



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

School of Law

October 1, 2024

ACREL Nominations Committee

c/o Julie Burgess: jaburgess@acrel.com

Re: Jeb Hunter Joyce

Dear Committee members:

It is my pleasure to nominate Jeb Hunter Joyce to membership in ACREL. I have known Jeb for many years. I came to appreciate Jeb's expertise and professionalism especially when he started teaching Real Estate Transactions at the University of Arkansas as an Adjunct Professor. Although I have lost track of the exact date when I first worked with Jeb in that capacity, I suspect we began to collaborate most closely during my term as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the School of Law (2011-2016). At least since then, in addition to continuing to teach his own courses, Jeb has also regularly volunteered to serve as a guest in my own Real Estate Transactions course and in my Construction Law Practice and Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiating courses. He and I, along with his partner, Tim Grooms, have worked together extensively to develop and refine drafting and negotiating exercises for those classes. It is primarily through this relationship that I have come to recognize Jeb's standing as a distinguished practitioner. I am particularly familiar with, and impressed by, Jeb's deep experience and expertise in real estate acquisitions and development and in real estate finance.

Through his teaching, his many speaking engagements, his pro bono work, and his community involvement, Jeb also meets ACREL's "give back" requirement. He is an active member of the Arkansas Bar Association, including its Business Law Section. As detailed in his resume, Jeb frequently speaks on legal topics at a wide range of professional conferences and meetings, and he has authored or co-authored several articles for professional groups. He has generously volunteered many hours to speak at meetings of both business and legal organizations and conferences. Additionally, Jeb has regularly worked with law students at the University of Arkansas outside the classroom to share his experiences, especially by speaking at meetings of the University of Arkansas Business Law Society.

From my perspective, it is especially through Jeb's volunteer commitments at the law school and with our students that he satisfies and exceeds the College's give-back standard. I cannot recall a single instance in which Jeb has failed to agree to work with our students when asked. Indeed, he eagerly embraces each opportunity. As you may know, law schools cannot offer the kind of practical skills training that new lawyers need without the help of lawyers who share their time. Jeb also makes himself available to answer any questions I may have about trends in the practice of law, and he consistently volunteers his time for the benefit of our law students and law programs. As his resume also shows, Jeb has long served the community in a variety of service and pro bono capacities, including the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, Partners for Better Housing/Homes at Willow Bend, and as a leader in his local church.

In my collaborations with Jeb, I have also observed his high ethical standards and his solid character as a model representative of our profession. I see these qualities especially when Jeb works with my students on negotiating and client counseling exercises. He stresses professionalism and civility in his interactions with the students and demonstrates those attributes as he guides them through negotiating and counseling simulations. From my experiences with Jeb, as well as based on his excellent reputation within the Arkansas bar, I can confirm that Jeb is a consummate professional and a collegial member of our legal and broader communities. I have always known Jeb to be civil and to conduct himself with the highest standards of integrity.

While Jeb's law practice is both sophisticated and broad, it is also worth noting that he has managed to achieve the status of a distinguished real estate lawyer within a relatively small region of a largely rural state. Few Arkansas lawyers specialize in real estate practice to the extent Jeb has. Jeb's admission will help to secure the future of the small group of ACREL fellows who practice in Arkansas.

If I can provide further information in support of Jeb's nomination, I will be pleased to do so. I greatly look forward to welcoming Jeb into the College.

Sincerely,

Carl Circo

Carl J. Circo

Ben J. Altheimer Professor of Legal Advocacy