

**District of Columbia Bar
Board of Governors Meeting
January 27, 2026**

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

President Sadina Montani called the meeting to order. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

The following members of the Board of Governors (“Board”) attended the meeting: President-Elect Diane A. Seltzer, Treasurer Joshua L. Mogil, Immediate Past President Shaun M. Snyder, Lukman S. Azeez, Leila S. Bham, Gaffar Chowdhury, Karen A. Newton Cole, Anthony J. Coppolino, Shirley Diaz, Francis Dong, Natalie M. Koss, Louis Lopez, Andrea Mangones, Ramya Ravindran, Secretary Bennett Rushkoff, Mark A. Salzberg, and Belinda Edwards Taylor.

Board members Patrick English, Treasurer-Elect Amanda C. Molina, Deandra Roache, Stephen A. Saltzburg, and Courtney L. Weiner did not attend the meeting.

The meeting was also attended by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Robert J. Spagnoletti, Pro Bono Center Executive Director Kelli Neptune, Chief Operating Officer Matthew Butler, Chief Financial Officer Margarita Lorenzetti, General Counsel Erum Mirza, and Chief Programs Officer Darrin Sobin.

Additional D.C. Bar/Pro Bono Center staff attended but did not speak during the meeting.

Thomas B. Mason, Chair of the Innovations in Legal Practice Committee, attended the meeting.

**President’s Report
(Agenda Item 2)**

President Montani reported on (i) the New York State Bar Association’s 150th anniversary event, (ii) the Opening of the Legal Year (2026) in Hong Kong, (iii) an upcoming D.C. Bar event

featuring Justice Sonia Sotomayor, and (iv) planned receptions for D.C. Bar members in San Antonio in coordination with the midyear meetings of the American Bar Association and the National Conference of Bar Presidents. President Montani stated that the Board will be filling vacancies created by the resignation of Lorie Masters from her position as an ABA delegate elected by the D.C. Bar and the resignation of Yaida O. Ford from the Judicial Nomination Commission.

**Consent Agenda – Draft Minutes
(Agenda Item 3)**

President Montani presented the Consent Agenda, consisting of the Secretary’s draft minutes of the Board’s meeting on December 9, 2025.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda.

See Tab 3.

**Report of the Innovations in Legal Practice Committee
(Agenda Item 5)**

Committee Chair Mason presented an overview of the Final Report and Recommendations of the Innovations in Legal Practice Committee (ILPC) to Amend Rules of Professional Conduct 5.3, 5.4, and 5.7. President Montani stated that Mr. Mason’s accompanying PowerPoint presentation, portions of which he used at the meeting, would be circulated to the Board. CEO Spagnoletti reported that Darin Sobin (Chief Programs Officer) and Carla Freudenburg (Director, Regulation Counsel) would be responsible for receiving post-meeting comments from Board members regarding the Committee’s recommendations.

The Board approved the appointment of Michelle Kallen to fill a lawyer vacancy on the ILPC.

See Tab 5.

**CEO's Report
(Agenda Item 4)**

CEO Spagnoletti presented the CEO's Report, highlighting the D.C. Bar's programming in connection with DEI and the legal profession in FY 2026, the 10th annual Tax Conference held in January 2026, the work of the Budget Committee on the FY 2027 budget, and the increase in D.C. Bar membership from January 2025 to January 2026.

See Tab 4.

**Report of the Governance Committee
(Agenda Item 6)**

Secretary Rushkoff presented the Governance Committee's proposed amendments to the D.C. Bar Bylaws, including amendments to Sections 4.04, 5.06, and 5.07, and a new Section 4.10. After some discussion, the second sentence of proposed new Section 4.10 was edited to read: "No individual Board member, committee, community, affiliated group, ABA delegate, volunteer, or individual member may represent the Bar's views or positions without express prior authorization, in writing, from the Board, President, or CEO." With this edit, the Board approved the proposed amendments.

See Tab 6.

**Executive Session
(Agenda Item 7)**

The Board moved into Executive Session.

**Adjournment
(Agenda Item 8)**

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bennett Rushkoff". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally on the page.

Bennett Rushkoff
Secretary