

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors**

January 29, 2009

The Chair Gaetan Alfano called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

The Chair requested that the Minutes of the December meeting be approved. The Minutes were approved.

The Chair recognized Assistant Treasurer Joe Prim, who presented the Treasurer's report. Income was up substantially because of dues and the Bench Bar as well. Through increased dues and LRIS, the Association was \$136,306 ahead of budget. Upon motion made, and seconded, the Treasurer's report was approved.

Chancellor Sayde Ladov welcomed newly elected and appointed board members. She also introduced John Savoth who is serving as Parliamentarian this year. She thanked everyone for attending the Chancellor's reception, at which 550 people were in attendance. She also reported on the successful Chancellor's Dinner and Bar Leaders' Retreat which focused on leadership and leadership development.

Chancellor Ladov reported that she spoke to the candidates for judicial retention and President Judge Dembe. Chancellor Ladov presided before a naturalization ceremony recently as well. Chancellor Ladov was scheduled to handle a call with the Mayor about issues that are of interest to the bench and bar and the City. There have been several meetings with staff on membership ideas which she will discuss with the Board as time goes on.

Chancellor Ladov reported she would like to make three appointments to the Board of Jenkins Law Library: Abe Reich, Meyer Bushman and Alexander Kerr. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved these additions. Chancellor Ladov requested the Board approve the addition of Carlton Johnson to the Philadelphia Legal Assistance Board. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved this appointment. For the Senior Law Center, Chancellor Ladov requested that Theodore Marasciulo be appointed to that Board. Upon motion made and seconded, this appointment was approved by the Board. For the Philadelphia VIP Board, she recommended The Honorable Alice Beck Dubow, John Encarnacion, and David Unkovic. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved these appointments.

Chancellor Ladov announced a Professional Responsibility program on February 10 with regard to a reenactment of disciplinary case.

The Chair then recognized Debbie Freedman and Anita Santos to present a report on changes in Community Legal Services and Philadelphia Legal Assistance Board. Due to duplication of some efforts, they reported that they have been trying to feel like one agency now and have overlapping board members. They also reported that things are going smoothly and they are conforming the bylaws of the two associations.

The Chair then recognized Angus Love to present on the “Velazquez Resolution” from the Public Interest Section. Michael Frolik from Community Legal Services also presented. The Association supported a Resolution in 2005 supporting the filing of an amicus curiae brief in support of plaintiffs in *Velaquez v. LSC*. The Public Interest a Section recommended that the Chancellor send a letter to Senator Arlen Specter to oppose federal restrictions inconsistent with this position. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board supported this recommendation.

The Chair then recognized Bruce Franzel who came to the Board with bylaw amendments and presented a Resolution to Amend the Bar Association Charter, the oldest charter of any bar association in the country. The goals were to reflect the Association’s commitment to diversity, to be gender neutral, to remove responsibility to remove an “incompetent or guilty” person from the practice of law because the Association no longer has that responsibility, and lastly to remove responsibility for maintaining a law library as the Jenkins Law Library is independent and has that responsibility now. Upon motion made, and seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chair then recognized Abe Reich who presented on ABA House of Delegate Resolution 109 on the subject of lateral screening issues. He reminded the Board that it became a co-sponsor of a Resolution in 2008 but that this issue is coming back again at the upcoming ABA mid-year meeting. There have not been any changes in the law since the issue last presented. Also Abe Reich urged consistency with this prior position. Paul Kazaras, Assistant Executive Director of the Association, who has handled thousands of inquiries over the years after the establishment of an ethics hotline many years ago spoke about the issue. He has given guidance on screening issues and has obtained feedback. Screening in Pennsylvania has been positive; there has been no negative aspect to such feedback. Given the increasing mobility of lawyers, without the screening mechanism many of the attorneys would have been unable to find positions. Firms have been disqualified where they did not take timely screening measures. Abe Reich also believes the Association must stand for the proposition that lawyers *can* be trusted to comply with the obligation to maintain client confidences and gave various examples. Lastly, Abe Reich believes that the Philadelphia Bar Association has a lot of credibility at the ABA and our leadership on this issue will be respected. He urged the Board to support the Resolution again and to give appropriate authority for him to go back and reaffirm the Association’s support for Resolution 109. Upon motion made, and seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting moved into executive session at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
January 29, 2009

Present:

Sayde J. Ladov
Scott Cooper
Rudolph Garcia

Kathleen Wilkinson
Joseph Prim
Wesley Payne

Sophia Lee
Gaetan Alfano

Michael Hayes
Michael Berkowitz
Danielle Banks
Richard Harris
Stephanie Resnick
Eric Milby
Judith Stein
Daniel Blickman

Jacqueline Segal
Maria Feeley
Jeffrey Campolongo
Michael Schaffer
Brian Chacker
Troy Wilson
Laura Feldman
Grace Sweeney

Stacy Tees
Jeffrey Gross
Regina Foley
Sean Sullivan
Albertine DuFrayne
Patricia Dubin
Christine Paul

Absent:

Richard Seidel
Grace Manno
Rosemary Pinto
Reetu Dandora
Karen Detamore
A. Michael Pratt
Mary Platt
David Prewitt