NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING JUNE 21, 2014 THE OTESAGA, COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK

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PRESENT: Abella; Ajaiyeoba; Alcott; Alomar; Arenson; Baker; Barnes; Barreiro; Barrett; Behe; Behrins; Bloom; Brown, C.; Brown, J.; Brown, T.; Bruno; Buholtz; Burke, K.; Burns; Calcagni; Cecero; Chang; Christian; Christopher; Clarke; Cohen, D.; Cohen, I.; Cohen, O.; Cohn; Connor; Cooper; Coseo; Cox; Crummey; Curley; Dean; DeMartino; Denton; Desamours; Dotzler; Doyle; Effman; Eng; England; Epps; Fallek; Fay; Fennell; Fernandez; Ferris; Finerty; First; Fisher; Flynn; Fontaine; Gox, G.; Fox, M.; Freedman, H.; Friedman; Gaffney; Gallagher; Galligan; Genoa; Gensini; Gerace; Gerstman; Getnick; Giordano; Gold; Goldberg; Goldenberg; Gordon-Oliver; Gross; Grossman; Gutekunst; Gutierrez; Hage; Harper; Hassett; Hetherington; Hillman; Himes; Hines; Hoskins; Hutter; Jaglom; Jochmans; Jones; Karson; Kase; Kean; Keiser; Kerson; Kiernan; Kiesel; King, B.; Kirby; Koch; Kretser; Kyriakopoulos; Lanouette; Larose; Lau-Kee; Lawrence; Leber; Lee; Leventhal; Levin; Levy; Lewis; Lindenauer; Ling-Cohan; Lonuzzi; Lugo; Madigan; Lakofsky; Mandell; Marangos, D.; Marinaccio; Martin, D.; Martin, E.; Marwell; McCafferty; McCarron; McDonald; McKay; McNamara; Meacham; Meislahn; Meyers; Miller, M.; Minkowitz; Miranda; Morales; Moses; Moxley; Mulhall; Napoletano; Nowotny; O'Donnell; Ostertag; Otis; Owens; Pajak; Perez; Pfeifer; Prager; Preston; Prudente; Radick; Ranni; Raskin; Reitzfeld; Richman; Richter; Rivera; Rodner; Rosiny; Rosner; Rothenberg; Rothstein; Rowe; Safer; Samuels, V.; Scanlon; Schofield; Schraver; Shamoon; Sheehan; Silverman; Slezak; Smith, S.; Spitler; Spodek; Standard; Stanislaus; Stankus; Starkman; Stern; Sullivan; Sweet; Tennant; Terranova; Tesser; Thaler; Tilton; Ugurlayan; Vigdor; Weinberger; Weinblatt; Welch; Westlake; Wildgrube; Williams; Wimpfheimer; Winograd; Witmer; Wood; Woodland; Young; Younger; Zuchlewski; Zuckerman.

Mr. Miranda presided over the meeting as Chair of the House.

- 1. <u>Call to order, introduction of new members</u>. The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Mr. Miranda welcomed the new members of the House.
- 2. <u>Minutes of April 5, 2014 meeting</u>. The minutes were accepted as previously distributed.
- 3. <u>Report of the Treasurer</u>. Sharon Stern Gerstman, Treasurer, reviewed the Association's expenditures with respect to Bar Center operations; administration; technology; marketing, membership and member benefits; governance; programming; CLE and publications; and advocacy and improvement of justice. The report was received with thanks.
- 4. <u>Presentation of Root-Stimson Award</u>. President Lau-Kee presented the Root-Stimson Award, which honors members of the profession for outstanding community service, to Thomas Beecher of Buffalo. Of counsel at Phillips Lytle LLP, he was honored in particular for his community service.

- 5. <u>Presentation of Trial Lawyers Section National Trial Advocacy Awards</u>. Evan M. Goldberg, past chair of the Trial Lawyers Section, presented awards to teams from Syracuse University School of Law and St. John's University School of Law, and recognized the St. John's team as overall champion for advancing farthest in the national competition.
- 6. <u>Address by Robert M. Carlson, Chair of the ABA House of Delegates.</u> Mr. Carlson provided an informational report on the work of the ABA House of Delegates. The report was received with thanks.
- 7. Report of Executive Director Search Committee. Immediate Past President David M. Schraver, chair of the search committee, reported on the committee's work in reviewing candidates for the position of Executive Director. He then introduced David R. Watson, Executive Director of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, as the committee's selection for the position effective June 21, 2014. Mr. Watson then addressed the House. The report was received with thanks.
- 8. <u>Installation of President</u>. Mr. Lau-Kee was formally installed as President. The oath of office was administered by Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo, Senior Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals. Mr. Lau-Kee then addressed the House with respect to his planned initiatives for his term as President.
- 9. <u>Report of President</u>. Mr. Lau-Kee highlighted the information contained in his printed report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.
- 10. Report of Committee on Legal Aid and President's Committee on Access to Justice. Hon. George H. Lowe, immediate past co-chair of the President's Committee on Access to Justice, together with current co-chair William T. Russell, Jr., and Andrew A Scherer, a member of the Committee on Legal Aid, reviewed the committees' report analyzing the New York rule requiring attorneys to report voluntary pro bono service and contributions to legal services organizations and data from other states with a reporting requirement. The report was received with thanks.
- 11. Executive Committee resolution re mandatory pro bono report. Executive Committee member Scott M. Karson reviewed the Executive Committee's resolution and other materials submitted in connection with consideration of the resolution. Mr. Lau-Kee moved to postpone consideration of the resolution to the November 1 House meeting, reporting that together with Mr. Miranda, he had met with Chief Administrative Judge A. Gail Prudenti and Helaine M. Barnett, chair of the Chief Judge's Task Force to Expand Civil Legal Services in New York, and believed the meeting was productive. He asked for additional time to address this matter with them. After discussion, the motion to postpone was amended to change the dates contained in the scheduling resolution to reference the November 1 meeting and change the deadlines set forth in the resolution to October 9. The motion to postpone was approved on a standing vote of 136-46.

- 12. Report and recommendations of Queens County Bar Association. Mr. Miranda reported that this report will be postponed to the November 1 meeting in order to allow additional time for review and discussion.
- 13. Report and recommendations of Nominating Committee. Stephen P. Younger, immediate past chair of the Nominating Committee, reviewed the committee's recommendations for amendments to the committee's Model Rules, which govern the committee's operations. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the amendments.
- 14. Report and recommendations of Audit Committee. Scott M. Karson, chair of the Audit Committee, together with Audit Committee member Lesley Friedman Rosenthal, presented proposed amendments to the Association's Code of Conduct, Business Conduct Standards, and Audit Committee charge, noting that the changes are intended to bring the Association into compliance with the Nonprofit Revitalization Act of 2013. After discussion, separate motions were adopted to approve each set of amendments.
- 15. Report of The New York Bar Foundation. Cristine Cioffi, President of The Foundation, presented an informational report on recent developments with respect to The Foundation, welcoming the new House members as they also become members of The Foundation. She reported that The Foundation has approved a new strategic plan. Finally, she encouraged members to read The Foundation's newsletter, which had been distributed to the members. The report was received with thanks.
- 16. <u>Administrative items</u>. Mr. Miranda reported on the following:
 - a. New Audit Committee members. At its June 19-20, 2014 meeting, the Executive Committee had confirmed the appointment of June M. Castellano, Margaret J. Finerty, and Mark S. Gorgos as new members of the Audit Committee. Pursuant to the Bylaws, the House is required to ratify the selection of these members. A motion was adopted to ratify the members' selection.
 - b. <u>Rules for submission of reports</u>. Mr. Miranda reminded the delegates that the Association has adopted rules for submission of reports for consideration by the House and the Executive Committee and asked that members review the rules.
 - c. He thanked the staff for their work in preparing for this meeting.
 - d. He noted that the delegates had received a postcard at their seats entitled "Justice Is..." and asked members to complete and turn in the cards for use in preparing artwork on the topic of justice.
- 17. <u>Date and place of next meeting</u>. Mr. Miranda announced that the next meeting of the House of Delegates would take place on Saturday, November 1, 2014 at the Bar Center in Albany.

18.	Adjournment.	There being no further business to come before the House of Delegates, th	e
	meeting was a	journed.	

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen G. Makofsky

Secretary