

## **MINUTES**

Access to Justice Board  
Justice Without Barriers Committee  
January 24, 2012  
Noon – 2:00  
**By Conference Call**

Present: Co-Chair Josefina Ramirez, David Lord, Joan Fairbanks, Shirley Bondon, Rita Dermody, Millicent Newhouse, Charley Dyer, Mary Gough, Rory O’Sullivan, Don Horowitz, Lisa Hayden, Joan Fairbanks

Approval of November 22, 2011 Justice Without Barriers Committee Minutes: Approved

Status Report: Justice Without Barriers Comments on Proposed Family Law Civil Rules: Josefina and Lisa will review the rules to ascertain whether the ATJ Board’s proposed changes have been adopted by the WSBA Local Rules Task Force. Joan will set up a meeting prior to January 27 BOG meeting to discuss how to address the BOG on these issues.

Access to Electronically Stored Records : The ATJ Board is fortunate to have Andrew Lee, a Fellow from NY University School of Law, working with Mike Katell and the ATJ Board Technology Committee to continue to gather information statewide.

Disability Access and Administrative Justice Subcommittees:

David Lord and Robin Zukoski would like to step down as chairs from their respective subcommittees and have asked the full Justice Without Barriers Committee to help identify their replacements. Don and David will brainstorm ideas. This is a good opportunity to recruit new members to the Committee, including people from the Office of Administrative Hearings. Additionally, the Administrative Justice Subcommittee needs new members.

Subcommittee Reports

- Disability Access – David Lord reported that the subcommittee met on January 26. The updated version of the 2006 Access to Courts Guide is now complete and will be posted on the ATJ Board website. The subcommittee continues to educate about GR 33. There was a seminar on November 29 about the potential for people to obtain counsel under this rule. The speaker was Bruce Moran, who has done a lot of work implementing GR 33 in Pierce County. Shirley reported on the subcommittee’s efforts to draft proposed legislation to increase the number of family and friends who can provide informed consent. WSBA’s Elderlaw Section has some concerns about the language, so it likely will not be introduced during this legislative session. The proposed legislation applies to people without immediate family. It would permit the addition of adult grandchildren and friends who can document they have a close relationship with the person needing informed consent in end of life decisions.

- Administrative Justice – There was no report.

- Pro Se Project –Charley Dyer reported that the WSBA voted to give the ATJ Board \$75,000 to complete the translation of family law court forms into plain language. The goal is to get these translations done by the end of June. The next step will be forms testing before the plain language forms to the Pattern Forms Committee for adoption. The Pro Se Project is negotiating with Transcend on a new contract and waiting for a decision by the Northwest Justice Project to approve a proposal from staff attorney Laurie Garber to dedicate 80% of her staff time to the project. The Pro Se Project has approved a protocol for the use of the draft forms. The Rally Support Workgroup has started to meet. There is a proposal for a workshop at the June ATJ Conference. The Forms Testing and Forms Review Workgroups are dealing with a number of issues before they can move forward. Charley will be developing a canned presentation for people who get invited to make presentations. There is also a timeline for the project. Charley asked Committee members to help identify opportunities for presentations on plain language forms. The Pro Se Project continues to look for funding to convert the plain language forms into a document assembly format, and is considering applying to the State Justice Institute for funds. Janet Skreen and Pat Lantz asked for a letter of support for the project from the Supreme Court.

Updates:

- Model Revised State Administrative Procedure Act – Don Horowitz reported that a national committee has been working on revisions to changes proposed by the ABA. There has not been a meeting since September and there has been no further discussion of revisions proposed by Don and others in Washington State. Richard Zorza, who has been the national lead on the project, is trying to get someone from D.C. to take the lead on the project.

- Part-time grievance investigator – Shirley Bondon would like the ATJ Board to advertise this new position on its listservs. Joan will send out the announcement.

- Retreat? Joan proposed the idea of a retreat. This will be on the March agenda for further discussion.

Approve Proposed Meeting Schedule (noon – 2 at the Washington State Bar Association)

March 27

May 22

July 24

September 25

November 27