

**Equal Justice Authority Board**  
**Minutes Board Meeting**  
**January 22, 2025**

The meeting was convened at 4:05 p.m.

The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Lauren Peach, Matt Baca, Toni-Anne Nunez, AJ Esser, Cesar Jimenez, Charlie Willman, Renzo Reategui, Elisa Overall (Emo) were present.

No members of the public were present.

No minutes were before the Board for approval.

Matt had emailed all Board members an agenda for today's meeting which included the four items noted below.

1. Finance update (Charlie). Charlie sent out by email before the meeting a list of banks which he had received from Jordan Bates- Rogers, the executive director of COLTAF. Copy attached to these minutes. Charlie noted that he had spoken briefly to Jordan and that Jordan noted that COLTAF was seeking to establish a relationship with Fortis Bank but that Jordan's contact was out of town.

Charlie noted he had also spoken to John Stelzriede, an Apline Bank representative and a President of at least the Glenwood Springs branch, with whom Charlie was familiar. An issue with a banking institution is whether or not the funds are protected. FDIC insurance has a limit of \$250,000 per bank of insured deposits. However, Mr. Stelzriede indicated that if the Authority's funds were considered public funds that limit did not apply. If the limit did apply the banks belong to a group of banks and at the end of each day "sweep" funds in excess of the limit to another bank so that no one bank holds more than \$250,000 of an entity's funds.

Charlie noted that he needed to reach out to Judicial to see what they needed as far as a bank account and how to transfer funds. Emo and Matt indicated a contact person was Terry Scanlon and they would send contact information and Allison said she would send a local judicial person that Charlie might contact. The Board concluded that 2 to 3 banks should be solicited for a proposal coming from the COLTAF list and/or Fortis Bank. Fortis would be good to use if it would leverage higher interest rates for COLTAF accounts. Similarly any bank solicited should be willing to be at the Prime Partner rates listed in the COLTAF bank listing.

2. Staffing agreement update (Lauren). Lauren noted that she and Renzo had been working on a draft with the Access to Justice Commission with whom the Board indicated at their last meeting would be a good fit for staffing for the Authority. They would continue to

work with the Commission and hoped to have a draft to review with the Authority at the next meeting. Lauren then mentioned that she needed some help when it came to insurance coverage for the Authority and after discussion direction was given to start with the Commission's broker to get more information.

3. Legislative update (Matt and Emo). Matt reported that there was no real update on the potential to cut the two funds from judicial that had been discussed at the last meeting. Matt indicated that those funds were unlikely to get cut but there was some possibility that the Authority would be asked to take over those funds and we should know more in the next two weeks or so. Matt also reported that the signatures for the license plates and that fund stood at roughly 2000. This may have be deferred to 2026 unless we reached the 3000 soon.

4. Open Meetings Law and CORA training (Lauren) - Lauren had a Power Point presentation on these topics which is attached to these minutes. Lauren reviewed the OPM and CORA portions of that but then adjournment time happened and the Lauren agreed the portion on Conflicts could be taken up at the next Board meeting and it was agreed to put that on next meeting's agenda.

The Board agreed to meet early at its next meeting so the next meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. on February 3, 2025

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.



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Charles H. Willman, Secretary/Treasurer