

ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Public Meeting (held via Zoom)

May 7, 2025

Board Members Present

Dr. Heather M. Ross (Chair)
Dr. Enrique Davis Mazlum (Vice Chair)ⁱ
Jordan Brunner
Matthew Capalby
Lydia A. Peirce Linsmeier
Vice Mayor Holli I. Ploogⁱⁱ
Justin Weinstein-Tull

Staff Members Present

Leslie Ross (Executive Director)
Julie Blumenreich (Legal Counsel)
Sophia Braham
Nathaniel Anbar

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The meeting took place via Zoom. Attendance was taken by the Division as Secretary. All seven Board Members were present.

II. Approval of Minutes.

Chairperson Ross asked if there were any corrections to the for the February 13, 2025 regular meeting and March 6, 2025 special meeting. No corrections were presented. The minutes for February 13, 2025 and March 6, 2025 stand approved.

III. Introduction of New Board Members

Jordan Brunner and Matthew Capalby have been appointed as ACRA members. All seven seats on the Board are now filled. Chairperson Ross recognized Sophia Braham for her assistance. Introductions were made.

IV. Topics for Discussion and Possible Action

Vice Chair Enrique Davis Mazlum made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) to discuss appointments to the subcommittees. Holli Ploog seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 10:22 a.m. and returned to the regular meeting at 10:48 a.m.

a. Subcommittee appointments

Chairperson Ross made the following appointments to the Housing Subcommittee:

Nathan Smith

Pamela M. Bridge
Tasha Lynch
Christine Groninger

Upon her consent, Lydia A. Peirce Linsmeier was unappointed from the Housing Subcommittee, to avoid inadvertently creating a quorum of the ACRAB Board during its Subcommittee meetings. Both Lydia A. Pierce Linsmeier and Matthew Capalby offered assistance to the Subcommittee based on their subject matter expertise.

Chairperson Ross appointed ACRAB Member Brunner to the Subcommittee on Hate-Based Crimes and Antisemitic Incidents to replace a Subcommittee member who resigned.

b. Subcommittee Updates.

i. Subcommittee on Hate-Based Crimes and Antisemitic Incidents

Subcommittee Chairperson Holli Ploog reported that the Subcommittee conducted law enforcement stakeholder meetings over Zoom to gather information related to hate-based crimes and antisemitic incidents and the reporting of such crimes and incidents to law enforcement in Arizona. Representatives of law enforcement departments around Arizona have participated. The Subcommittee will also be finalizing a survey to collect information from Jewish organizations in Arizona. Upon receipt of all necessary information, the Subcommittee will prepare a report.

The Subcommittee's liaison, Nathaniel Anbar, will be leaving the Attorney General's Office. A new liaison will be assigned.

The next Subcommittee meeting is Friday, May 9, 2025.

ii. Subcommittee to Study and Report on Disability Discrimination in Arizona

Subcommittee Chairperson Justin Weinstein-Tull reported that the full Subcommittee has now met a few times and for its initial work will narrow its focus to local courts. The Subcommittee is planning to (1) survey local court websites to determine if and how ADA coordinator and accessibility information is presented; (2) survey court procedures and existing training regarding accommodations; and (3) conduct a Zoom hearing or forum to

gather testimony from persons affected by accommodations issues in local courts and other local government institutions.

iii. Subcommittee on Housing Rights

Subcommittee Chairperson Heather Ross reported she will work to get a meeting scheduled with the new members appointed at today's meeting.

c. Discussion of federal Executive Orders, actions, and administrative changes in relation to civil rights in Arizona and possible Board response and/or outreach efforts

Vice Chair Enrique Davis Mazlum provided that there is pending state legislation related to some of the Executive actions. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next ACRAB meeting for discussion and possible action.

Jordan Brunner moved to create an ACRAB Committee to study and address the federal Executive Orders, actions, and administrative changes in relation to civil rights in Arizona and its potential impacts on society. Holli Ploog seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chairperson Ross appointed Jordan Brunner, Holli Ploog and Vice Chair Enrique Davis Mazlum to the Committee. By nomination and acclamation, Jordan Brunner was designated as the Chairperson for the Committee.

Matthew Capalby stated that the federal Executive orders and actions may have a specific impact on people in the 22 Tribal Nations that are in Arizona, in addition to various other civil rights issues they face. Chairperson Ross suggested the new Committee include impacts on the Tribal Nations as part of the scope of its study. As to other civil rights issues related to Tribal Nations, Chairperson Ross placed on the agenda for the next ACRAB meeting consideration and discussion of tribal issues and tribal affairs, including the possible creation of an ACRAB advisory Subcommittee on tribal issues and tribal affairs, or other action.

V. Division Report

ACRAB Executive Director Leslie Ross offered a brief report from the Division. The Division will circulate two recent AZCentral articles about crime-free housing addenda to the Board Members. As part of its outreach efforts, the Division will be participating on the panels at the Empowering Our Community: Understanding Recent Federal Actions events to be held on May 8, 2025 in Tucson and May 31, 2025 in Phoenix. Disability Rights Arizona will be holding its annual African American Conference on Disabilities next month. The Attorney General's Office now has a designated page on its website for the public to track

lawsuits filed since January 2025 related to federal actions. The webpage can be found at: <https://www.azag.gov/media/lawsuits>.

VI. Call to the Public

No members of the public were present.

VII. Call to the Board/Current Events

Executive Director Leslie Ross or staff liaison Cari Shehorn will circulate dates for a meeting to be held in August or September 2025 as for the third regular meeting of the year. Chairperson Ross noted staff liaison Nathaniel Anbar will be leaving the Attorney General's Office to pursue a law degree. She thanked him for his valuable and important groundwork, especially with the Subcommittee on Hate Crimes and Antisemitic Incidents, and developing its processes. No other comments or events were shared.

VIII. Adjournment

Justin Weinstein-Tull moved to adjourn the meeting. Lydia A. Peirce Linsmeier seconded the motion. The members unanimously passed the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

The third regular meeting of the year will be scheduled and announced. The fourth regular meeting of the is currently scheduled for December 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

ⁱ Vice Chairperson Davis Mazlum left the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

ⁱⁱ Vice Mayor Holli I. Ploog left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.