



# UTAH MINORITY BAR ASSOCIATION

## PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN THE LAW

C/O CHRYSTAL MANCUSO-SMITH, DUNN & DUNN, P.C.  
505 EAST 200 SOUTH, 2ND FL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84102

### UMBA Minutes September 16, 2009

Attendance: Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, Grace Acosta, Ruben Arredondo, Alisha Giles, J. Simón Cantarero, Bob Flores, Aida Neimarlija, Rebecca Ryon, Cheryl Mori, Jennifer Ha, Yvonne Hogle, Esperanza Granados, Linh Tran, Karthik Nadesan.

#### 1. **501(c) Form for the Utah Minority Bar Foundation:**

Simón informed that he needs addresses for Grace and Alisha. He reported that once he has this information the articles of incorporation will be ready to be signed and filed. Members discussed the bylaws that had been circulated for review. Karthik suggested that the Board use the IRS conflict of interest language in the bylaws. Grace proposed a resolution to adopt the bylaws with an amendment for the IRS conflict of interest language. Chrystal called for a vote. Everyone voted in favor of the resolution. Simón will look at the forms needed to register for charitable donations.

#### 2. **UMBA Banquet:**

Simón reported that he sent some RSVP forms to Chrystal for review. Chrystal would like the RSVP forms to go out this week and will circulate a copy for member review. Chrystal confirmed that Scott Matheson has agreed to be the keynote speaker. Grace has been working on getting two mini speakers from a couple of government agencies to speak about how the agency promotes diversity. Chrystal suggested that we get the court administrator on diversity to give a short talk. Grace gave a report on the banquet program discussing the option to have a more elaborate presentation ceremony as opposed to entertainment. She stated that she is asking the donating firms to participate by presenting the scholarships. Grace suggested that we have a live auction for book donations.

Bob suggests that we consider inviting some youth groups to the banquet. He thought it would be a good way to reach out to the community and encourage young people to stay in school and reach their full potential. The members discussed several youth groups that might be interested in attending the banquet: Upward Bound, LEAP Program, and University

#### Executive Officers:

**President:**

Chrystal Mancuso-Smith  
Dunn & Dunn PC  
(801) 521-6677  
cmancuso@dunndunn.com

**President-Elect:**

Grace Acosta  
Dunn & Dunn PC  
(801) 521-6677  
gacosta@dunndunn.com

**Exec. Dir./ Treasurer:**

Ruben Arredondo  
Public Service Commission  
(801) 530-6716  
raredondo@utah.gov

**Secretary:**

Alisha Giles  
(801) 243-3211  
agiles32@hotmail.com

**Immediate Past-President:**

J. Simón Cantarero  
Holland & Hart LLP  
(801) 799-5800  
jscantarero@hollandhart.com

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:** Nathan Alder • Diane Akiyama • Augustus Chin • Su J. Chon • Marlene F. Gonzalez • Cheryl M. Mori • Yvonne Rodriguez Hogle • Sean D. Reyes • Clayton Simms • Trystan Smith • Judge Raymond Uno (Ret.)

Neighborhood Partners program. Grace suggested that the members also consider having a few past recipients speak at the banquet.

### 3. Nominations for Annual Awards:

UMBA has received one lawyer nomination form to date. The members discussed possible nominations: Marlene Gonzalez (MLC), Giovanna Speiss (MLC), Su Chon, Rep. David Litvak, Luis Robles, and Aaron Tarin (past recipient for pro bono award). The members decided to brainstorm for possible nominations and encourage other individuals to nominate layers.

### 4. Scholarships:

Chrystal reported that UMBA has \$3000 of scholarship money from last year's auction and has received commitments for roughly \$7000 in scholarship money from various firms and about \$2500 worth of retail items for the auction. Chrystal further informed the members that five or six tables have already been purchased.

### 5. Elections:

Chrystal opened the discussion on elections by stating that Reuben (who had to leave) was willing to act as the secretary. Linh stated that she was interested in joining the Board as trustee. Esperanza said that she would like to join the Board as Present-elect. Grace asked Linh and Esperanza to introduce themselves to the members and discuss why they are interested in joining the Board.

Linh introduced herself. She graduated this May from the University of Utah School of Law (first generation graduate). She received the Snell & Wilmer Diversity Fellowship. She volunteered at MLC working with Marlene on immigration cases and at Holy Cross Ministries.

Esperanza introduced herself. She also graduated from the University of Utah School of Law. She stated that she did a lot of community service during undergrad and has been involved with AILA. She has also worked with Utah Legal Services.

Grace thanked Linh and Esperanza for their nominations. Cheryl moved to approve the slate: Grace (President), Chrystal (Immediate Past-president), Esperanza (Present-elect), Ruben (Secretary), and Linh (Treasurer). Chrystal called for a vote. Everyone approved. Grace congratulated the new officers.

Alisha Giles, UMBA Secretary

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