

**Philadelphia Bar Association  
Board of Governors Meeting  
February 26, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Chair Brad V. Shuttleworth.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Assistant Treasurer Mary F. Platt presented the Financial Report for the period ending January 31, 2015. She reported that revenues were under budget by approximately \$42,646 and expenses were under budget by approximately \$28,381, leaving a net of approximately \$14,265. She remarked it was a fresh fiscal year and this deficiency was a one month snapshot rather than a trend. The Association anticipates making up the difference with dues that are just beginning to trickle in and are not technically due until March 31, 2015 and will continue to arrive through mid-year. After consideration, the Treasurer's Financial Report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chancellor Albert S. Dandridge, III reported that he attended the Pennsylvania Bar Association mid-year meeting in Jamaica. He spoke at a naturalization ceremony at his alma mater, Temple University, at the Fox School of Business, and it was very special to welcome the new citizens. Following that ceremony, he drove, with the Association's Senior Managing Editor, Publications, Jeff Lyons, to Harrisburg where he interviewed the new Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas G. Saylor for the Philadelphia Lawyer Magazine, and the Chancellor greatly appreciated the amount of time Saylor devoted for that interview. The Chancellor went to the National Conference of Bar Presidents meeting in Houston, Texas, and commented that it was interesting to interact with bar presidents from throughout the country. The Chancellor attended a real estate forum presented by Carol Huff, which was the third in a series, and it was informative and well attended. The Chancellor was interviewed by Patrick Murphy, lawyer and host of MSNBC's "Taking the Hill." On February 23, 2015 the Chancellor traveled to Washington, D.C. to watch Temple University Beasley School of Law Dean JoAnne A. Epps honored by Senator Robert P. Casey, followed by a reception and symposium. The Chancellor was interviewed by the Philadelphia Tribune for an article likely to be released on February 27, 2015. On February 24, 2015, the Chancellor was honored at a luncheon held by the Justinian Society of Philadelphia at the Union League, where he was given a baseball cap signed by Jimmy Rollins and a book about the Philadelphia Phillies. The Chancellor attended the Chancellor's Forum on February 24, 2015 entitled "Charlie Hebdo and Free Speech," hosted by the International Law Committee, featuring Mark C. Rahdert, Professor, Temple University Beasley School of Law, Mary Catherine Roper, Senior Staff Attorney, American Civil Liberties Union, Ryan Tack-Hooper, Staff Attorney, Council on American-Islamic Relations, and Signe Wilkinson, Pulitzer Prize-winning Editorial Cartoonist, Philadelphia Daily News. The Forum was excellent and very well attended. The Chancellor is scheduled to be interviewed by the Philadelphia Inquirer Editorial Board the week of March 2, 2015. The Chancellor, among others, is scheduled to receive the Veterans of Influence Award presented by the Philadelphia Business Journal on March 19, 2015 at the Union League in Philadelphia.

The Chancellor announced two important upcoming events. First, the Association will hold its Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon on March 10, 2015 at the Hyatt at the Bellevue. The Keynote Speaker will be Ari Melber, lawyer and co-host of MSNBC's "The Cycle," and Correspondent, The Nation. At the Meeting, the Association will present the Justice Sonia Sotomayor Diversity Award to the Honorable Nelson A. Diaz. Also at the event, Immediate-Past Chancellor William P. Fedullo will be honored and presented with a gold snuff box, which is a replica of the one presented to Andrew Hamilton for his defense of John Peter Zenger in 1735. Finally, the Justinian Society of Philadelphia and the Louis D. Brandeis Law Society Foundation will present the Lifetime Achievement Award in Memory of Marvin Comisky and Judge G. Fred DiBona to an outstanding member of the bench or bar. The second important event is the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Candidates Forum, "Decision 2015," scheduled March 19, 2015 at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Conference Center at the Wanamaker Building, where ten of the candidates are scheduled to participate in a 90-minute moderated forum. The Chancellor encouraged attendance at both events.

Chair Shuttleworth reported on behalf of himself and co-chair, Assistant Secretary Hon. A. Michael Snyder, on the Law School Outreach initiative. The Outreach sponsored a panel entitled "Interviewing Tips and Techniques From the Top" on January 28, 2015 at the Villanova University School of Law, with the assistance of Jennifer Henfey, Esq., Villanova Law School Associate Dean for Finance and Administration and Executive Director of Career Strategy and Advancement, including panelists Michael Hayes, Esq. of Montgomery McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, Lori Rosenberg, Esq. of Cozen O'Connor, Michael Ecker, Esq. of Eckert Seamans, and C. Lawrence Holmes, Esq. of Dilworth Paxson, which was attended by 70 law students.

Additionally, the Chair announced that the ABA sponsored a panel at Rutgers School of Law - Camden on February 9, 2015 on interviewing skills and job-seeking tips. Grant Berger of the Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee was a panelist, and the Law School Outreach co-chairs participated along with the Association's Manager of Member Services Andrea Morris-Tracey. The panel offered terrific tips, and the event was a great success.

Finally, the Chair reported that the first Section and Division chair's meeting is scheduled to be held February 27, 2015, and the agenda includes discussing their plans for the "Boots on the Ground" Community Service Initiative.

Chancellor Dandridge appointed Jovan Goldstein for a one-year term on the Association's Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention. Upon consideration by the Board, the appointment was unanimously approved.

Committee of Seventy President and CEO David Thornburgh presented a report on the activities and priorities of the Committee. Thornburgh noted that he has been on the job 87 days, and that the Committee, founded in 1904, has a large Board consisting of 56 members. He reflected that the Committee has been particularly busy during this election season. He stated the Committee has 4 fundamental priorities: (1) to improve the process, from registration to voting, including monitoring activity at the polls, and the Committee is now looking to engage young people in voting day operations; (2) to elect good, honest, capable individuals into office, and break down barriers for young people considering running for office; (3) to assist qualified

individuals who are in office, including improving how Philadelphia is managed and governed; and, (4) to be a resource for the public including keeping them informed, and facilitating a strong relationship with the media. Thornburgh remarked that the Committee serves as a “watchdog” and will take action if a politician oversteps his or her bounds or breaks the law, and is working to reform the system and improve the future election process. Finally, Thornburgh said the Committee’s new Chair, Stephen S. Tang, Ph.D., MBA, who is President and CEO of the University City Science Center in West Philadelphia, has an entrepreneurial innovative background and brings a good blend of business people and lawyers to the table.

Chair Shuttleworth introduced Carl A. Solano, co-chair of the Appellate Courts Committee and Bruce P. Merenstein, chair of the Federal Courts Committee, to speak on a recent proposal to amend the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit rule of disciplinary enforcement to allow for a member of the Third Circuit’s Bar to be placed on inactive status if they have not entered their appearance in the Third Circuit during the past five year period. Although not on the Board’s advance Agenda, they explained they were requested to speak to the Board following a recent article on this topic in the Legal Intelligence by Samuel Stretton, Esq..

It was explained that an attorney subject to disciplinary action in state court was, more often than not, then reciprocally subject to disciplinary action in the Third Circuit, also. The genesis of the proposal was due to an increase in the amount of disciplinary cases that the Third Circuit Court had to address for attorneys that might not even be actively practicing in that Court. If the proposed change went into effect, lawyers placed on inactive status after not entering their appearance for five years would not be subject to reciprocal discipline, reducing the Court’s need to address this issue. A lawyer could choose to not be deemed inactive by filing a form assuring the Third Circuit Court that no disciplinary action was pending against them. Alternatively, a lawyer could reactivate their status by filing a form certifying that no disciplinary action was pending against them and paying a fee of approximately \$25.00.

The proposed rule change triggered concerns that it would create an unfair hierarchy by penalizing lawyers who do not appear in the Court regularly, and raised questions about noticing those lawyers who were to be designated as “inactive,” due to an old and outdated roster of lawyers. The proposal was issued on February 8, 2015 and the comment period expires March 9, 2015. The PA Bar Association’s Committee on Judicial Administration is also studying the proposal and may file comments. It was noted that, currently, three other Federal Court of Appeals have imposed a similar rule as the one proposed. Former Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson commented that it established a dangerous precedent. Civil Rights Committee chair Su Ming Yeh voiced concern for those lawyers who take only occasional appeals, and concerns with how the new rule would be implemented. Chancellor’s Cabinet Addition – Pro Bono Representative Louis Rulli noted that the rule was overkill for a relatively insignificant problem, and the lack of sufficient time to comment was troubling.

Since the deadline for submitting comments to the proposal falls after the next Board meeting, the Board afforded Chancellor Dandridge the flexibility to address the issue with the Third Circuit Rules Committee by requesting additional time for comment or assembling resources to respond to the proposed rule change in a timely fashion.

Chair Shuttleworth introduced Judicial Commission Chair A. Harold Datz to report on the activities of the Association's Commission on Judicial Selection and Commission. Initially, Datz remarked that the Commission has had five meetings thus far, and he thanked all members of the Commission and the Investigative Division for their efforts. The Commission needed investigators and the Bar responded swiftly, resulting in thirty-plus new members of the Investigative Division, which is now fully staffed. Datz commended Jovan Goldstein for stepping in to the opening on the Commission, and believes he will bring significant insight to the Commission. Datz applauded the Chancellor's participation and insight on the Commission, and also recognized the assistance and support of Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz, Director of Public and Legal Services Charles Klitsch and Director of Communications and Marketing Meredith Avakian-Hardaway. Of eleven candidates that have come before the Commission to date, eight were recommended, two highly recommended, and one not recommended. The first round of ratings will be released in late March 2015. The Commission has received 47 questionnaires, and nominating petitions must be filed by March 11, 2015.

Datz announced the Commission has made two changes to the guidelines, which have proved helpful. First, the Commission will issue recommendations and ratings on Pennsylvania appellate court candidates to ensure that all candidates across the state would have an equal opportunity to be heard, and they would, due to limited time and resources, adopt the findings of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Commission. As a result, the Commission did, this year, adopt the ratings of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee for appellate court candidates. Second, the Commission reviewed its prior rule that a member could not be involved in any political campaigns or judicial campaigns of any nature throughout the state, and amended it to cover only campaigns involving candidates for Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and Municipal Court and statewide appellate court candidates.

The Commission has held two training for the Investigative Division to date, led by Datz and Chancellor's Cabinet Addition – Pro Bono Representative Louis S. Rulli. Datz was interviewed by the Philadelphia Inquirer and the PA Law Weekly. Datz suggested that the CLE program that was held at the 2014 Philadelphia Bench Bar Conference entitled "So, You Want To Be A Judge?" be repeated every election year, since a number of participants have commented that they appreciated the insight the program offered. The Commission considered, but then declined, to enact a rule preventing a candidate who failed to receive at least 25% of the Commission's vote at their initial interview the ability to seek reconsideration, but, particularly in light of the current crowded field, that rule might be revisited in the future. Datz was contacted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic Executive Committee who advised they would be following the Commission's recommendations. Datz was also contacted by the local president of Americans for Democratic Action, who, likewise, said they will be following the Commission's recommendations, and, further, suggested that the Commission, like the Pennsylvania Bar Association, publish the candidate's questionnaires. The Board briefly discussed the release of information by the Commission to the public, to which Datz responded that would be proscribed due to the Commission's confidentiality rules and to prevent a chilling effect on those who may comment on candidates.

Chancellor Dandridge commended Datz on his efforts with the Commission.

ABA Delegate Butler Buchanan, III presented a report on the actions of the ABA House of Delegates at the 2015 midyear meeting. Buchanan reported that he traveled to the meeting in Houston, Texas along with his co-Delegate, Former Chancellor Abraham C. Reich. Buchanan reported that a total of 21 Resolutions were presented and all passed, and noted that there were interesting Resolutions addressed relating to criminal matters including youthful offenders, death penalty process and “stand your ground” laws. He summarized that it was a good meeting.

Chair Shuttleworth introduced Assistant Secretary Hon. A. Michael Snyder, who spoke on the Board’s *pro bono* requirement pursuant to Bylaws Section 216A. Each Board member, whether appointed or elected, is required to certify, for the period ending June 30, that they (1) have undertaken one new *pro bono* matter; (2) are employed on a full-time basis by a public interest organization; or, (3) have provided alternative support if they are prohibited from handling a *pro bono* matter based upon his or her position or is prevented from handling a *pro bono* matter due to other circumstances. The Certification must be returned to Assistant Secretary Snyder or Director of Public and Legal Services Charles Klitsch on or before July 6, 2015, or resulting action may be considered under Bylaws Section 212.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline G. Segal  
Secretary

**Board of Governors**  
**Attendance**  
**February 26, 2015**

**Voting Members:**

**Present:**

Albert Dandridge  
Jacqueline Segal  
Hon. A. Michael Snyder  
Wesley Payne  
Mary Platt  
Brad Shuttleworth  
Rachel Gallegos  
Natalie Klyashtorny  
Emily Marks  
Dawn Tancredi  
Lawrence Felzer  
Peter Newman

Rachel Keene  
Kathleen Kirkpatrick  
Ira Lefton  
Kevin Mincey  
Jeffrey Rosenthal  
William Fedullo  
Graham Laub  
Dina Ronsayro  
Su Ming Yeh  
Robert Casey  
Joseph Turchi

**Absent:**

Gaetan Alfano  
Deborah Gross  
Lauren McKenna  
Rachel Kopp  
Rahat Babar  
Jeremy Menkowitz  
Erin Siciliano  
Julia Swain  
Nycole Watson

Rachel Keene  
Eric Weitz  
Maria Bermudez  
Erin Lamb  
Robert Muench  
Scott Small  
Steven Rothberg  
Jennifer O'Leary

**Non-voting Members:**

**Present:**

Jennifer Coatsworth  
Mark Taraseiwicz  
Kathleen Wilkinson

Louis Rulli  
Butler Buchanan  
Andrew Laver

**Absent:**

Lawrence Beaser  
Sophia Lee  
Molly Peckman  
Rachel Branson  
Steven Bizar  
M. Kelly Tillery  
Heather Austin  
Vivian Luckiewicz  
Hilda Thompson  
Cheryl Disch  
Abrahan Reich

