

**NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2014**

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**Members Participating:** Barnes, Barreiro, Calderon, Cohen, Galligan, Gerstman, Goldberg, Goldenberg, Gordon-Oliver, Gutierrez, Hetherington, Kean, LaRose, Lau-Kee, Martin, Marwell, Miranda, Napoletano, Prager, Safer, Schraver, Slezak, and Young.

**Guests:** Vincent E. Doyle III, Hon. Rachel Kretser, Neil A. Quartaro.

Mr. Lau-Kee presided as President of the Association.

1. Consultation with Nominating Committee. Vincent E. Doyle III, chair of the Nominating Committee, requested a consultation with the Executive Committee, as required by the Association Bylaws, with respect to the nomination of the 2015-17 NYSBA delegates to the ABA House of Delegates. The nominations will be taken up by the Nominating Committee at its October 31, 2014 meeting. Mr. Lau-Kee abstained from participating in the discussion with respect to this item, and Mr. Miranda chaired this portion of the meeting. Mr. Marwell also abstained from participating in the discussion.

2. Report and recommendations of Judicial Section. Hon. Rachel Kretser, immediate past chair of the Judicial Section, presented the Section's report on diversity in New York's judiciary, noting the disparity between upstate and downstate judicial districts and outlining recommendations to address judicial diversity. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the report with the following changes: (1) to delete the reference to "party leaders" in the first recommendation; (2) to refer ongoing work referenced in the second recommendation to a subcommittee of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion; and (3) to add a reference on page 8 noting that the statistics related to only trial-level Supreme Court Justices. A motion to amend to provide for release of the report on September 24 (after the completion of the judicial conventions) failed by a vote of 13-6, after which the main motion was approved. Judge Gordon-Oliver abstained from participating in the vote.

3. Proposed memorandum of understanding between NYSBA and the Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil. Mr. Lau-Kee advised that the Association had been contacted by the president of the Brazilian Bar Association to propose a non-legally binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote the expansion of ties between the members of the two organizations. If approved, he would travel to Brazil in October to sign. Mr. Galligan reviewed the terms of the MOU, noting that it was based on similar MOUs to which the Association is a party. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the MOU.

4. Discussion of proposed International Section meeting in Dubai. Mr. Schraver reported that the International Section is considering meeting venues for its 2016-2018 seasonal meetings and that one of the proposals under consideration is a 2016 meeting in Dubai. He reviewed concerns that had been expressed as to the ability of Israeli lawyers and lawyers who had been born in Israel to travel to such a meeting. Neil A. Quartaro, Executive Vice-Chair of the Section, reviewed the Section's procedures for soliciting proposals for meetings, noting that the Section evaluates the proposed site's infrastructure and prospects for having a sufficient number of participants to make the meeting economically viable. He noted that the Section is seeking assurances from governmental authorities in Dubai that all lawyers would be able to participate

in a meeting without restriction. After discussion, further consideration was postponed pending the receipt of additional information.

5. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ellen G. Makofsky".

Ellen G. Makofsky  
Secretary