

DELAWARE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
LITIGATION SECTION MEETING – OCTOBER 19, 2010

Following advance and proper notice, the meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

Present: David Felice; David Soldo; Helena Rychlicki; Ryan Connell; Doug Schatchman
(by phone); Karl Randall (by phone); Johnna Darby

Old business

- September 14, 2010 meeting minutes -- approved

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

There has been no response from the Court to the August 2010 letter. Informal attempts will be made to reach out to certain members of the Bench. If there is no success with those contacts, there may be attempts to reach out to other members of the Bench.

- Status report regarding implementation of forms database

This item will be passed to the next Section meeting.

- Status report on coordinating a state court e-filing meeting

This CLE has been scheduled for November 3 and is free to all Litigation Section members.

- Status report on “Take Your Adversary to Lunch” Week

This event will be passed to Spring 2011.

- Status report on Complex Litigation CLE and one-hour lunchtime CLEs

Phil Bangle is coordinating the Complex Litigation CLE, which will be held in December 2010 or January 2011. It will cover such topics as whistle blowing and potential changes to the class action rules.

On December 9, 2010, at noon, a one-hour CLE regarding trust accounting will be held at the DSBA. This event will be co-sponsored by the Small Firms Section of the DSBA. The next Litigation Section meeting will take place right before this CLE at 11:30 a.m.

- Decision on whether Section Bylaws need to be updated

David Felice reported that the Section chair meeting held at the end of September yielded two notes of interest: (1) bylaws must be approved by the Executive Committee of the DSBA; and (2) Section monies can no longer be held over from year to year.

Johnna Darby will undertake to prepare a blacklined version of the Section's bylaws, which should be completed by the next Section meeting scheduled for December 9, 2010.

- Continued discussion of proposed event with Superior Court Bench

David Felice spoke to Judge Cooch. He suggested a cocktail hour with heavy hors d'oeuvres. It will be held sometime in February or March, 2011. Johnna Darby and David Felice will research various venues and report back to the Section.

- Update of Litigation Section's page on DSBA's website

This item will be passed to the next Section meeting.

New business

- Update from September 27, 2010 Section Chair Meeting

See discussion above under "Decision on whether Section Bylaws need to be updated."

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

This information is lacking as to the new Rule. Helena Rychlicki will reach out to various schools in the area to gauge interest/volunteers. The volunteer will compile the verdict information and propose a matrix that will be used to measure the successfulness of mediation under the new Rule 16.

- Consideration of proposal to waive first year membership fees for newly-admitted attorneys

All agreed that the Section would accept requests for free membership for potential members who demonstrate special circumstances, e.g., unemployment.

- Consideration of proposal for Litigation Section *pro bono* project

Helena Rychlicki will reach out to the *Pro Bono* Inn of Court to coordinate possible training and/or projects and to professors at Widener Law School to determine if there are any feasible pro bono projects. Johnna Darby will reach out to DVLS to check on status for training and/or volunteering for PFA hearings which are held each Friday.

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

None.

The meeting was adjourned at or around 12:50 p.m.

The Litigation Section's next meeting has been scheduled for December 9, 2010 at 11:30 a.m., prior to the trust accounting CLE and will be held at the DSBA, 301 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

Submitted by:

Johnna M. Darby
Secretary, DSBA Litigation Section