The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEM
54-113 JULY 2021
BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE III.C

DATE: **July 22, 2021**

TO: **Members, Board Executive Committee**
Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: **Melanie Shelby, Board Executive Committee Appointments Liaison**
Brandon Stallings, Board Executive Committee Appointments Liaison

SUBJECT: **Legal Services Trust Fund Commission – Annual Appointments of Officers**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This agenda item presents the recommendation of Appointments Liaisons for the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) officers for the 2021–2022 term. There are no member vacancies in the upcoming term.

For more information about this item, please contact Program Manager of the Office of Access & Inclusion, Doan Nguyen, at doan.nguyen@calbar.ca.gov or 415-538-2545.

BACKGROUND

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The LSTFC was established by the Board of Trustees in 1982 to administer revenue from the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) and other funds "remitted to the Legal Services Trust Fund Program of the State Bar."[1] Grants from these funds are made to nearly 100 qualified legal services projects and support centers each year. These organizations provide free

[1] Title 3, Division 5, Chapter 2, Article 1, Rule 3.660, Rules of the State Bar.

civil legal aid in California to indigent[2] persons, or support services to the organizations that directly serve indigent persons.

The Board has delegated to the LSTFC three primary duties:

1. The LSTFC must determine an applicant's eligibility for grants and notify each grant applicant that its application has been approved or denied.[3]
2. The LSTFC must monitor and evaluate a recipient's compliance with Trust Fund requirements and grant terms.[4]
3. The LSTFC may terminate a grant for noncompliance or require a grant recipient to take corrective action.[5]

The LSTFC fulfills its duties to oversee grants distribution and recipient compliance primarily through committee work. The five primary committees are described below:

1. The **Eligibility and Budget Review Committee** is charged with responsibility for reviewing annual IOLTA and Equal Access Fund (EAF) applications from nonprofit organizations. All eligibility questions are discussed by the committee and staff, and when eligibility is unclear, committee members may request in-person eligibility conferences with applicants. Committee recommendations for eligibility are reported to the LSTFC, which takes formal action to approve or deny eligibility. Additionally, this committee is responsible for reviewing and approving proposed budgets submitted by eligible programs for their utilization of IOLTA and EAF grants. The committee has responsibility for determining whether budgets conform to statutory requirements and regulatory rules governing the use of these funds. This committee is also charged with the responsibility of reviewing cases in which a grantee's funding may be terminated because of failure to comply with relevant legal standards and authorities.

2. The **Partnership Grants Committee** is charged with administering funds set aside for the Partnership Grants program. Funded as part of the annual State Budget with 10 percent of EAF monies, Partnership Grants are used to support joint projects of court and legal services projects to provide services to indigent self-represented litigants. These grants are discretionary, both in terms of the programs that receive funding as well as the amounts of funding to be allocated to each successful applicant. Committee recommendations are presented to the full commission for approval, and these recommendations are then reported to the Judicial Council, which has final authority to approve these grants.

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[2] Per Business and Professions Code section 6213(d), indigent includes a person (1) whose income is not higher than 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold, or (2) eligible for Supplemental Security Income or free services under the Older Americans Act (seniors 60+) or Developmentally Disabled Assistance Act.

[3] Title 3, Division 5, Chapter 2, Article 1, Rule 3.661(A), Rules of the State Bar.

[4] Title 3, Division 5, Chapter 2, Article 1, Rule 3.661(B), Rules of the State Bar.

[5] Title 3, Division 5, Chapter 2, Article 1, Rule 3.661(D), Rules of the State Bar.

3. The **Bank Grants Committee** administers funds received from legal settlements with the U.S. Department of Justice, Bank of America, and Citi. The funds are to be used for foreclosure prevention legal assistance and for community redevelopment legal assistance. The committee crafts recommendations regarding parameters for grant eligibility, the amounts available for distribution, funding criteria and priorities, and grant periods. These recommendations require approval from the LSTFC and Board of Trustees.

4. The **Homelessness Prevention Funds Committee** is charged with administering homelessness prevention funds. This committee was first established following the infusion of $20 million as part of the 2019–2020 state budget for homelessness prevention services. Additional funds have been provided since that time, with $40 million approved in the current budget, with the expectation that will continue for two more years. Funds are distributed through a formula, as well as through competitive grants for eviction defense or other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant rental disputes.

5. The **Rules Committee** is charged with developing a process to codify the decision points and considerations used by State Bar staff and the LSTFC in the administration of grants to legal services organizations. The purpose of this endeavor is to ensure transparency, consistency, and accountability in the grant-making process.

SIZE OF THE COMMISSION AND NUMBER OF OFFICERS

The LSTFC consists of 24 members. The Board appoints 14 members, and the Chief Justice, as chair of the Judicial Council, appoints the other 10 members. State Bar Rule 3.662 states that the Board may appoint commissioners for a single four-year term with the possibility of reappointment to serve as an officer.

The Board also appoints officers of the LSTFC. The LSTFC's officers historically have included two co-chairs and two co-vice-chairs to assist with strategic planning and coordination and to build a pipeline for leadership in future years. These officers form the commission's executive committee. Officers are appointed for a one-year term.

DISCUSSION

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

There are no vacancies for members in the upcoming 2021–2022 term.

Two statements of interests were received for the co-chair positions and two statements of interests were received for the co-vice-chair positions.

Our recommendations, if accepted by the Board Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees, will provide a slate of officers with extensive backgrounds in executive leadership, strategic planning, and consensus building among diverse stakeholders. Although the positions are uncontested, we believe strongly that these applicants would have risen to the top even if there were other interested commissioners.

OFFICER POSITIONS

We recommend the appointment of Kim Savage and Richard Reinis as co-chairs, and Christina Vanarelli and Christian Schreiber as co-vice-chairs. Staff solicited statements of interest for the officer positions from the entire LSTFC, and Ms. Savage, Mr. Reinis, Ms. Vanarelli, and Mr. Schreiber were the only members who submitted statements. Their statements of interest and resumes are attached for your reference.

Ms. Savage has been on the LSTFC since 2012, and served as chair of the Bank Grants Committee. She also serves on the Eligibility and Budget Review Committee, Homelessness Prevention Grants Committee, and Rules Committee. Ms. Savage has been practicing law for over 30 years, working in both private sector and various legal aid organizations previously. Her legal experience includes representing a wide range of housing developers and providers, conducting housing studies, developing policy for state and local government, and litigating in federal and state court. She is thoughtful in her approach and dedicated to the work of the LSTFC. Ms. Savage currently serves as co-vice-chair of the LSTFC.

Mr. Reinis has been on the LSTFC since 2012, and served on various subcommittees over the years, including the Eligibility and Budget Review Committee, Bank Grants Committee, and Homelessness Prevention Grants Committee. Mr. Reinis also co-chaired the Legal Services Trust Fund Stakeholder Working Group in 2018. Mr. Reinis is a partner at Thomas Coburn LLP, where he practices business litigation. He has over 36 years of experience in grantmaking, including at the Max H. Gluck Foundation and on the Board of the State Bar Foundation. Mr. Reinis has participated in various difficult and complex deliberations, including Eligibility Review Conferences and monitoring site visits to grantees with compliance issues. Mr. Reinis currently serves as co-vice-chair and has previously served as co-chair of the LSTFC.

Ms. Vanarelli has been on the LSTFC for over nine years, and served as chair of the Partnership Grants Committee since 2019. Ms. Vanarelli helped craft the first-ever scoring rubric for Partnership Grants and has been pivotal in ensuring that grant determinations are fair and utilize a consistent approach among reviewers. Ms. Vanarelli has a background in banking and currently has her own law practice in Ventura County, where she specializes in criminal defense and civil litigation as well as assistance to small businesses and nonprofit organizations.

Mr. Schreiber has been on the LSTFC since 2013, and chaired the Partnership Grants and Homelessness Prevention Committees, which has disbursed over $50 million under his leadership. Mr. Schreiber has also been pivotal in advising staff and grantees on cy-pres funding. Mr. Schreiber has also served as chair and vice-chair of the LSTFC in the past. He is a founding partner of Olivier Schreiber & Chao LLP, where he specializes in complex civil litigation and appellate practice with a focus on employment, civil rights, and consumer issues.

We strongly support the appointment of Ms. Savage and Mr. Reinis as co-chairs, and Ms. Vanarelli and Mr. Schreiber as co-vice-chairs. Having two officers from Northern California and two officers from Southern California will further solidify the geographic diversity and lead to more equitable meeting facilitation. There is also a need for greater commission engagement at the executive level given the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing

economic recession. A robust executive committee will more effectively distribute the heavy workload and enable thorough long- and short-term strategic planning. Ms. Savage, Mr. Reinis, Ms. Vanarelli, and Mr. Schreiber have extensive experience in executive leadership positions, and we have confidence that they will be able to steer difficult conversations while ensuring fair and consistent decision-making. Now more than ever, a strong and experienced leadership team is essential to help the LSTFC and legal aid community navigate through these trying times.

CONCLUSION

The recommendations for 2021–2022 LSTFC co-chairs and co-vice-chairs have been provided after careful consideration of each applicant's skills, experiences, and perspectives in relation to the LSTFC's charge and work plan. Further, the applicants have strong backgrounds in legal services for indigent clients, understanding of the IOLTA statute, and knowledge of grant-making processes and procedures, which is vital in advancing the Board's strategies and objectives related to increasing access to justice.

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE STATE BAR

None

AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY MANUAL

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal: None

RECOMMENDATIONS

Should the Board Executive Committee concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

> **RESOLVED**, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Kim Savage and Richard Reinis as co-chairs, and Christina Vanarelli and Christian Schreiber as co-vice-chairs of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission for one-year terms commencing at the close of the September 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees and expiring at the close of the September 2022 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Should the Board of Trustees concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

> **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Kim Savage and Richard Reinis as co-chairs, and Christina Vanarelli and Christian Schreiber as co-vice-chairs of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission for one-year terms commencing at the close of the September 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees and expiring at the close of the September 2022 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

A. Kim Savage's Statement of Interest and Resume for Co-Chair

B. Richard Reinis' Statement of Interest and Resume for Co-Chair

C. Christina Vanarelli's Statement of Interest and Resume for Co-Vice-Chair

D. Christian Schreiber's Statement of Interest and Resume for Co-Vice-Chair

ATTACHMENT A

Law Office of Kim Savage

2625 Alcatraz Ave., Suite 331
Berkeley, California 94705

Berkeley (510) 984-0464
www.kimsavagelaw.com

June 18, 2021

State Bar of California Board of Trustees
C/O Doan Nguyen, Program Supervisor – Access & Inclusion
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Via Electronic Mail: Doan.Nguyen@calbar.ca.gov

Re: Letter of Interest – Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Executive Committee Co-Chair Appointment

Dear State Bar of California Board of Trustees:

This letter is my expression of interest for appointment to the co-chair position of the Executive Committee of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission. I have been a member of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission since 2012 and during this tenure I have been an active member of several established subcommittees. These subcommittee appointments during my tenure include Eligibility & Budget, Bank Grants, Rules and Homeless Prevention Assistance Grants. I am currently co-vice chair of the Executive Committee of the Commission, a role that offers greater opportunity for assisting the State Bar in its mission of increasing access to justice.

My legal professional experience includes having worked at two direct legal service programs (QLSPs) as well as a national support center and this background has been invaluable as a Commissioner. In addition, I maintain a connection to serving low income individuals and families through pro bono work. Trust Fund Commission service has given me a deeper understanding of the complexities of the State Bar's role in furthering access to justice through California legal services programs. It would be an honor to serve as co-chair of the Commission.

Additional information about my professional experience is available at www.kimsavagelaw.com. I am happy to address any questions you may have for me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Savage

Kim Savage
Attorney At Law

Professional Experience of Kim Savage

Berkeley, California (510) 984-0464
www.kimsavagelaw.com
kim@kimsavagelaw.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Kim Savage 9/2005 – present
2625 Alcatraz, Suite 311
Berkeley, California 94705

Practice provides representation, legal counsel, consulting, policy development and training in the areas of affordable and special needs housing, land use, fair housing compliance and other civil rights laws. Clients represented include a wide range of housing developers and residential program providers in the planning approval process and in siting controversies. Develop and review program operations for fair housing compliance. Technical assistance to local governments includes land use and zoning review for compliance with civil rights laws and policy development. Consulting for HUD funded anti-discrimination study including reviewing study design and facilitating expert panel participation.

Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc. 9/1997 – 9/2005
3255 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 902
Los Angeles, California

Senior Attorney specializing in civil rights laws. Represented people with disabilities and non-profit housing developers in land use and zoning matters. Provide training and technical assistance to local governments, disability rights and fair housing advocates. Authored model reasonable accommodation ordinance and other documents for local governments. Project manager for three HUD fair housing disability education and outreach grants. Consultant to the City of Los Angeles providing training and technical assistance on fair housing and land use and zoning compliance and author of impediments study and zoning code amendments.

Consultant, Fair Housing Congress of Southern California 8/1996 – 8/1997
3600 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, California

Consultant for the California Land Use and Zoning Campaign, a statewide study identifying land use and zoning impediments to the development of housing for people with disabilities. Analyzed 90 audits of jurisdictions statewide, assisted in the development of a data base for the project and authored a comprehensive report on the audit findings for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

National Senior Citizens Law Center 8/1990 - 5/1995
Los Angeles, California

Legal Services support center staff attorney litigating federal court impact cases including district court and appellate work. Areas of specialization include Social Security, disability and elderly housing. Provide litigation support including research assistance, case analysis and co-counseling of impact cases. Provide legislative analysis, advocacy on senior issues, provide training and national monthly mailing to disability law advocates.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE continued

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles 4/1986 - 8/1990
Los Angeles, California

Staff attorney specializing in the preservation and development of low-income housing. Responsible for all phases of multi-plaintiff affirmative habitability litigation, administrative enforcement of Rent Stabilization Ordinance and redevelopment issues impacting low income families.

Kaus & Kerr 3/1984 - 3/1986
San Francisco, California

Associate in four-attorney civil practice specializing in plaintiff's bad faith insurance, personal injury and wrongful termination actions. Responsible for all phases of state court litigation. Supervised paralegal.

RECENT TRAININGS PROVIDED (PARTIAL LIST)

Eden Housing (pursuant to Settlement Agreement (November 2019)
City of Los Angeles HCID (pursuant to Settlement Agreement) (February – June 2018)
City of Fort Worth, Texas (pursuant to Consent Decree) (June 2016, 2017, 2018)
Bar Association of San Francisco, Conflict Intervention Service (November 2017)
California Behavioral Health Policy Forum (February 2016)
City of San Jacinto (pursuant to Consent Decree) (March 2015)
CASRA (October 2014)
California State University at Long Beach Public Policy Graduate Seminar (November 2014)
Enterprise Community Partners (Ongoing since 2013)
State Bar of California Fair Housing & Public Accommodations Conference (April 2013)
Housing Institute, County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health (June 2013, 2012, 2011)
Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (February 2010)
National Fair Housing Law & Litigation Conference (February 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2004)
County of Los Angeles (October 2007)

Additional trainings provided to city attorneys, county counsel, and local governments.

PUBLICATIONS

Creating A Partnership Agreement for Affordable Housing Success, Enterprise Community Partners, August 2015

Ten Best Practice Tips for Affordable Housing Developers, Enterprise Community Partners, March 2015

Fair Housing for People with Disabilities: A Guidance Manual for Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Providers, February 2007 (co-author)

Fair Housing In Your Neighborhood: A Guide to Understanding How Fair Housing Laws Protect People with Disabilities in California, January 2005

Fair Housing Reasonable Accommodation: A Guide to Assist Developers and Providers of Housing for People with Disabilities in California, February 2005

PUBLICATIONS continued

Fair Housing Impediments Study: How Land Use and Zoning Regulations and Practices Impact Housing for Individuals with Disabilities, November 2002

The California Land Use and Zoning Campaign, HUD/FHIP Grant, October 1997

California Elder Law - An Advocates Guide, (Contributor) Continuing Ed. Of the Bar, June 1993

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment In California, Senate Health Committee (January 2018)
Working Together To Ensure Housing Opportunities for People With Disabilities and Children, Assembly Committee On Human Resources (February 2009)

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of California Legal Services Trust Fund Commission	11/2012 – Ongoing
SAMHSA ADS Steering Committee	3/2013 - 03/2015
City of Los Angeles Housing Element Review Committee	1997
State Bar of California Legal Services Section, Member and Chair	11/1986 - 11/1989
San Francisco Bar Association	Ongoing
Northern California Association of Non-Profit Housing	Ongoing
American Bar Association	Ongoing

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Berkeley READS	2021
Alameda County Community Food Bank	2018
San Francisco Bar Association Housing Negotiation Project	2017
Jazz Angels Founding Board Member	11/2007 – 12/2010
Long Beach Women's Shelter Board Member	1992 - 1993

EDUCATION

University of California at Berkeley — 40-Hour Mediation Certification
Mediation and Conflict Resolution

Hastings College of the Law — Juris Doctorate
University of California
San Francisco, California

University of Oregon — B. A. Literature
Eugene, Oregon — B. A. Political Science

ATTACHMENT B

June 10, 2021

State Bar of California Board of Trustees
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Board of Trustees,

I am writing to express my desire to serve as Co-Chair of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission. I understand the time commitment, as I've served the Commission for many years, served on the Executive Committee, served as Co-Chair and Vice Chair, and served as Co-Chair of the Working Group formed in 2017 to consider the future of the LSTFC and other critical matters.

My expression of interest is the product of 36 years of grant making as a Trustee of the Max H Gluck Foundation, which supports underprivileged children throughout America, and as a member of the Board of the Los Angeles Legal Aid Foundation, the UCRiverside Foundation, and the Los Angeles Children's Museum, which I also served as President. I have also served as a member of the State Bar Foundation Board.

As Co-Chair of the State Bar Working Group, I provided members with a preliminary statement prior to each of the five sessions studying the future of the LSTFC. Those statements, I believe, support my commitment to fulfill the State Bar's mandate to fairly and fully support qualified legal services projects and support centers so they may deliver quality legal services to the poor of California. (These are recorded on the State Bar website.)

The LSTFC serves the State Bar as its eyes and ears, drilling down through detail to be certain that IOLTA funding is as effective as possible. We have the tremendous benefit of advice of three constituencies to guide us to better decisions: a State Bar staff dedicated to accuracy, fairness, and consistency, client Board members who sensitize us to issues easily overlooked by others on the Commission, and members of California's judiciary to instill in us the equanimity that grant making demands. I'm proud of our accomplishments since I've been on the Commission, and I look forward to the incredible challenges we now face.

I'm pleased to provide a resume should that be requested.

Best wishes,
Richard Reinis

RICHARD G. REINIS

Partner

THOMPSON COBURN LLP

Los Angeles, California

Rich Reinis first experienced day-to-day law practice as a clerk in the Los Angeles County Probate Department in 1960-61. He received his AB degree from Princeton University in 1966 and his JD from USC in 1969, where he served on Law Review and as Chief Justice of the Moot Court Program. Upon graduation, he became an associate at Munger Tolles. In 1972, he left the firm to form The Alter Companies, a Torrance based real estate development company. In 1974, he became General Counsel to the California Mart. From 1981 to 2000, Rich was the managing partner of Reinis & Reinis, specializing in apparel law. The firm represented hundreds of apparel companies in connection with business formation, employment matters, immigration and compliance matters, import/export disputes, copyright and trademark work, environmental regulations, and labor matters, to name just a few areas of work. During this period, he founded the Compliance Alliance, the nation's largest organization of fashion industry clients dedicated to compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act. Rich participated in the creation of the Long Form Compliance Agreement with the USDOL, and – on a cutting table in Vernon – he executed the first such agreement with then Secretary of Labor Robert Reich. Rich was asked to testify in Washington concerning apparel industry efforts to comply with the FLSA, and worked with Senators Feinstein and Schumer on labor and copyright matters. He is a founding member of the Board of the California Fashion Association, has taught business law at FIDM, and lectured at Otis, El Camino College, CalState Northridge, Pepperdine, UCLA Anderson School, and USC Marshall School, among other schools. With a deputy of the USDOL, he lectured retailers including Nordstrom and others on labor law compliance in the apparel industry.

Rich became CEO and General Counsel to Great Circle Family Foods in 2000, when he brought Krispy Kreme to Southern California. During a six year period, Great Circle became Krispy Kreme's largest franchisee, with over 1400 employees. The company's success and sudden involuntary contraction is a case study at business schools. This experience, described in the pages of the Wall Street Journal and the

Daily Journal, forms the basis of a presentation Rich has made to over 2000 CEO's around the world. He has been a convention key note speaker for large groups in several states. In 2019, he made presentations in Cincinnati, Minneapolis, San Antonio, Palo Alto, New York City, Dallas, and throughout Southern California. During the Pandemic, his pace was slowed and presentations were made virtually to several CEO groups throughout the US, and in 2021, he has presented to CEO groups in Dallas.

In 2006, Rich joined Steptoe & Johnson's Century City office, where he resumed a litigation and transactional practice and that continued through 2014, when he moved to his current position as partner in a litigation practice at Thompson Coburn LLP. He conducts a vigorous litigation practice that includes trust disputes, Chapter 11 debtor and creditor work, wage and hour defense work, corporate dissolutions, and business disputes of all types in Federal and state courts. He is actively litigating franchise disputes and doing trial and appellate work.

Appointed by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye in 2011, Rich served for three years as a State Bar Legal Services Trust Fund Commissioner. The State Bar reappointed him for another four year term, the last two years of which he served as Co-Chair of the Commission. The State Bar reappointed him to the Commission for a term that expires in 2021. He is a member of the LSTFC Executive Committee. From October, 2018-January, 2019, Rich served as Co-Chair of the State Bar Stakeholder's Working Group of representatives of the legal services community and Trustees of the State Bar assigned to study the future of the Commission and its grant making role for the IOLTA program. Other appointees included Margaret Morrow of Public Counsel, the Honorable Superior Court Judge Brad Seligman, and Presiding Justice Vance W. Raye of the Third District Court of Appeal. Rich has served terms on the Boards of LAFLA, UC Riverside Foundation, the State Bar Foundation, and the Los Angeles Children's Museum, which he served as President. He is a 35 year member of the Board of Trustees of the Max H. Gluck Foundation.

Little known facts: Rich was first team All-Ivy League tackle on Princeton's nationally ranked 1964 undefeated football team. He is a real estate developer, a founder of Bear Surfboards, a licensing company, and a co-founder of a California wine exporter. For 11 years, he coached AYSO soccer. He collects modern first editions and art from the Great Depression.

In 1964, Rich married his grammar school sweetheart Lois Morse. They have five children and 16 grandchildren.

Your **Ventura County** Lawyer®

Phone: 805-233-7848
Fax: 805-456-0885

Christina Vanarelli, Attorney at Law
Christina@YourVenturaCountyLawyer.com

VIA EMAIL ONLY
Doan.Nguyen@calbar.ca.gov

June 11, 2021

Doan T. Nguyen, Program Manager
Office of Access & Inclusion
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Statement of Interest to Serve as Co-Vice Chair
of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

Dear Ms. Nguyen,

Thank you for meeting with me earlier this week to discuss my potential role as an officer of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission. I am interested in serving as a Co-Vice Chair.

I was initially appointed to the Commission in 2011 and served until 2018 when I termed out. My background and prior career was in banking, and I had virtually no knowledge of the provision of legal services to the indigent. But I learned, and I found the work of the Commission to be both interesting and rewarding. During that first term, I served as Co-Vice Chair in or around 2013 and as Co-Chair in or around 2015. I also chaired the Partnership Grants Committee for a few years during that term.

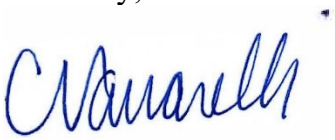
My service on the Commission has made me passionate about legal services, and has also caused me to recognize that in my county, legal services for the indigent are not nearly as available as they should be. Therefore, in 2014, I established Ventura County Legal Services, Inc., a nonprofit law corporation, through which I provide free legal representation to indigent people in Ventura County.

After taking a year off the Commission, I was re-appointed in 2019 and have chaired the Partnership Grants Committee since that re-appointment. I enjoy working with State Bar Staff and I am pleased to see how the Legal Services Trust Fund Program has evolved

over the past decade. For example, we have many more sources of funds for distribution, which means more people can receive services. In addition, our grantees have gotten more creative in how services are delivered, especially during this pandemic. We now have SmartSimple so that access to the grant applications and other data is readily available at all times. And, the manner in which funding decisions are made is becoming more regimented in order to improve consistency and transparency. The momentum is positive and I want to continue to be a part of it.

Therefore, I would welcome the opportunity be a part of the Commission's leadership for the 2021-2022 term, as a Co-Vice Chair.

Sincerely,



Christina Vanarelli
Attorney at Law

Enclosure: Resume

CHRISTINA VANARELLI
ATTORNEY AT LAW

June 10, 2021

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Christina Vanarelli, Inc., A Professional Law Corporation
January 1, 2014 - present

Your Ventura County Lawyer® - Solo practitioner emphasizing service to Ventura County residents, business owners, and nonprofit organizations. Very active in the legal community, at both the local and state levels. Approved for court appointment in criminal and juvenile delinquency cases in Ventura County.

Law Offices of Mark Pachowicz, A Professional Law Corporation
May 2006 - December 31, 2013

Senior Associate, handling a caseload of criminal, juvenile, and civil litigation matters from beginning to end, including writs and appeals. Civil litigation practice consisted primarily of business and real estate matters, as well as some family law matters. Substantial jury trial experience, both criminal and civil.

Self-Employed (Law Clerk/Banking Consultant)
March 2004 - May 2006

- *Santa Barbara County Public Defender (Law Clerk, 2002 - 2006)*
  - Represented clients as a certified law student under the supervision of the Public Defender. (Volunteer work.)
- *Schley Look & Guthrie LLP (Law Clerk, 2004 - 2006)*
  - Drafted contracts, motions, and conducted legal research for civil litigator, probate attorney, and corporate/business attorneys.
- *Law Offices of Mark Pachowicz, A Professional Law Corporation (Law Clerk, 2005 - 2006)*
  - Performed legal research and drafted motions for Mr. Pachowicz.
- *Business First National Bank (Banking Consultant, 2004 - 2005)*
  - Part time consulting work while transitioning into the legal profession.

1991 - 2004

Various positions at local banks, starting as a bank teller and working up to the last banking position held, which was as Vice President and Operations Administrator for Business First National Bank in Santa Barbara.

EDUCATION

- Juris Doctor, Ventura College of Law, 2006 (admitted as a “Special Student”)
- Amador Valley High School, Pleasanton, California (graduated June 1991)

VOLUNTEER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Regular Guest Instructor - Women's Economic Ventures, Ventura, CA (2014 - present)
- Guest instructor - Ventura College of Law (October 2012, Civil Procedure)
- Instructor - "Street Law" - La Cuesta Continuation High School (weekly class, 2003 - 2005)

VOLUNTEER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- My Client's Pants are on Fire! What to do When a Client Lies (MCLE Program - April 2019)
- Restraining Orders 101 (MCLE Program - July 2018)
- Paralegals and Pro Bono (MCLE Program - September 2015)
- When Business Meets Pleasure: Ethical Considerations in Personal Relationships of the Legal Professional (MCLE Program - July 2012)

OTHER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Ventura County Legal Services, Inc. (2014 - Present)
- 2018 President - Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association (Member of Board of Directors since 2012)
- Commissioner, Legal Services Trust Fund Commission of the State Bar of California (2011 - 2018 [termed out]; 2019 - present, current Chair of the Partnership Grants Committee)
- Ventura County Bar Association Board of Directors (2011 - 2014)
- Past President, Barristers of the Ventura County Bar Association (2011)
- Ventura County Mock Trial Presider (2016 - Present)
- Mock Trial Team Coach - Thousand Oaks High School (Past)
- Board of Directors, Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Tri-Counties (1996 - 2004; 2012 - 2018 [termed out])
- Past President - Woodbridge Park Homeowners Association (198 units)
- Judging Official - USA Gymnastics and United States Association of Independent Gymnastics Clubs (2004 - present)
- Treasurer, County Square Owners Association (March 2020 - present)

ATTACHMENT D

June 10, 2021

State Bar of California Board of Trustees
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Board of Trustees,

I was appointed to the Commission in 2013. As a longtime Commissioner, I have served in numerous roles, including Chair and Vice-Chair. I have also chaired standing Committees of the Commission (e.g. Partnership Grants), as well as short-lived committees (Homeless Prevention). As the Commission more fully integrates changes from the Board of Trustees, and takes on additional grant-making responsibilities, I am interested in leading these discussions about the Commission's future. I believe my historical perspective will be of use as the Commission staff and members consider how to implement new processes and forge ahead for the legal services community.

Please let me know if you need any additional information, and thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,
Christian Schreiber
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(415) 484-0980 - main
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CHRISTIAN SCHREIBER

FIRM EXPERIENCE

FOUNDING PARTNER (APRIL 2018 - PRESENT)
OLIVIER SCHREIBER & CHAO LLP
Complex civil litigation and appellate practice with a focus on employment, whistleblower, civil rights, and consumer issues. Individual, class action, and mass action matters.

PARTNER (2009 – MARCH 2018)
CHAVEZ & GERTLER LLP
Complex civil litigation and appellate practice with a focus on employment, civil rights, and consumer issues.

CLASS ACTION LITIGATION ASSOCIATE (2006 – 2009)
SCHNEIDER WALLACE KONECKY WOTKYNS LLP
Complex civil litigation and practice with a focus on employment, consumer, and civil rights.

LEADERSHIP

IMPACT FUND
CHAIR OF THE BOARD (2018 - PRESENT)
BOARD MEMBER (2015-2018)
MEMBER, GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE BAR, LEGAL SERVICES TRUST FUND COMMISSION
MEMBER (2013 - PRESENT)
PAST CHAIR, VICE CHAIR
PAST CHAIR, HOMELESS PREVENTION GRANT COMMITTEE (2021)
PAST CHAIR, PARTNERSHIP GRANT COMMITTEE

CA EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, WAGE & HOUR, ARBITRATION, AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES
MEMBER (2007 - PRESENT)

LEGAL AID AT WORK
CLINIC VOLUNTEER AND GUEST LECTURER (2008-PRESENT)

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS (OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT)
10-YEAR MEMBER OF BOARDS AT 2 OAKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS (4 YEARS AS PRESIDENT)

HONORS AND AWARDS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPER LAWYERS (2013 - PRESENT); RISING STAR (2012)

CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS ASSOCIATION – SERVICE AWARDS (2017, 2019)

ADMISSIONS

All federal district courts in California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES SCHOOL OF LAW, J.D.
- CONCENTRATION IN CRITICAL RACE STUDIES
- PROGRAM IN PUBLIC INTEREST LAW & POLICY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, B.A. (TRIPLE MAJOR: AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES, POLITICAL SCIENCE, ENGLISH)

RECENT REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Olson v. Lyft, Inc. (2020) 56 Cal.App.5th 862 (appeal upholding trial court order denying motion to compel arbitration of claims brought under Private Attorneys General Act)

U.S. ex rel. Hayes v. Covidien, L.P., Case No. C 14-1511-EDL (N.D. Cal.) (2019) ($20 million settlement under the False Claims Act)

Danganan v. Guardian Protection Services (2018) 179 A.3d 9 (Penn. Supreme Ct.) (Expanding Pennsylvania state consumer protection law to out of state residents)

Roe v. Intellicorp, Inc., Case No. CASE NO. 1:12-cv-02288 (N.D. Ohio 2014) ($18.6 million settlement under Fair Credit Reporting Act)