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Miami Dade Bar

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|  | 123 Northwest First Avenue  Suite 214  Miami, Florida 33128-1895 Telephone (305) 371-2220 |

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

Held via Zoom

**5:00 P.M.**

**MIAMI DADE BAR**

**OFFICERS/DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Tammi Calarco

Anthony Perez

Jane Muir, IPP

Vincent Chen

Karen Ladis

Brittany Bonner

Lori Sochin

Amber Kornreich

Marva Wiley

Stuart Weissman, Treasurer

Evelina Libhen

Adam Finkel

Jackie Arango

Barbara Riesberg

Eric Kay

Zachariah Evangelista

Karen Parker

Charise Morgan-Joseph, Secretary

Emily Balter

Tiffany-Ashley Disney

Richard Shane

Flora Seff

Yisel Villar

Sarah Zabel

Jessica Saiontz

Leonard Elias

Sabrina Puglisi

Roger Slade

Belinda Bacon

Dick Leslie

Bruce Lehr

Jeremy Rosner

Chris Lomax

Etta Akoni

Akivia Bassaragh

Emmanuella Petion

Augusto Perera

Melissa Jordon

Michael Davis

Scott Merl

Stan Blake

**EXCUSED BOARD MEMBER ABSENCES**

Suzette Russomanno

**ALSO PRESENT**:

Bret Berlin, Executive Director

Bella Puglisi, Honorary MDB staff

**AFFILIATED BAR REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT**:

APABA – represented by Vincent Chin

FAWL – represented by Amber Kornreich

SMKBA – represented by Zachariah Evangelista

WDFJBA – represented by Marva Wiley

CABA – represented by Emily Balter

FACDL – represented by Michael Davis

GSCBWLA – represented by Etta Akoni

HLA – represented by Emmanuela Petion

**MINUTES**

1. Welcome Remarks, *Mrs. Puglisi*
2. Consent Agenda Items
   1. [Board Meeting Minutes for March, 2022](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/WP51/ERYY1tQUYhtPjgxm18CDH-8BWGXfsIwZZUgE1tP8mEMvnA?e=SeV3jT)
   2. [March New Member Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/WP51/Eby-mDBK87ZFq3vdiRGs7GkBHJzwWBhSXanKJw0HIxmC4A?e=W7DfmX) 2,364
3. President’s Report, *Mrs. Puglisi*
   1. Please fill out your profile for the Bar to celebrate all members.
   2. Day of Service
      1. Sabrina celebrated what was a successful and well-attended event with Health in the Hood and Lighthouse Foundation
   3. Executive Director Review
      1. Sabrina created a committee for this review; Jane and Tammi volunteered to serve on the committee
   4. Board Elections
      1. Sabrina reviewed the upcoming board seats that are up for election and encouraged members to have their nominations in by Monday at 1PM.
      2. Nominating ballots were emailed last night and can also be found online. 6 signatures are required for each nomination.
   5. In-Person Board Meetings Continue
      1. In-person board meetings would continue for the remainder of Sabrina’s term (May, June)
      2. Sabrina and Bret will be setting up calls with each member to discuss how everyone can contribute money/membership/mojo to the Bar
   6. Restarted Luncheons
   7. Important Dates
      1. Miami Law Con: 2022/04/22
      2. Judicial Reception 2022/04/27
      3. Elections: Nominations Due 2022/04/25
      4. Solo/Sm Firm ½ Day Seminar 2022/05/05
      5. Elections: Voting Begins 2022/05/13
      6. Miami Nights 2022/05/19
      7. Elections: Voting Ends 2022/05/20
      8. MDB Leadership Retreat 2022/07/09 - 2022/07/10
      9. MDB Installation of Officers 2022/10/01
4. Young Lawyers Section Report, *Tiffany-Ashley Disney*
   1. Announced YLS’ two panels on Miami Law Con
   2. Encouraged sponsors and donors for Miami Nights
   3. Mediation workshop with Judge Zabel (ret.) – TBA
   4. “Get Social” program 4.27 and at the president’s panel in June at annual
5. Legal Aid & Office of Public Service Report, *Ms. Ladis*
   1. Will provide volunteer law student to assist with Miami Law Con on Friday.
   2. [Dade Legal Aid Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/WP51/Edw6LQihI6NDsoIevAgl-S4BmA74whZeXMYL8LTk9ucxBg?e=P1J743)
   3. [Put Something Back Flier](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/WP51/EbUug8hFeo5OmwoLAcIMdFkBuVjisdZhHpxYRFdGJaePnQ?e=6tVupe)
   4. Seeking to hire a family lawyer $64-$68K for public interest law firm. Please share.

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1. Affiliated Bar Reports
   1. APABA – represented by Vincent Chin
      1. 4.28 – Dumpling-making at Table for 8 w/ Judge Bokor
      2. 5.6 – Happy Hour at Sushi Garage in Las Olas
   2. FACDL – represented by Yisel Villar
      1. 4.21 – Training and
      2. 5.3 – Candidate town hall
      3. 5.14 – Installation gala
2. Committee Reports
   1. [Building Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/WP51/EfHXsakzEzxDkz3djOPBAAwBNSZaF57c2-068P6iQfqtLA?e=msAFXW), *Mrs. Muir*
      1. Jane shared the architect’s floor plans for the new building
      2. We need to add $120K to our budget due to the added expense involved with the required change order allowing tenants to build-out units as desired
      3. Jane moved for the creation of a brick buying fundraiser where we would sell bricks for $2022 a piece to create a Miami skyline wall mural of the names of donors. Adam Finkel seconded the motion.
         1. The motion passed unanimously
      4. This is a time-sensitive request; we cannot start renovating the building without the architect’s plans, and the bank loan will expire. Jane assured that we would not default on the loan.
      5. Sabrina encouraged board members to either purchase a brick or to find someone to purchase a brick for the wall mural (payment plans available)
      6. The board agreed that Jane should announce the fundraiser at Miami Law Con (immediately prior to Billy Corben), and then again at the Judicial Reception.
         1. Barbara proposed reaching out to several new international law firms, who may be interested.
         2. Sarah proposed reaching out to voluntary bars to purchase a brick
3. Treasurer’s Report, *Mr. Weissman*
   1. [Weekly Account Balances](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/WP51/EfXCtXrMmx9CqAF_bQ3blCcBoTm44kchRF__9rDjlGaSdQ?e=kgwCxg)
      1. DCBA First Horizon/Iberia Operating Account: $14,926
      2. DCBA InterCredit Operating Account: $53,939
      3. LRS First Horizon/Iberia Account: $42,197

Total of these three accounts: $111,062

* + 1. First Horizon/Iberia MMA Account: $10,968
    2. InterCredit MMA Account: $98,245

Total of these two accounts: $109,213

* + 1. YLS Operating Account: $127,128

**Total of all accounts: $347,403**

* 1. [Cash Position Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:x:/s/WP51/EdBKZLtljy5Esb6SDC7otAsB2h6A0gzCG-ac6su29Y9iTA?e=TpehXL)
  2. [MDB March Monthly Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/WP51/EUHGN7a11jhDipc-qsB5f74BVZv0eD2306rd-g2CyfvK7g?e=IvvFjt)
  3. [LRS March Monthly Report](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:x:/s/WP51/EXBPrGr1VC9LkjHA_BIORZEBi_ouZhkJzDYgSHg7-AWzrg?e=Mk6w7L) – Performing amazingly. We are on track for April to be the strongest month yet.

1. Secretary’s Report, *Ms. Morgan-Joseph*
   1. [Miami Law Con](http://MiamiLawCon.com) - Happening this Friday, April 22! Happy to have so many sponsors, panelists, and attendees!
2. Vice President’s Report, *presented by Ms. Puglisi*
   1. Mural – There’s been no response from the Mana people on their proposal. At this point, we are leaving the request open and taking no action.
3. Executive Director’s Report, *Mr. Berlin*
   1. Staff
   2. Building Update
   3. Elections
      1. Bret encouraged members to ask any questions
   4. 2022-2023 Budget
      1. Would be presented in May as opposed to the retreat
   5. New Annual Sponsors
      1. Three new annual sponsors have come in separate from Miami Law Con, including Truist Bank, Delgado (realtor), and a software company that has already wired its sponsorship.
   6. Performance Review
   7. Retreat at La Playa Resort in Naples – July 8 – 10
      1. The date conflicts with the Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference
      2. There may be a small registration fee this year to offset increased prices
4. Old Business
   1. [Deadline extended to May 20 for Board of Governors appointments](https://dadecountybar.sharepoint.com/:u:/s/WP51/EUkXgRsqTqdBisHQI61scIUBHzMPosD3G9Faeti5uB5GsQ?e=zbS9wt)
      1. ABA House of Delegates
      2. FL. Lawyers Assistance, Inc BOD
      3. Florida Legal Services, Inc. BOD
      4. Fl Medical Malpractice Joint Underwriting Association BOG
5. New Business
   1. Letter to Mr. Dresnick – Sabrina explained that a letter would be copied to all board members, and the Florida Bar Board of Direcotrs, responding to Mr. Dresnick’s complaint about the CLE credit approval for Miami Law Con.
   2. Bret has responded to the Florida Bar complaint/inquiry and the same has been resolved.
6. Adjournment