

October 15, 2024

John M. Nolan
Chair, Member Selection Committee
c/o American College of Real Estate Lawyers
220 N Market Street, Suite 100
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear John:

I write to second the nomination of Stephen G. Shapiro for membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, submitted by Michael Pickett.

There's only one question regarding Steve's nomination: *Why didn't we do this sooner?*

Steve is an accomplished teacher, writer, speaker and practitioner of real estate law, with an extraordinarily wide ranging expertise. He will bring unique perspectives to the College and our programs.

I've known Steve for more decades than I should admit. Steve and I first met as fellow real estate associates at a real estate boutique law firm in Washington, DC in the late 1980's. After Steve left our firm, I watched as he created for himself a unique career path, first in the construction industry and later in hospitality law.

The Hotel and Tourism Law Program Steve has created at The American University Washington School of Law is unique. The program is Steve's brainchild, and reflects the eclectic nature of his own career path. The program combines academic study, practical experience, broad exposure to industry players and individual mentoring. Since the hospitality industry is itself multi-disciplinary – encompassing traditional real estate, but also franchising, labor, management agreements, disputes/litigation and other issues – the academic component alone is wide-ranging. I've co-taught some of Steve's courses, so have seen firsthand how well he connects with his students.

At ACREL, Steve will become a leader of our hotel committee, construction law committee, and professors group. He will be an inexhaustible source of programs and program ideas. Steve is a lot of fun, and I have no doubt that he will be a very active member and regular attendee of our meetings.

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I have received and reviewed the Proposal for Membership submitted by Michael Pickett and certify that Stephen G. Shapiro satisfies the criteria for selection to the College as set forth in Section 4 of the Guidelines for Regular Member Selection. In my opinion and to my knowledge, the Nominee satisfies ACREL's Statement of Professionalism and exemplifies the standards of professional integrity and civility as provided in the Guidelines. I am not (a) in the same firm, business entity, faculty or other organization as the Nominee, (b) related by birth or marriage to the Nominee, or (c) a current Governor or member of the Member Selection Committee of the College. Except as disclosed below, neither the nominee nor his/her employer regularly employs or retains me or my law firm or employer, and business relationship, if any, with the nominee, is as follows: none.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Goodwin

cc: J. Michael Pickett