

JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION

Open Session/Public Comment Hearing

May 15, 2007

Minutes

A meeting of the Judicial Nominating Commission was held on May 15, 2007 in open session at 5:30 p.m., at the Department of Administration, Conference Room A, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the notice of the meeting to all Commissioners and to the public, as required by **RIGL § 42-46-6**.

The following Commissioners, constituting a quorum, were present and participated throughout the meeting: Stephen J. Carlotti, Chairperson, William Rampone,, Valentino Lombardi, Solomon Solomon, C. June Tow, Herbert Brennan, and Patty Allison Fairweather.

Commissioners absent: Dennis Coleman and Faye Sanders. Mr. Coleman was scheduled to vote via speaker phone but connections failed.

Also present: JoAnn Dubuc, Legal Assistant to the Commission.

Mr. Carlotti presided over the meeting and Ms. Dubuc acted as recording secretary.

Mr. Carlotti welcomed the audience and gave a brief explanation of the voting process. He then opened the floor for public comment and invited members of the judiciary to speak first. The following persons were recognized and heard:

Judge Alice Gibney spoke on behalf of Carol Zangari, Judge Francis Darigna and Judge Marvin Homonoff spoke on behalf of John Martinelli, Judge Susan McGuirl spoke on behalf of Kristin Rodgers. Attorney General Patrick Lynch spoke on behalf of Alan Goulart.

Other speakers included former U.S. Attorney Margaret Curran, and Stephen Rosa for Luis Matos; Robert Shapiro and Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr. for Kristin Rodgers; Joseph Kelly spoke for Carol Zangari; Roberta Hawkins spoke for John Martinelli; Sarah Dowling and Mike St.Pierre spoke on behalf of Sandra Lanni; Lisa Holley and Jeanne LaFazia spoke on behalf of Bennett Gallo; Matthew Curley spoke for Alan Goulart; Kim Casei read a letter of recommendation from Congressman James Langevin on behalf of Henry Monti; other speakers for Mr. Monti were Mark Mandell, Pam Noble and David Salzillo.

Following the testimonies Mr. Carlotti explained that the Commission would convene for a short time in Executive Session to review the public comments and further discuss the qualifications of the applicants. A motion to retire to the JNC office for this purpose was made, seconded and voted on unanimously.

The executive portion of this meeting shall be closed to the public in accordance with RIGL § 42-46-4 in order to discuss matters allowed to be exempt from discussion at open meetings under subdivision (1) of §42-46-5(a), namely, the “job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons.”

The Commission reconvened in open session at 7:45 p.m. in Conference Room A. Upon motion made by Mr Rampone and seconded by Mr. Lombardi, members voted unanimously to seal the minutes of the preceding executive session.

Pursuant to RIGL §§42-46-4 and 42-46-5, as permitted under §42-46-7(c) the minutes of the preceding Executive Session shall be kept closed and sealed.

Commission members conducted the public voting in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Judicial Nominating Commission in its Rules of Procedure. After three rounds of voting the following five candidates received the required number of votes and their names will be forwarded to Governor Carcieri, in alphabetical order, for his consideration, along with copies of their applications, financial information, background investigative reports and letters of recommendation:

**Bennett Gallo
Sandra Lanni
Luis Matos
Kristin Rodgers
Carol Zangari**

(Copies of the voting records are attached hereto as Exhibit A)

There being no further business in open session, upon motion made by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Ms. Fairweather, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Dubuc
Legal Assistant