

ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Public Meeting (Held via Zoom)

October 1, 2024

Board Members Present

Dr. Heather M. Ross (Chairperson)
Dr. Enrique Davis Mazlum (Vice Chairperson)
Lydia A. Peirce Linsmeier
Vice Mayor Holli I. Ploog
Justin Weinstein-Tull

Leslie Ross (Executive Director)
Julie Blumenreich (Legal Counsel)
Nate Anbar (Liaison)
Sophia Braham (Liaison)

Staff Members Present

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. The meeting took place via Zoom.

II. Approval of the August 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Ross noted that the minutes were incorrectly dated August 2. Member Ploog pointed out where the July 2, 2024 minutes were incorrectly referred to as July 6, 2024 minutes. No additional corrections were presented. Chairperson Ross directed the Division to make the two date corrections. With those date corrections, the August 1, 2024 minutes stand approved.

III. Topics for Discussion and Possible Action

a. Proposed appointments to the Subcommittee to Address Hate-Based Crimes and Antisemitic Incidents.

Chairperson Ross introduced the names of three candidates: City of Phoenix Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, City of Mesa Police Detective Nancy Spina (in attendance), and former State Legislator Daniel Hernandez, Jr. Member Weinstein-Tull moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the candidates under consideration for appointment. Member Ploog seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session was held from 12:40-12:51 p.m. Only Board Members and Staff were present in the Executive Session. No business was conducted.

Upon return to the public meeting, Chairperson Ross appointed Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, Detective Nancy Spina, and Daniel Hernandez, Jr. to the Subcommittee.

b. Forum on Fair Housing Act, crime-free housing ordinances, and the crime-free lease addenda.

Executive Director and Section Chief Leslie Ross provided a report on the forum held on August 29, 2024. Positive feedback was received from participants. Key issues discussed include the need for longer time periods for eviction notices, the need for more education for Judges and Justices of the Peace presiding over Landlord-Tenant and Eviction proceedings, the potential for Alternative Dispute Resolution or mediations in the eviction proceeding process, and more equitable access to legal representation for tenants. The

Board discussed possible actions it could consider taking to obtain additional information on these issues, or to address these issues. Chairperson Ross directed the Division to seek additional feedback from the participants of the forum. The Board will consider next steps, including a possible second forum on this issue, to be discussed at a future meeting.

c. The Housing Campaign – Report and outreach.

Sophia Braham, AGO Director of Engagement and Special Projects, provided a report on the Attorney General Office’s new Housing Campaign and outreach efforts. Using designated funds received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the AGO’s Communications Team and Civil Rights Division are developing a Housing Campaign to be launched this week. The Campaign provides information on the rights afforded to the public under Arizona law and how to submit discrimination complaints. The campaign is expected to include various outreach efforts which may include a webpage, social media advertising, a video, community presentations upon request, and one or more town hall style meetings for the AGO to learn about current housing issues in the community.

IV. Division Report

Executive Director and Section Chief, Leslie Ross, delivered a brief Division report and introduced a legal intern currently working in the Division.

V. Call to the Public

No public members commented.

VI. Call to the Board/Current Events

No announcements were given.

VII. Adjournment

Member Ploog moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairperson Davis Mazlum seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.