding application for a change in Designated Principal, Compliance Lawyer, Authorized Person, or Authorized Person Entity for:

Under ACJA 7-209 (D)(5)(b)(1)(c), the committee must review applications for the addition of an Authorized Person (individual or entity) or the replacement of a Compliance Lawyer after initial licensure, and grant or deny the addition or change.

1. Cartiga Legal, LLC – Compliance Lawyer Change from John Kelly to Charles Platt

**Approved alongside renewal
(See item 5-A (1))**

2. Aiken Farrell Kroloff, LLC – Compliance Lawyer Change from Gregory Harris to Edward Gehres

**Motion to approve the
Division’s recommendation
to accept the compliance
lawyer update.**

First: Kami Hoskins

Second: Andy Halaby

Opposed: Andrea Liburdi

Recused: Lynda Shely

Pass/Fail: Pass

7-1-0-1-2

Discussion: Committee members and Division staff discussed appropriate communication protocols regarding pending matters, emphasizing that substantive discussions need to occur during public meetings rather than through private communications. Committee members then asked Mr. Gehres about his prior role as General Counsel for 777 Partners. Mr. Gehres explained that his involvement with 777 Partners ended in 2022 and that he was not personally named in any related litigation. Committee member Andrea Liburdi opposed the licensee update, stating that she would have preferred additional time to review the new information received that day before approving the request. (See timestamp 3:19:54)

3. Bespoke Legal Services, PLLC – Compliance Lawyer Change from Bijal Patel-Weintraub to Sarah Covington

**Motion to approve the
Division’s recommendation
to accept the compliance
lawyer update.**

First: Andy Halaby

Second: Kami Hoskins

Opposed: Judge Foster & Judge Catlett

Recused: Taylor Bell & Lynda Shely

Pass/Fail: Pass

5-2-0-2-2

Discussion: Committee members Judge Foster and Judge Catlett opposed the licensee update pursuant to ACJA § 7-209 (G)(3)(a)(6) regarding the experience of the proposed compliance lawyer. (See timestamp 3:50:42)

Kami Hoskins left meeting at 1:26 P.M.

4. Vantage Law Firm, LLC – Update on Status of the ABS from October 14, 2025 Meeting

**Motion to approve the
Division’s recommendation**

First: Taylor Bell

**to grant the applicant
inactive status.**

Pass/Fail: Pass

Second:
8-0-0-0-3

Lynda Shely

Kami Hoskins rejoined meeting at 1:29 P.M.

5. Skyview Legal Group, LLC – Resignation of Compliance Lawyer Sam Rocereta & ABS Operating without a Compliance Lawyer

**Informational, no motion
made.**

7) Administrative Items.....*Division Staff*

7-A: Program and Division Updates

7-B: Review, discussion, and possible action regarding working groups to address regulatory tasks, including:

- i. Compliance Audits;*
- ii. Data gathering;*
- iii. Application changes; and*
- iv. Training for nonlawyers and other applicants.*

8) Adjournment.....*Hon. Anni Hill Foster (Chair)*

Meeting adjourned at 1:39 P.M.

Next ABS Committee Meeting Scheduled for June 9, 2026