



MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION COMMISSION (JPEC) May 18-19, 2006

Commission Members Present

Mr. Richard Alvidrez
Mr. Felix Briones, Jr., Chair
Judge Thomas Donnelly
Ms. Francesca Martinez Estevez
Mr. Joe Gant III (May 19, 2006)
Ms. Lori Hartley
Mr. Charles Lanier (Vice Chair)
Mr. Eluid Martinez (May 18, 2006)
Ms. Josephine Mitchell (May 18, 2006)
Ms. Julia Seligman
Dr. John Smoker

Absent

Mr. Jerry Armijo
Mr. Joe Gant (May 18, 2006)
Mr. Eluid Martinez (May 19, 2006)
Ms. Debra Hicks
Ms. Josephine Mitchell (May 19, 2006)
Ms. Joy Fresquez Mynatt
Ms. Ruth Schifani

Agenda

- The Agenda was approved with changes on the motion of Judge Thomas Donnelly and seconded by Richard Alvidrez.

Minutes of April 28, 2006

- The minutes (open meeting and executive session) of the April 28, 2006 meeting were approved, as written, on the motion of Josephine Mitchell and seconded by Charles Lanier.

Announcements

- Mr. Briones reported that Supreme Court is forming a committee to develop rules for judicial campaigns, with judges being required to submit their advertising to the committee for review. Mr. Briones shared with Joe Conte the concern of some judges misrepresenting or partial representation of the JPEC results. Chief Justice Bosson, Joe Conte, Judge Sam Sanchez, and Judge Joseph Alarid will serve on this committee.
- JPEC members need to submit their May travel expenses to Louise on or before May 26, 2006. Carmen will encumber funds for JPEC members for the June meeting.
- We asked Ms. Baca to obtain a copy of the pleadings filed by the Judicial Standards Commission against Judge John Pope.

Legislative Budget for FY 08

- Mr. Briones and Louise presented the FY 08 Budget (\$450,000) before the Budget Committee on May 17, 2006. The committee is made up of district, metro and magistrate judges, along with a court administrator and the director of the AOC. They were receptive to the needs of the JPEC. A discussion was held on the difficulty of creating a non reverting fund for the JPEC, in particular getting support from the legislature for the creation of this fund. Judge Hall pointed out that JPEC was doing a

in funding would be used for. Judge Judith Nakamura did point out the need to conduct more court observations of judges.

- Gina Maestas and Judge James Wechsler (Budget Committee chair) shared with Mr. Briones that the presentation was well received by the committee.

Follow up

- JPEC reviewed and discussed the progress report of a judge.

District Court Judges' Evaluations

- The JPEC reviewed and signed off on the Interim Evaluations Reports for Judges Stephen Pfeffer, Eugenio Mathis, and Sam Sanchez.

2006 Appellate Court Judges' Evaluations

- Members reviewed the 2006 Narratives for Justice Edward Chavez, Judges Cynthia Fry, Lynn Pickard, and James Wechsler. Ms. Baca will provide the narratives to Research & Polling for review of the facts.
- Members reviewed the Interim Evaluation Reports for Justices Pamela Minzner and Petra J. Maes, and Judge Michael Bustamante.

2006 Metropolitan Court Judges' Evaluations

- JPEC conducted interviews in Albuquerque with eleven Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court Judges, namely, Judges Sandra Clinton, Kevin Fitzwater, Judith Nakamura, Victoria Grant, J. Wayne Griego, Cristina Jaramillo, Frank Gentry, Anna Martinez, Victor Valdez, Daniel Ramczyk, and Frank Sedillo.
- The final narratives for the judges are due to Louise on or before June 9, 2006.

Next Scheduled Meeting

We have scheduled the next meeting for June 23, 2006 in Albuquerque at the State Bar of New Mexico.

Minutes prepared by:

Louise Baca-Sena, AOC Staff