

**District of Columbia Bar  
Board of Governors Meeting  
September 9, 2025**

**Call to Order  
(Agenda Item 1)**

President Sadina Montani called the meeting to order.

The following members of the Board of Governors (“Board”) attended the meeting: President-Elect Diane A. Seltzer, Treasurer Joshua L. Mogil, Treasurer-Elect Amanda C. Molina (remote), Immediate Past President Shaun M. Snyder, Lukman S. Azeez, Leila S. Bham, Gaffar Chowdhury (remote), Karen A. Newton Cole, Anthony J. Coppolino, Shirley Diaz, Patrick C. English, Natalie M. Koss, Andrea Mangones, Ramya Ravindran (remote), DeAndra Roache (remote), Secretary Bennett Rushkoff, Stephen A. Saltzburg, Mark A. Salzberg (remote), Belinda Edwards Taylor (remote), and Courtney L. Weiner.

Board members Francis Dong and Louis Lopez did not attend the meeting.

D.C. Bar Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Robert J. Spagnoletti and D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center Executive Director Kelli Neptune attended the meeting along with the following D.C. Bar staff: Chief Operating Officer Matthew Butler, Chief Financial Officer Margarita Lorenzetti, Chief Information Officer Caterina Luppi, General Counsel Erum Mirza, Chief Programs Officer Darrin Sobin, David Chu (remote), Dennis Cuevas, Akil Ellis, Carla Freudenburg, Kevin Goode (remote), Amy Hackett (remote), Debbie Hearn, Rhonda Jackson, Raymond List (remote), Tim Ramlogan (remote), Pamela Robinson, Delonte Rogers, Hope Todd, Crystal White, and Adriana Zick.

Other attendees included CLE Committee Chair John J. Matteo (remote) and Vice Chair Scott S. Bernstein (remote), Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee Chair Hilary P.

Gerzhoy, and American Bar Association (ABA) State Delegate Paul M. Smith (remote).

### **President's Report (Agenda Item 2)**

President Montani reported on her attendance at (i) the annual meetings in Toronto of the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) and the National Association for Bar Professionals (NABE); and (ii) the New Delhi International Rule of Law Convention hosted by the Bar Association of India. She encouraged the Board to recruit candidates for the Judicial Nomination Commission, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, the Board, and the Bar Communities' steering committees.

### **Consent Agenda (Agenda Item 3)**

President Montani presented the Consent Agenda to the Board, including (i) draft minutes of the July 22, 2025, Board meeting and (ii) appointments to the following Bar committees: Communities, Continuing Legal Education, Innovations in Legal Practice, Judicial Evaluation, Lawyer Assistance, and Leadership Development.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda.

*See Tab 3.*

### **Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item 4)**

Treasurer Mogil presented the Treasurer's Report on the preliminary results of the Bar's financial performance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

*See Tab 4.*

**CEO's Report  
(Agenda Item 5)**

CEO Robert Spagnoletti presented the CEO Report, including an update on Bar license renewals, Pro Bono Center donations, and suspensions for non-payment of license fees. He introduced Debbie Hearn, recently hired as the Bar's new Director of Marketing and Communications. He reminded Board members to share The Ambassador with colleagues and networks and reported that Bar staff is endeavoring to provide the Board with meeting documents by the Tuesday before a Board meeting. He noted that the documents circulated for this meeting included (i) annual reports on the D.C. Bar Clients' Security Fund and the Practice Management Advisory Service, and (ii) an illustrative example of a reappointment report from the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure. The Bar's Celebration of Leadership will be held on June 18, 2026.

*See Tab 5.*

**Report on the 2025 ABA Annual Meeting  
(Agenda Item 6)**

ABA State Delegate Smith reported on the ABA's 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto, emphasizing the high visibility of and participation by D.C. Bar members. He highlighted the House of Delegates' passage of an amendment to the ABA constitution that permits state bars to formally authorize their delegates to vote in their individual capacity rather than on behalf of the state bar. Delegate Smith also noted that the House of Delegates passed a series of resolutions relating to challenges to the rule of law and civil rights, a resolution to establish the federal Election Day as a federal public holiday, a resolution concerning bullying in the legal profession, and two resolutions addressing immigration enforcement.

**Report of the Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee  
(Agenda Item 7)**

Committee Chair Gerzhoy and Hope Todd, Director, Legal Ethics, presented a Revised Report to the Board of Governors Proposing Changes to D.C. Rule of Professional Responsibility 1.15(e) and Comments.

After some discussion, President Montani tabled the planned vote on the proposed changes, which were to be added to the Board's October meeting agenda.

*See Tab 7.*

**Annual Report of the Continuing Legal Education Committee  
(Agenda Item 8)**

Committee Chair Matteo presented the Annual Report of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee summarizing the work of the CLE program, which in 2024-2025 offered 150 accredited classes in more than 22 practice areas. A career summit for federal government attorneys had over 200 registrants.

*See Tab 8.*

**Corrections to BOG Committee Appointments  
(Agenda Item 9)**

President Montani presented revised Board committee appointments for FY 2026 to correct errors in the set of appointments that had been approved by the Board at its July 22, 2025, meeting.

The Board approved the revised appointments.

*See Tab 9.*

**Report of the Screening Committee  
(Agenda Item 10)**

Committee Chair Coppolino presented the Screening Committee's report recommending six appointments to the D.C. Bar Foundation Board of Directors.

The Board appointed the individuals recommended by the Screening Committee.

*See Tab 10.*

**Executive Session  
(Agenda Item 11)**

The Board moved into Executive Session.

**Adjournment  
(Agenda Item 12)**

There being no further business, President Montani adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bennett Rushkoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bennett" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Rushkoff".

Bennett Rushkoff  
Secretary