



The State Bar *of California*

CLIENT SECURITY FUND

Date: May 20, 2021

To: Client Security Fund Commission

From: Lori Meloch, Program Director, Professional Support & Client Protection

Subject: Client Security Fund Commission, Annual Appointment of Members and Officers

In order to administer the Client Security Fund, the Board of Trustees has established a Client Security Fund Commission, to which it appoints five members who serve at its pleasure or until the expiration of a term set by the Board (Rules of the State Bar, Title 3, Division 4, Chapter 1, Rule 3.421(A)). The Commission recommends members to be considered for appointment by the Board of Trustees.

The State Bar of California values broad-based representation and the diversity of membership within its committees and external entities. The Board of Trustees considers diversity to be essential to complying with its mission of public protection, and also seeks to ensure that membership for committees and external entities includes individuals with a depth of expertise, including but not limited to the following: geographic location; legal practice area; size of law practice; amount of professional experience; volunteer work; specific accomplishments; educational background; race; ethnicity; age; sexual orientation; and disability. The State Bar provides equal access to all applicants and complies with all applicable anti-discrimination laws in its appointment process.

Chair Robert Bowman's term will expire in 2021, creating an attorney member vacancy. Vice-Chair Jordan Wright's (public member) term will also expire at the end of this year. Traditionally, the Vice-Chair is recommended to advance to serve as Chair. The Commission may recommend that Vice-Chair Jordan Wright be appointed as Chair and serve an additional one-year term. The Commission may also recommend one of the other remaining Commission members be appointed the Vice-Chair.

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Officer Candidates

For the Commission's consideration, information regarding Jordan Wright, the candidate for Commission Chair is below. For the position of Vice-Chair, the practice has been to ask the next most senior member to serve if that member is willing. The Commission will discuss and choose the Vice-Chair candidate at its meeting.

Chair

Jordan Wright (Public Member)

Jordan Wright is an experienced policy analyst, legislative aide, and local political expert. His decade and a half of governmental service includes work in both the California State Legislature and the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. Currently, he is a Senior Administrative Analyst for a large not-for-profit health care plan.

Jordan has served on a number of appointed boards and commissions. He holds a master's degree in public policy from Claremont Graduate University and resides in the City of Fontana with his wife and their three sons. He has been a dedicated and reliable member of the Commission, and his knowledge and experience within the public sector provide a relevant perspective when evaluating applications.

New Commission Member Candidates

The Commission also needs to recommend one new attorney member (the rules state that no more than 3 members of the Commission may be attorneys - the open position is a position generally held by an attorney candidate). Below are summaries of the applicants' experience.

Candidates for CSF Commission

James Arnold, Jr.

James Arnold, Jr. is assistant general counsel at BASF corporation, a biotechnology company focused on the development and commercialization of enzymes for industrial purposes. He specializes in commercial law and intellectual property. He has been with BASF since 2018. James states that he is involved in several volunteer activities including serving as a volunteer legal officer for the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol, which requires him to opine on ethical and professional conduct matters that affect the membership. James believes in giving back in a manner commensurate with which he has received. He has benefitted from the legal profession and thinks it is important to give back to help ensure that lawyers act in a professional and responsible manner toward vulnerable clients. James also believes that he can

contribute to the diversity of the Commission both from an ethnic and geographic standpoint. James states, "...I am an African-American and African Americans have been historically underrepresented in the legal profession." Also, from a geographic perspective, he grew up in Alabama and spent most of his life living up and down the East Coast.

Fenglan Liu

Fenglan Liu is a sole practitioner with her office in Arcadia, California. She specializes in immigration, criminal defense, and family law. Fenglan is president of the Greater San Gabriel Valley Safe Community Foundation and participates in many volunteer community events through the organization. She also helps to cook for the homeless on weekends. Fenglan wants to make California a better place and to help the public not to be hurt by immoral attorneys. Fenglan has been a licensed attorney in China for over 30 years and has legal experience in both China and the U.S. She is bilingual in Chinese and English.

Kristen A. Pofahl

Kristen Pofahl is an attorney with Dependency Legal Services. She is interested in serving on the Commission because she believes in doing what is right. She upholds the rules of ethics and believes that a person should be able to trust their lawyer. Kristen states that she is able to be non-biased in her decision making and is able to work well with others to come to an agreement on reaching a fair decision. She currently represents children and works with families struggling with drug addiction, homelessness, mental health issues and trauma. To do this she has to have compassion, empathy, and patience, and be open to different resolutions. Kristen's job exposes her to many different people from different backgrounds which allows her to view things from all different angles.

Edwin Salgado

Edwin Salgado is an attorney with the Law Offices of Kim Benson in Ontario, CA. His experience is mainly in criminal defense and insurance defense. Edwin was previously a Post-Bar clerk with the Office of the Public Defender in Orange County and Santa Clara County. Edwin was a volunteer for Homeless Legal Services and a member of La Raza at UC Hastings where he participated in outreach programs providing mentorship to low-income, minority and/or under-represented individuals as they strived to obtain a legal education. Edwin desires to join the Commission due to his passion for social justice, which requires that the public maintain trust in the integrity of the legal profession. As the son of Mexican immigrants, he is motivated to make a positive impact on the lives of those who have been victimized by people in positions of trust. Edwin believes that as young member of the Hispanic community he will help to diversify the Commission and bring perspectives not currently represented. Clients seeking restitution might

have difficulty trusting authority figures, and he hopes that if someone like him could be appointed to the Commission it could help restore confidence and trust in the system.

Karen Scarborough

Karen Scarborough is a senior staff counsel with the Department of Motor Vehicles Legal Affairs Division. She represents the department in the prosecution of occupational licensing cases in administrative hearings before the Office of Administrative Hearings. She also represents the department in human resource matters before the State Personnel Board, the Department of Personnel Administration, and the Labor Commission. Karen has volunteered for approximately 13 years for the Constitutional Rights Foundation and the Sacramento County Office of Education High School Moot Court competition. Consumer protection is an area that Karen enjoys. While she gets to engage in preventative and disciplinary actions with auto dealerships, there are limited opportunities to grant reimbursement to harmed consumers.

Kandace Shaw

Kandace Shaw is a non-attorney applicant. Kandace is a payroll associate at the University of California, Riverside. Kandace is currently the co-founder and treasurer for Black Organizers United. She is also a volunteer for Color of Change working to create virtual petitions to advocate against community injustices. Kandace supported lobbying efforts for the signing and succession of AB392 co-coordinated by the Stop Coalition. Kandace would like to help in any capacity. She is passionate about the body of law and how legalities help set the tone for political endeavors. She is willing to work collaboratively and hopes that her work experience and contributions are reflective of her commitment to the growth of equality and fair treatment of all cultural backgrounds, and orientations, particularly the African American Diaspora.