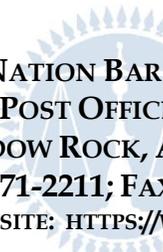


LAWRENCE A. RUZOW
PRESIDENT

CASEY WATCHMAN
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DAVID R. JORDAN
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WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515
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NNBA WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.NAJOLAW.INFO](https://www.navajolaw.info)

January 26, 2017

Dear members of the Navajo Nation Bar Association:

There are a few matters that I would like to bring to your attention:

- A. The Board of Bar Commissioners voted unanimously to have the 2017 Annual Conference at the Twin Arrows Casino Resort on Thursday and Friday—June 8th and 9th of this year.
 1. As has been the case in the past, we will need the assistance of a number of NNBA Members to help with arrangements, including setting a theme for the Conference; arranging for panels and speakers and the many other activities needed to have a productive and successful conference.
 2. If you are willing to help with the Annual Conference, please contact the NNBA Office and let us know—and also please let us know what area or areas you are interested in assisting with.

- B. The Board of Bar Commissioners also voted unanimously to put a list of active NNBA members on the NNBA website which will be available to all visitors to the website.
 1. In addition to the names of active NNBA members, the listing will include contact information for the active members.
 - a. Unless the active NNBA member requests otherwise, the contact information will include all the contact information that the member has provided to the NNBA.
 - b. Thus, active members who want to limit the contact information that the NNBA will be providing must contact the NNBA in writing and indicate what contact methods they want provided to the public.
 - c. An active member wanting to limit the contact information provided in the listing must advise the NNBA office in writing not later than the close of business on February 28, 2017 of the contact information that the member wants listed.
 - d. An active member who does not want **any** contact information provided to the public must make a written request to the NNBA citing good cause for the request.
 2. A decision on the request will be made by the NNBA President (or the President's designee). Requests to opt out must be in writing (letter, fax or e-mail) and received by the NNBA office no later than the close of business on February 28, 2017. As stated, a request must show good cause.

- C. The NNBA still has pending requests from DNA and New Mexico Legal Aid (“NMLA”) for an NNBA member to serve on their Boards. As you know, these organizations provide critically important legal services to Navajos who need legal help and who cannot afford to hire private counsel. NNBA members bring special expertise and knowledge to these Boards which might otherwise not be available to them. So one's service on these Boards enhances the legal services available to indigent Navajo people.

1. Because of provisions in the Bylaws of DNA, the NNBA appointee needs to live or work in the Navajo Nation.
 2. Because of provisions in the NMLA Bylaws, the NNBA appointee needs to be a member of the State Bar of New Mexico who lives or works in the New Mexico portion of the Navajo Nation—other than San Juan County (which is served by DNA rather than NMLA).
 3. If you are interested in either of these positions, please submit a letter of interest to the NNBA Office (letter, fax or e-mail) explaining why you are interested. Letters of interest will be reviewed by the Board of Bar Commissioners which makes the selection.
- D. The Board of Bar Commissioners will be considering a request from the Navajo Nation Department of Justice (“NNDOJ”) (Attorney General Branch, Chief Prosecutor Lee and Public Defender Director Bowman) to the Board of Bar Commissioners to amend the NNBA Bylaws to permit law school graduates who are members in good standing of a state bar and newly hired by the NNDOJ to practice in the Navajo Nation Courts and Administrative Agencies for up to one year while they go through the process of becoming admitted to the Navajo Nation Bar Association. (This is referred to in the proposal as a “limited license.”)
1. Copies of the proposal are available from the NNBA Office.
 2. If you wish to comment on the proposal, please provide written comments on or before February 28, 2017.
- E. Finally, we urge you to check out the new, enhanced NNBA website and we offer thanks to our IT Specialist Mr. Farin Begay and our NNBA Staff for their work on this project. New NNBA Website address: <https://www.navajolaw.info>

Very truly yours,
Lawrence A. Ruzow
NNBA President