



AGENDA
Thursday, February 6, 2020
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

State Courts Building • 1501 W. Washington St. • Phoenix, Arizona • Conference Rooms 119A/B

REGULAR BUSINESS

1:00 p.m.	Welcome	Frankie Jones, Esq., <i>Chair</i>
1:20	Approval of November 7, 2019 Minutes <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Action Item</i>	Ms. Frankie Jones

BUSINESS ITEMS/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1:25	Update: 2020 Arizona State Bar Convention - Chris Nakamura Judicial Workshop: Enhancing Diversity on the Bench	Ms. Frankie Jones Hon. Roxanne Song Ong
1:40	Legal Futures Event: April 3, 2020	Ms. Frankie Jones Participating Members
2:00	The University of Arizona's Undergraduate Law Program as a Diversity Pipeline	Paul Bennett, Linus Kafka, Diana Newmark University of Arizona
2:15	AOC Legislative Update	AOC Government Affairs

OTHER BUSINESS

2:35	News & Announcements	Participating Members
2:40	Good of the Order/Call to the Public	Ms. Frankie Jones
2:45	Adjourn	Ms. Frankie Jones

Next Meeting

May 7, 2020
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
State Courts Building
1501 W. Washington St.
Conference Rooms 119 A & B
Phoenix, Arizona

Remaining Meetings

September 17, 2020
November 5, 2020

The agenda item times are approximate. The Chair reserves the right to set the order of the agenda. Please contact Stacy Reinstein, staff to the Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary, at (602) 452-3255, with any questions concerning this agenda. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as auxiliary aids or materials in alternative formats, by contacting Angela Pennington at (602) 452-3547. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.



DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, November 7, 2019
Conference Room 329/330
Arizona State Courts Building
1501 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Present: Frankie Jones (Chair), Honorable Lisa I. Abrams, Mike Baumstark, Professor Paul Bennett, Honorable David Cunanan, Honorable David Gass, Catharina Johnson, William Knight, Honorable Alicia M. Skupin, Honorable Alisha Villa, Honorable Joan Wagener, Dawn Walton

Telephonic: Judge Roxanne Song Ong (Ret.)

Absent/Excused: Associate Dean Ray English, Professor Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, Edgardo Gonzalez, Honorable Geraldine Hale, Judge Evelyn Marez, Judge Maurice Portley (Ret.), Judge Penny Willrich (Ret.)

Guest/Presenter: Honorable Sharon Saulls, Kyrene Justice Court; Dr. Tammi Walker, University of Arizona

Staff: Angela Pennington, Stacy Reinstein (AOC)

REGULAR BUSINESS

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The November 7, 2019, meeting of Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary (COM) was called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Frankie Jones, Chair.

Ms. Jones offered congratulations to Judge Gass on his appointment to the Court of Appeals.

Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2019

The draft minutes from the September 12, 2019 meeting were presented for approval. A correction to show Associate Dean Ray English as appearing telephonically instead of in person was noted.

<p>Motion: To approve the September 12, 2019 minutes with the correction by Hon. Lisa Abrams. Second: by Hon. Joan Wagener. Vote: Motion passed unanimously.</p>

BUSINESS ITEMS AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

Update: 2020 Arizona State Bar Convention – Chris Nakamura Judicial Workshop: Enhancing Diversity on the Bench

Ms. Jones spoke about the 2020 Arizona State Bar Convention at which the Chris Nakamura Judicial Workshop will be held the second week of June. Professor Paul Bennett will present the second diversity survey and Judge Maurice Portley (Ret.) will give updates on the statistics. Round robin discussions with various members of the bench will be offered in lieu of a panel discussion. Judge Roxanne Song Ong suggested a presentation on Judge Diane Johnson's research on the historical background of Arizona's women judges, and will discuss with Prof. Bennett if this can be incorporated. Judge Gass would like to prepare and distribute a survey on the Diversity Mentorship Program at this event.

Planning for the 2020 Legal Futures Event

The committee has chosen Friday, April 3, 2020 for the 2020 Legal Futures Event. There was discussion about what program should be provided this year. A brief overview of the last two years events was provided for the benefit of the new committee members.

Commission members discussed the idea of a second Legal Futures Event in Southern Arizona. Mike Baumstark was sought for, and granted, approval. Judge Joan Wagener suggested the Training Center in Pima County. Ms. Jones recommended October 2020 for the Southern Arizona Legal Futures Event. Schools being notified about the April Legal Futures Event will be given the option to attend one or both events.

Proposed Changes: Bench Diversity Survey

Professor Bennett has been working with Dr. Tammi Walker, University of Arizona, and their law students on changes to the diversity survey. Changes include adjustments to the order of the questions, more inclusive gender options, and the ability to pick more than one race. It was suggested to add space for judges to delineate their time on the bench if they have been on more than one bench.

Judicial Diversity Study

Dr. Walker addressed the Commission and asked for a letter of support for the University's upcoming application for a grant from the National Science Foundation on Judicial diversity. Dr. Walker requested the Commission's help with the study to demonstrate the scope of underrepresented minorities in the judiciary. There was discussion as to the content of the letter and if the Commission could endorse Dr. Walker and her colleague. The members agreed to view the content of the letter before endorsement.

OTHER BUSINESS

Good of the Order/Call to the Public:

- Judge Gass requested assistance with and will continue work on the Diversity Mentorship Program.
 - Mr. Will Knight offered his assistance in contacting the sister bar associations.
- The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law will be hosting a reentry summit on December 4th to address the barriers for individuals exiting the prison system. Commission Staff, Stacy Reinstein, will distribute this invitation on behalf of Dawn Walton.

- The Arizona Minority Bar Association is having their scholarship banquet in Pima County, February 28, 2020.
- No one answered the call to the public.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting by Lisa Abrams. **Second:** by William Knight **Action:**
By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

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1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Arizona State Courts Building
Conference Room 119A/B



LEGAL FUTURES: MAKING THE CONNECTION



SAVE THE DATE!

WHEN: April 3, 2020, 10am-3pm

WHERE: Arizona Supreme Court - Phoenix

WHO: undergrad & high school students with an interest in the law

WHAT: An opportunity for students to interact with the judicial branch and discover the different pathways to becoming a judge. Following an innovative program, students can tour the AZ Supreme court.



HOSTED BY:



COMMISSION
ON MINORITIES

For questions and to submit your name
& school, please email:
sreinstei@courts.az.gov