



## **BUSINESS MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

**Tuesday, July 30, 2019**

**Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate  
Orlando, Florida**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Call to Order and Welcome**

Judge John Romero, NCJFCJ President, called to order the NCJFCJ Business Meeting of the General Membership at 12:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone present.

Judge Romero presented the registration of proxies, as follows: Judge Warner Kennon, Georgia – 2; Judge Dana Kenworthy, Indiana – 21; Judge David Katz, New Jersey – 104; Judge Angela Fannesbeck, Utah – 1; Judge Glenn Clayton, Virginia – 22; Judge Kimberly Daniel, Virginia – 3; and Judge George Varoutsos, Virginia – 1.

Judge Romero announced the following appointment of Convention Officers:

- Parliamentarian – Judge Robert Hofmann
- Sergeant at Arms – Judge Peggy Walker
- Tellers – Judge Susan Maven, Judge Cheryl Johnston, Judge Theresa Dellick

Judge Romero recognized Executive Committee members, Board Directors, Past Presidents, former Board members, and NCJFCJ Staff and asked them to stand and be recognized. He announced that a copy of the meeting Agenda and exhibits are at each table and can also be accessed online.

#### **President's Report**

Judge Romero drew attention to **Exhibit I**, a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors over the previous year, as well as federal policy that had been supported by the Executive Committee. Judge Romero asked that Members review **Exhibit II**, a notice from the NCJFCJ Legislative Committee encouraging Members to take an opportunity during the August Congressional recess to engage legislators to educate them about the work of the NCJFCJ and the federal programs that assist state and tribal justice systems to improve outcomes for children, families, and victims of domestic violence and domestic child sex trafficking. He suggested inviting legislators to observe the courtroom and encourage legislators to help ensure continued federal support of the priorities listed.

Judge Romero shared that the NCJFCJ applied for and received special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. This status allows the NCJFCJ opportunities to consult with or be consulted by United Nations bodies in areas of our organization's work; and provides an opportunity to have representatives of the NCJFCJ register for and participate in events, conferences and activities of the United Nations.

Judge Romero reported that the NCJFCJ is offering an opportunity to participate in a delegation for international professional exchange to Mexico City in spring of 2020 – similar to the 2018 delegation to Cuba. He encouraged Members to watch for more information and to participate.

An overview of the NCJFCJ Strategic Plan was included as **Exhibit III** in meeting materials. The Strategic Plan was finalized by the Board in July 2018. Board and staff have focused on moving forward the strategies identified in the Plan over the last year, Board members serving as liaisons to internal staff committees for each goal to ensure work on the plan is aligned externally and internally. The NCJFCJ CEO and staff have worked on aligning the structure and staffing with the needs of the organization, and a menu of fee-for service work has been developed to build new revenue streams. Since April 2019, the amplifying messaging and marketing work has resulted in a public relations reach to 1.5 million people, equating to \$2.4 million publicity value.

Judge Romero presented the 2019 President's Award via video conference to Judge Stephen Rubin, NCJFCJ Past President, for his leadership and achievements in developing and providing judicial education.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Exhibit IV**

Judge Dan Michael, NCJFCJ Treasurer, reported that the audit of the FY 2018 financial statements were successfully completed with a clean opinion and Federal grant designation as "low risk" auditee. All forms are on track to be timely filed. He shared that due to restructuring, the organization is on track to save approximately \$700,000 in health insurance costs over last year; optimizing American Express credit card travel benefits has saved approximately \$127,000 since last July; and the endowment Fund remains healthy. Financial goals for the future include managing cash to cover expenses and refining financial processes and engaging the Finance team to include the new Finance Director.

#### **Membership Report – Exhibit V**

Judge Hiram Puig-Lugo, NCJFCJ Secretary, reported that as of July 1 we have over 1,733 members, a 10% increase since the November 2018 beginning of the Membership campaign, and we now have members in every state, as well as several countries. We encourage all of you to join in the campaign and encourage your colleagues to become members if they are not already, so they can benefit from the collegiality, the training, the technical assistance, and the opportunity to have a voice in national policy that the NCJFCJ provides. New members were asked to stand and be recognized.

#### **Action Items**

Judge Puig-Lugo brought forward **Exhibit VI**, the minutes of July 24, 2018 Business Meeting of the Members. A motion was made and a second received that the minutes be approved as presented. There was no discussion. **MOTION CARRIED**

Judge Puig-Lugo presented **Exhibit VII**, consisting of the following ceremonial resolutions:

- Resolution No. 1, in appreciation of those who helped to make the 82nd Annual Conference a success.
  - A motion was made and a second received to adopt Resolution No. 1. There was no discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Resolution No. 2, in Recognition of the 25th Anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Supporting its Reauthorization.
  - A motion was made and a second received to adopt Resolution No. 2. There was no discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **NCJFCJ Diversity Initiative**

Judge Puig-Lugo reported an inaugural Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Summit was held on Sunday July 28, with 14 national partner organizations participating. The group discussed ways to address diversity issues in the judicial and legal fields, and identified next steps for working together toward common goals. It is anticipated the Summit will be an annual event, hosted by each of the participating organizations. Judge Puig-Lugo introduced the DEI video developed through the NCJFCJ's Diversity initiative, and the video was played.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

Judge Peter Sakai presented the names of those elected to Officer positions by the Board of Directors on Saturday, July 27:

Immediate Past President: Judge John J. Romero, Jr., Albuquerque, NM  
President: Judge Ramona A. Gonzalez, La Crosse, WI  
President-Elect: Judge Dan H. Michael, Memphis, TN  
Treasurer: Judge Egan Walker, Reno, NV  
Secretary: Judge Barbara Mack, Seattle, WA

Judge Peter Sakai presented the slate of judicial director candidates proposed for election to a three-year term on the NCJFCJ Board of Directors. A motion was made and a second received to elect the Director candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee. There was no discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Swearing in of 2019-2020 Officers**

Judge John Romero called forward all newly elected Officers and Directors, and administered the oath of office.

### **Recognition of \$5,000+ Lifetime Donors**

Justice Nancy Saitta, Vice Chair of NCJFCJ's Development Committee, provided an overview of the NCJFCJ's donor recognition program, which recognizes every \$5,000 donated over a lifetime with one of nine tiles. When all tiles are received, they make up a donor tree representing the children and families supported by the courts and communities that NCJFCJ serves with its programs and services made possible by contributions and funders.

Those receiving recognition for \$5,000 or more included:

Judge Karen Adam  
Justice Bobbe Bridge  
Judge Kim Berkeley Clark  
Judge Denise Navarre Cubbon  
Ms. Judy Horgan  
Ms. Jeanne Karadanis  
Judge R. Michael Key

Mr. Mark Krasner  
Judge Sheri Roberts  
Judge James Seals

### **Recognition of Outgoing President**

Judge Gonzalez thanked Judge John Romero for his term as 2018-2019 NCJFCJ President and presented to him the Past President's plaque and the Past President's pin. Judge Romero thanked those who had assisted him during his presidential year.

### **Other Business**

Judge Romero announced that the 2020 Annual Conference will be held July 19-22, 2020 in Sparks, Nevada, and the Business Meeting of the Members will be on Tuesday, July 21, 2020.

### **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

Judge John Romero encouraged all Members to participate in the evening Installation and Awards event where Judge Ramona Gonzalez would take the oath of office as President of the NCJFCJ, and the Justice Innovation Awards – Innovator of the Year and Impact of the Year – would be presented.

There being no other business, at 1:04 p.m. a motion was made and a second received that the meeting be adjourned. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judge Hiram Puig-Lugo  
NCJFCJ Secretary 2018-2019

*All exhibits referred to in these minutes were distributed to members and posted prior to the meeting at: [www.ncjfcj.org/membershipmeeting](http://www.ncjfcj.org/membershipmeeting). A limited number were available in printed form at the meeting for reference. They are on file in the Reno Headquarters Office and are available upon request. All reports referred to in these minutes are incorporated herein by reference.*