

# ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Telephonic Meeting

August 16, 2011

4:00 pm

## Board Members Present

Jeff Lavender, Chairperson  
Laura Mims, Vice Chairperson  
Daisy Flores  
Wendy Freeman

## Board Members Not Present

Jesus Cordova  
Beverly Dupree  
Kenneth Moore

## Staff Members Present

Melanie V. Pate, Executive Director  
Sandra R. Kane, Legal Counsel  
Kathleen Grant, Staff Liaison

### **I. Call to Order**

Jeff Lavender called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. with the following additional Board Members in attendance: Laura Mims, Daisy Flores, and Wendy Freeman.

### **II. Approval of Minutes of June 1, 2011 Meeting**

Upon motion from Daisy Flores and seconded by Laura Mims, the minutes from the June 1, 2011 Board meeting were approved unanimously.

### **III. Old Business: Discussion and planning re: September 15<sup>th</sup> Forum on School Bullying**

#### A. Update

Sandra Kane reported regarding preparation and contents of a flyer to advertise the Board's upcoming forum regarding school bullying solutions.

Ms. Kane updated the Board regarding confirmed speakers for the forum, including: Dan Pochoda of the ACLU AZ, Madeline Adelman of GLSEN, Melissa Medvin of the ADL, and Kathleen Winn who is Community Outreach Director of the Arizona Attorney General's Office. Other potential speakers contacted by Civil Rights Division staff are not yet confirmed.

Jeff Lavender confirmed that Lynette Geake from the Hidden Hills Elementary School will speak. He is also seeking a speaker from the Arizona School Board Association. He states that the Senate has recently passed an anti-bullying law (HB-2415) and suggests finding a spokesperson for the bill to come speak.

Wendy Freeman stated that she will contact the sponsor of the recently passed state anti-bullying legislation to speak at the forum.

#### B. Program for the Forum

Melanie Pate stated that an intern will compile a program with speaker information and possibly brief biographies and will endeavor to construct an agenda and order of speakers.

Jeff Lavender confirmed that the forum will be on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 1:30pm in the Capital Center Basement in Phoenix.

#### C. Advertising the Forum

Sandra Kane asked for suggestions on groups to whom the Division should send the flyer. Jeff Lavender suggested sending the flyer to the Arizona Educator's Association, the Department of Education, the Arizona PTO Association (State), the PTA (National Association), and the ASA. He agreed to contact the State Chapter of the PTA, the ASA, and the AEA.

Melanie Pate stated that she would send the flyer for the forum to all ACRA Board Members so that they can invite others to attend.

Sandra Kane requested input on inviting members from the law enforcement community. Jeff Lavender advised that School Resource Officers would be appropriate for the forum and agreed to contact a Resource Officer about attending and perhaps speaking.

### **IV. Division Report**

#### A. Reorganization of the Office of the Attorney General

Melanie Pate stated that there has been a recent reorganization involving the Civil Rights Division. The Attorney General's Office has created a new Agency Counsel and Civil Rights Division, which puts two other areas of the Office under her supervision. This shift does not change the operations of the Civil Rights Division, but just expands Melanie Pate's supervisory role over the Agency Counsel Section and the Bankruptcy Collection and Enforcement Team. The Civil Rights Division is created by statute and has to remain a separate entity in investigating complaints and enforcing the Arizona Civil Rights Act.

#### B. HUD and EEOC Contracts

The HUD contract work for FY 11 is complete and the Division has begun contract work for FY 12. The FY 11 EEOC contract will conclude on September 30, 2011.

The Division is well on track to meet and exceed its contractual duties under the EEOC contract for FY 11.

**V. Call to Public**

No one was present.

**VI. Announcements and Current Events**

No announcements.

**VII. Adjournment**

Upon motion by Daisy Flores and seconded by Laura Mims, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.