



## BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 - 4:00 p.m.  
via **Zoom**

### MINUTES

Approved May 10, 2023

#### MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

P = Present; Z = Present via Zoom; T = Present Telephonically; A = Absent

Wendi Sorensen - Z

James Cross - Z

James Anderson – Z

Cynthia Braun - Z

Robert Denison – Z

Michael Goldberg – Z

Kimberly Heldt - Z

Phoebe Moffatt – Z

Blake Moscatello - **A**

Jeffrey Neff - Z

Elizabeth Ortiz - Z

Teresa Welborn - Z

State Bar Staff: Randal Westbury

Minutes taken by: Randal Westbury

#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Wendi Sorensen  
4:03 p.m.

#### 2. Call to the Public –

No Public members present.

#### 3. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the March 8, 2023 General Session meeting were reviewed.

Motion for approval by: James Cross

Second by: Jeff Neff

Chair calls for vote: Unanimous, motion passes

The minutes of the March 8, 2023 Executive Session meeting were reviewed.

Motion for approval by: James Cross

Second by: Jeff Neff

Chair calls for vote: Unanimous, motion passes

**4. Summit on Specializations Review:**

The discussion opened with the chair providing positive comments on the productivity of the SOS meeting. There were several issues addressed and from the feedback provided by the Commission chairs, the SOS meeting was well received by everyone. The BLS asked the Commission chairs to revisit their Standards and report back.

Jim Cross added that he felt the SOS meeting was very productive and the meeting was long over-due. The BLS Chair requested Randal Westbury to schedule and coordinate the follow up SOS meeting.

**5. Motion to move into Executive Session for purposes of reviewing recommendations for Certification and Recertification:**

Motion by: James Cross

Second by: Robert Denison

Chair calls for vote: Unanimous, motion passes

Convene into Executive Session

4:06 pm.

Reconvene to General Session

4:08 pm

**6. Motion to approve the Intent to Deny Initial Certification recommendation of Family Law Advisory Commission for:**

A) Kareen O'Brien

B) Kaytlyn Yrun-Duffy

By: James Cross

Second: Jeff Neff

Chair calls for recusals: none

Chair calls for discussion: none

Chair call for vote: Unanimous, motion passes

**7. Motion to approve the Recertification recommendations of Real Estate Law Advisory Commission for:**

A) Ralph W Pew

By: James Anderson

Second: Jeff Neff

Chair calls for recusals: none

Chair calls for discussion: none

Chair call for vote: Unanimous, motion passes

**8. Review of Standards and Specialization Website:**

The BLS Administrator announced that he is working with the internal staff of the State Bar of Arizona to produce email blasts for the specialty areas. The Construction Defect email blast which was sent on March 31, 2023 was well received by the Construction specialty attorneys and

positive feedback has already been received. The BLS Administrator added that over the remaining months of the year, he has asked for an email blasts to be sent each week to Bar members who practice in the specialty areas. The goal is to communicate that there are two new areas of specialization and also to build more interest in the specialization program while recoding feedback from the members.

The BLS Administrator stated that the webpages for the specializations are being updated and revised to better aid both the members and the public when searching for specialists. There will be a “chatbot” added to the landing pages to aid the viewer in navigating through the various specialization areas and guide any public members to search results showing specialists as first choices.

9. Date of next meeting: **May 10, 2023**

10. Adjourn – 4:13 pm