

# From the Desk of the President

*Dear DHHBA Members,*

*Hoping this update finds you enjoying the sunshine of spring. The DHHBA Board of Directors has been busy working on your behalf to explore new ideas, resources, and tools to better serve and support you. This update articulates our projects, priorities, and progress.*



A few highlights of the first quarter of the first year of the Board term:

First, we have begun publishing board meeting minutes. These are available on the DHHBA website under the “Minutes” navigation header, available at the following direct link: <https://www.deafbar.org/minutes/>. Thank you for the feedback. The monthly minutes are published here after they have been approved by a vote of the Board of Directors.

We have evaluated our DHHBA committees for volunteer opportunities for Members who want more direct participation. Both the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) and the Sponsorships subcommittee of the Development Committee (DC) are seeking volunteers. The PAC is chaired by Jessica Kennedy (Recorder), supported by Zainab Alkebsi (President). The Sponsorship subcommittee to the DC is chaired by Lisa Bothwell (Vice President). Details about each committee follow below. Interested volunteers are invited to email [admin@deafbar.org](mailto:admin@deafbar.org) with their name and a brief summary outlining their interest in serving each committee no later than April 30, 2023. Each Committee’s volunteers will be selected on the best fit for their respective needs.

- *PAC*. This Committee focuses on writing and publishing DHHBA blog posts, social media posts, YouTube videos, and other DHHBA public content.
- *Sponsorship subcommittee to the DC*. This subcommittee works with the Treasurer and DC to manage sponsorships and related funding strategies and opportunities for DHHBA.

Next, we have established an informal team of Board members to provide more immediate responses to Listserv dialogues while the Board considers a more formal reply, if appropriate. This is an intentional effort to be more responsive. Related to the listserv, the Board of Directors is considering listserv subgroups; for example, working parents of DHHBA or DHHBA solo practitioners. If you have suggestions for listserv subgroups, email them with a short description to [admin@deafbar.org](mailto:admin@deafbar.org) by April 30, 2023. After April 30, 2023, the Board intends to develop a poll to survey Membership interest in the various subgroups.

Finally, we loved seeing so many of you attend Deaf Law Day on March 22, 2023. A very special “thank you” to our DHHBA Members who presented, and of course to all who participated, encouraged, and attended.

The DHHBA Board of Directors is grateful for your advocacy, and especially the honor to serve and support you in 2023.

**Zainab Alkebsi**  
*President*

**Lisa Bothwell**  
*Vice President*

**Taye Akinola**  
*Treasurer*

**Jessica Kennedy**  
*Recorder*

**Azeema Akram**  
*Member at Large*

**Julie Kegley**  
*Member at Large*

**Caitlin Parton**  
*Member at Large*