

DELAWARE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
LITIGATION SECTION MEETING MINUTES– MARCH 22, 2011

Following advance and proper notice, the meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present: David Felice; David Soldo; Karl Randall; Joseph Bodnar; James Kron; Travis Hunter; David Anthony; Ryan Connell, Rick DiLiberto; Joe Gabay; Brian Kasprzak (by phone); Doug Shachtman (by phone); Terri Brown-Edwards (by phone).

- February 17, 2011 meeting minutes – Approved

Old business

- Status report from Sub-Committee on the proposed Bench/Bar Liaison Program

Soldo reported that the Sub-Committee is moving forward with a proposed program description and potential candidates, and expects to have both substantially completed in 2-3 weeks.

- Status report regarding the implementation of forms database

There will be a meeting in the next month to finalize the procedure. A brief discussion ensued regarding a potential forum section on the Section's webpage.

- Status report on amending the Section Bylaws

Felice advised that the Section's bylaws need to be amended and restated because there is no signed copy of record. Felice proposed minimal stylistic changes and proposed implementing an "Immediate Past Chair" position. Responsibilities of this position would include assisting the current Chair and Officers in carrying out their duties. Given the historic progression of the Chair to a council member position after serving his or her term, the new position will open a council member position to the general membership, thereby encouraging member participation.

The proposed amendments to the bylaws will be placed on the agenda for a vote at the next Section meeting.

- Report on the March 10, 2011 reception with the Superior Court

Felice reported the event was well attended by both judges and attorneys and apparently was well received as a social event.

- Status report on updating the Section's page on the DSBA's website

This matter was passed to the next Section meeting agenda.

- Update on the proposal to study/compile verdict histories and success of recent amendments to Superior Court Civil Rule 16

Felice advised that he spoke with M. Migliore of the ADR Section regarding tasks associated with this undertaking. The Prothonotary's office has offered its assistance. Discussion ensued about possible volunteers or volunteer groups for this task. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Felice.

- Update on the proposed Section *pro bono* project

Felice reported that the Section is continuing to work on a recycling program with the courts and a local non-profit.

New business

- Soliciting/proposing candidates to act as civil and criminal liaisons in each county for the potential Superior Court Bench/Bar Liaison Program

Rick DiLiberto, Terri-Brown Edwards, Kevin Brady, and Joe Gabay were added to the Bench/Bar Liaison Sub-Committee. A discussion ensued regarding moving forward with the proposed program.

- Comments on Estates and Trusts Section's proposed legislation

No comments were received by the Section and the Section responded with "no comment" to the Executive Committee.

- Take your adversary to lunch week

Work is continuing on this event. The event may be scheduled for a week in May. Discussion ensued about possibly advertising the event in *The Journal*.

- Proposal to join request to change page limits for Supreme Court briefs

Members discussed the proposal by the Criminal Law section. Noting the leave of court provision in the Rule, the Section passed on the invitation.

- All other matters that any Member wishes to bring before the Section

Members discussed raising annual Section dues. This matter will be placed on the next Section meeting agenda for further consideration and a vote.

Members briefly discussed the format for an upcoming CLE, possibly on the Hague Convention.

Nominations for Officers and Council Members will be made at the next Section meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at or around 1:15 p.m.

The Litigation Section's next meeting has been scheduled for April 14, 2011 at noon at the offices of Ballard Spahr LLP, 919 N. Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

Submitted by:

David J. Soldo
Vice-Chair, DSBA Litigation Section