

**United States Bankruptcy Court
Southern District of Florida
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held on August 9, 2023 (via Zoom)**

Members Present

Hon. Erik P. Kimball (co-chair)
Bernice Lee (co-chair)
Hon. Laurel M. Isicoff, Chief Judge
Michael Bakst
Amy Carrington
Monique Hayes
Linda Leali
James Moon
Dana Quick
Nadine White-Boyd

Members Not Present

Maite Diaz
Carlos Sardi

Additional Attendees

Cameron Cradic, Chief Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lee called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was present with 10 members in attendance.

3. Minutes from February 2, 2023 and April 7, 2023 Meetings

The minutes from the February 2, 2023 meeting were circulated before the meeting and were approved by email. The minutes from the April 7, 2023 meeting were circulated before the meeting. Comments were solicited and none were received. After motion and second, the April 7, 2023 minutes were approved unanimously by show of hands.

4. Continuing Business

a. Survey Regarding Bias for Bankruptcy Attorneys, Financial Advisors, and other Bankruptcy Professionals

The responses from the survey were circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee discussed in depth the procedure for collecting the responses, the number and quality of the responses received, specific responses received, and constructive work that could happen around some of the responses. The Committee discussed how to present the responses to the bar.

b. Language / Accessibility Subcommittee

An update on the subcommittee was tabled to the next meeting.

c. Law Clerks

The Committee discussed the lack of diverse applicants for clerkships. Discussion occurred around ways to increase the number of applicants and how the Committee and the Court might encourage applicants. Ms. Lee advised she would circulate an article on law clerk selection and diversity based on interviews with 50 judges of the federal courts of appeal for the Committee to review.

5. New Business

Mr. Cradic will write a short article regarding the Committee for inclusion in the Courthouse Beacon News.

6. Next Meeting

September 29, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

7. Adjourn

The meeting concluded at 1:05 p.m.

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