

Utah State Bar Commission Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 10, 2025
Utah State Bar – Law & Justice Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82361960332>

In Attendance: President Cara Tangaro, Kim Cordova, Miriam Alred (Zoom), Tom Bayles, Brett Chambers, Christian Clinger, Matt Hansen, Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, Mark Morris, Shawn Newell, Olivia Shaughnessy, Tyler Young.

Ex-Officio Members: Nate Alder, Jennifer Carver, Erik Christiansen (Zoom), Tiffany Shimada, Ezzy Khaosanga, Britt Merrill (Zoom), Nick Stiles, Katie Woods.

Not in Attendance: Rick Hoffman. Ex-Officio members: Dean Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Dean David Moore, Eli McCann, Andy Gonzalez.

Also in Attendance: Executive Director Elizabeth A. Wright, Assistant Executive Director Aubrey Schade, General Counsel Maribeth LeHoux.

1. President's Welcome and Reports: Cara Tangaro

Ms. Tangaro welcomed and introduced Tiffany Shimada, the newest Bar ABA Delegate.

1.1 Report on Meeting with Governor Cox

Ms. Tangaro, Ms. Cordova and Ms. Wright met with Gov. Cox and his counsel. Ms. Tangaro reported on the meeting that was held right before the holidays. Gov. Cox shared that he is against Judicial Elections. Gov. Cox is open to meeting once a year with Commission leadership to build the relationship and open communication lines.

1.2 Report on Jacey Skinner

Ms. Tangaro reported the Jacey Skinner has signed a 6-month contract as an additional lobbyist for the Utah State Bar. She will cooperate with Foxley & Pignanelli, and roles and responsibilities will be divided and defined.

1.3 Review Legislative Phone Conference Calendar

Ms. Tangaro informed and invited the Commission to the Governmental Relations Conference Calls. They will take place every Tuesday at 4pm via Zoom. The Governmental Relations Committee Will vote on whether to take a position on legislation. The Commission meets to review the recommendations and vote on whether the Bar should take a position.

1.4 Spring Convention Report

Ms. Wright informed the Commission that Spring Convention registration will open January 21st and discussed the packed agenda & event schedule with YLD

and WLU events taking place. Ms. Abad will register commissioners for the convention for those that want to attend.

1.5 St. George Room Reservations Reminder

Ms. Wright advised to book lodging now before they are sold out and then submit reimbursement. Lodging in St. George sells out quickly.

1.6 Bar Elections Reminder

Ms. Tangaro reminded the Commission that Commission Election Petitions are due February 3rd, 2025. There is 1 seat in each 3rd Division, 2nd Division and 5th Divisions. Elections are in April. Even sitting commissioners who are up for re-election need to submit a petition. Talk to Ms. Abad for assistance.

1.7 Save the Date: Annual Meeting, Swearing-in, and Dinner

Ms. Tangaro announced the Annual meeting, swearing-in ceremony and dinner will take place on June 26th at This is The Place Heritage Park. The Annual Meeting and a keynote speaker will take place first, followed by a dinner.

2. Action Items

2.1 Nominate Tyler Young to be President-elect Candidate

Mr. Clinger made a motion to appoint Mr. Young as Present-elect. Mr. Hansen seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2.2 Appoint replacement of Commissioner John Rees

After discussion, Mr. Clinger made a motion to appoint Ms. Shaughnessy for Mr. Rees's seat. Ms. Tangaro seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. Ms. Tangaro made a motion to appoint Jessica Couser for Ms. Shaughnessy's seat. Ms. Mancuso-Smith seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2.3 Appoint Bar Commission Representative to Legal Services Innovation Committee

Ms. Tangaro made a motion to appoint Mr. Chambers to be the Legal Services Innovation Committee Representative. Mr. Young seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2.4 Approve Spring Convention Scholarships

Ms. Wright reminded the Commission that last year scholarships included complimentary registration and a \$500 lodging stipend. The scholarship recipients gave the Bar positive feedback about how valuable they found the convention. Scholarships were offered to young lawyers, small firm lawyers and government lawyers in an effort to encourage attendance by these groups who historically attend conventions in smaller numbers. The hope is they will experience the value of conventions firsthand and attend again on their own and encourage their colleagues to attend. Mr. Clinger made a motion to approve 12

\$500 scholarships, Mr. Chambers seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2.5 Approve Fractional Counsel Section

The Commission discussed the application to create a new section. Ms. Wright shared the Utah State Bar rules about the formation of new sections.

Mr. Alder and Mr. Clinger questioned why existing sections like the Business Law Section, Corporation Counsel and Securities section cannot meet the needs of these practitioners. Ms. Wright proposed that the item be tabled until the next meeting so that the proponents of the new section could address the questions and concerns. This agenda item will be tabled to next commission meeting, and Mr. Holman will be invited to come present the Fractional Counsel Section.

3. Information Items

3.1 Proposed MCLE Rule Changes: Chrystal Mancuso-Smith

Ms. Mancuso-Smith explained the MCLE Board's proposed rule changes include allowing 6 regular CLE credits to roll over to the next compliance year.

Professionalism and ethics credits will not roll over. The requirement will still be 12 credits every year, but those that earn more than 12 credits in a compliance year can roll over up to 6 credits to the next year. Those licensed in other states used to submit a written request to use credits earned in other jurisdictions for credit in Utah. Proposed rules will allow self-reporting and eliminate the need for a written request. The proposed rules will be presented to the Court in February and go out for comment if the Court approves the changes.

4. Other Items

4.1 Well-being Committee for Legal Profession

Ms. Wright announced Liz Silvestrini has signed a contract to be the Well-Being Consultant for the Bar. Ms. Silvestrini is a lawyer and a licensed therapist.

4.2 Meeting with AG

Mr. Hansen asked about setting up a meeting with the newly elected Attorney General Derek Brown. Mr. Hansen will work with Mr. Clinger to set up a private meeting with Mr. Brown to build the relationship. Ms. Tangaro shared that she has a lunch meeting with Senator Brammer and appellate practitioners on January 15th to which Mr. Brown has been invited.

4.3 Audit Update

Ms. Wright reported that staff received a draft of the Audit in November. Ms. Wright, Maribeth LeHoux, and Nathan Severin met with the Court auditor to discuss the Bar's corrections and clarifications to the draft. Staff hopes to have a final copy of the audit for the February Commission meeting.

4.4 Supreme Court Productivity

Mr. Stiles shared the Supreme court has been conducting data on cases and opinions filed through the Supreme Court and Justices to evaluate the Supreme Court Productivity. Mr. Stiles can share data with the Commission where appropriate.

Adjourn

The Commission adjourned at 10:52 am.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Commission approved by consent the following items:

- Minutes of the November 8, 2024 Commission Meeting