

WASHINGTON STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION

Board of Governors Meeting

Public Session
Late Materials

May 17-18, 2018
WSBA Conference Center
Seattle, Washington

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BAR ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING
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3.a.3 / PRESIDENT-ELECT INTERVIEWS

Richard F. McDermott
King County Superior Court (ret.)
4824 119th PL N E.
Kirkland, WA 98033

Washington State Bar Association

Board of Governors

1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600

Seattle, WA. 98101

RE: Upcoming election for President Elect

Dear Board of Governors:

I am writing this letter in strong support of the candidacy of Mr. Geoffrey Revelle for the position of President-Elect.

I do not write this letter lightly but with utmost seriousness and sincerity. I have known Geoff since 1971 when I was in the 2nd half of my first year of law school at the University of Washington and Geoff was in his second year. We met on the first floor of the law school in an area where we often gathered between classes. I remember the meeting because unlike many other “upper classmen” Geoff was friendly, open and warm to talk to. He approached me and asked if I was doing OK. We sat down and visited. After that we would occasionally run into each other in class, in the hallway, at the HUB or just around. I think I only had one class with him the following year but the instant rapport that we had continued and grew.

After My second year I became a Rule 9 Intern for the King County Prosecuting Attorneys’ Office. Geoff had been hired as a new Deputy. I worked part-time during my third year and would see Geoff at work. In spite of the fact that the deputies seldom paid any attention to the Rule 9’s, Geoff always had a kind word and an offer of help any time I needed anything.

When I graduated I joined the office as a full time Deputy. Two years later Geoff, Bruce Ries (who is deceased) left the Prosecutor’s Office to become public defenders at Eastside Defender Association. For the next two years we worked closely together handling a variety of criminal cases. After two years we left and formed a law firm in Bellevue named Revelle, Ries and McDermott. We practiced what we humorously called “renters’ law” – we took whatever walked in the door to pay the rent. During the

next several years we each were able to develop a civil practice in our own areas of interest. I developed a personal injury practice. Bruce went into family law and Geoff developed a corporate and business clientele. For those first few years I seemed to have more trials and hearings than my partners but Geoff was always there to lend a helping hand. There were many Saturday mornings when we met and worked on my trials, planning strategy, cross examinations, openings, voir dire and closings. I realized that he was a superbly talented attorney who had insight that proved to be very valuable. He was the best partner anyone could have ever had. Over the years our practice grew and eventually I decided I wanted to go back to being in a much smaller practice. After much consternation I left my partners to form my own, small, personal injury firm. In spite of my departure and the disappointment I am certain Geoff had in me, he was a true class act, working out a reasonable separation contract and instructing all the members of his firm to treat me with dignity and respect. I must admit he took the high road and never wavered. I was very grateful.

Over the next 15 or so years when our paths would cross he was always friendly and kind, just as he had been in law school. Then in 2000 when I was appointed to the King County Superior Court by Governor Gary Locke, Geoff was one of the first to congratulate me and offer me his assistance if I needed to run a campaign. He served as my Finance Chair and spent many hours helping me mount a strong campaign which resulted in scaring away any potential challengers.

During the almost 18 years that I served on the Bench I paid attention to all the offices and activities that Geoff participated in. I suspect that you have that list and that you must agree with me that his accomplishments are very impressive. I doubt that, when asked for help, he ever said no. I venture a guess that his exposure and involvement in bar and lawyer related activities over the last 40 years rate at the top of the scale for all candidates who are running for office. And yet, his involvement and participation were certainly done without any fanfare, with no thought of personal glory or acknowledgment, with humility and above all a great desire to give back and to make our system of justice better for all of us.

That is why you must surely give serious consideration to his candidacy for the office of President-Elect. Geoff Revelle is very special. He is a wonderful attorney with a fabulous track record. He is one of the brightest and best people I have ever met. He cares about his fellow lawyers and he always goes out of his way to help. He is dedicated to serve the needs of those who require his help. And yet he is successful enough that he could simply retire, sit back on his ample success and enjoy all the good things life has to offer. That is not Geoff. That is not what he is about. He wants to continue to make a difference.

Geoff has a unique perspective. He understands tradition but also appreciates innovations. He is neither conservative nor liberal but is able to see both sides and fairly analyze any situation. He has suffered personally when he was stricken by polio at a young age but he has overcome his limitations more than anyone I know. He is brave but humble. He is truly one of the most amazing people I have ever met.

I sincerely believe that the opportunity to elect someone like Geoff Revelle to lead the lawyers of the State of Washington seldom, if ever, presents itself. Please take advantage of that wonderful opportunity and give Geoff the chance to lead, and those of us who are members of WSBA the chance to take advantage of this extraordinary man.

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information.

Very Truly Yours,

Richard F. McDermott

King County Superior Court (ret.)

WSBA 5259

425-444-2039 (c)

THORNER, KENNEDY & GANO P.S.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION
ESTABLISHED IN 1977

THE CHESTNUT LEGAL BUILDING
101 SOUTH TWELFTH AVENUE
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1410
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON 98907-1410

DAVID A. THORNER*
WADE E. GANO
WEST H. CAMPBELL
SHAWN M. MURPHY
MICHAEL J. THORNER
MEGAN K. MURPHY

*ALSO ADMITTED IN IDAHO

RETIRED
W. JAMES KENNEDY
BRYAN G. EVENSON

TELEPHONE (509) 575-1400

FAX (509) 453-6874

OUR FILE NUMBER

May 14, 2018

VIA EMAIL ONLY

barleaders@wsba.org

Board of Governors

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 600

Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Geoffrey G. Revelle, Candidate for President-Elect

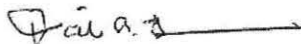
Dear Board Members:

I am pleased to submit this letter on behalf of Geoffrey G. Revelle, candidate for the position of President-Elect of Washington State Bar Association. I initially met Geoff Revelle when we were both first year law students at the University of Washington School of Law in 1969. He has not let his history of polio as a child interfere with obtaining his goals and objectives.

Geoff Revelle has a statewide vision for the Bar Association to improve the delivery of information and services provided to the members of the Association and the public. He will deal with the issues facing the Bar Association and its members in a constructive unified approach. Geoff Revelle is the most qualified candidate based upon his diversified record of service to the profession.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



David A. Thorner

DAT:bvg

cc: Mr. Geoffrey G. Revelle (via email only)

WASHINGTON STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION

TO: WSBA Board of Governors
FROM: Margaret Shane
DATE: May 15, 2018
RE: President-elect Selection Work Group

ACTION: Approve President-elect Selection Work Group Charter.

Attached please find the proposed President-elect Selection Work Group Charter for the Board's consideration and approval. The Roster has not yet been finalized and will be presented to the Board for approval upon completion.

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT-ELECT SELECTION WORK GROUP

CHARTER

(Adopted by the WSBA Board of Governors on _____, 2018.)

Purpose

1. Assess the continued need for the Eastern Washington provision in the current WSBA Bylaws and consider the expansion of provisions to guarantee geographic diversity of WSBA Presidents in addition to the Eastern Washington provision.
2. Consider proposals regarding the election of the President-elect, including but not limited to enhancing geographic, racial, and gender diversity of the President-elect candidate pool.
3. Consider methods for electing the President-elect.
4. Consider limiting candidate eligibility to those who are not currently members of the BOG unless a sufficient number of candidates do not come forward for election.
5. Examine efforts to recruit diverse candidates for election.
6. Solicit and collect input from WSBA members and others, both before and after determining whether to recommend Bylaw amendments regarding the election of WSBA President-elects.
7. After considering relevant materials and input, submit a final report to the BOG, including, as appropriate, draft amendments to Section VI.2 of the current WSBA Bylaws.

Timeline

- Begin meeting no more than four weeks after appointments are completed.
- Complete work and submit a final report not later than the September 26-27, 2018 BOG meeting, unless the timeline for completion is extended by the BOG.
- If the task force recommends Bylaw amendments, first reading for such amendments would take place at the September 26-27, 2018 BOG meeting.
- Provide updates on the work of the Work Group as requested by the BOG.

Work Group Membership

The Work Group shall consist of the following voting members:

- A current member or officer of the BOG who shall be appointed to serve as Chair;
- Three current (one from each class) and two former members or officers of the BOG (including the Chair);

- Four at-large members of the WSBA, representing 1 member from King County, Western Washington north of King County; Western Washington south of King County, and Eastern Washington.
- In making appointments, the WSBA President shall make every effort to have a geographic, racial, and gender diverse work group.

The Executive Director will designate a WSBA staff liaison.

In accordance with WSBA Bylaws Art. IX(B)(2)(a), the members and the Chair of the Work Group will be appointed by the WSBA President subject to being accepted or rejected by the BOG.