



# WSBA

PRO BONO AND LEGAL AID COMMITTEE  
Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.  
Minutes

In attendance: Chair Rachel Rappaport, Will Ross, Rory O’Sullivan, John Vanek, Angeline Thomas, Katie Bove and Governor Dan Ford, Geoff Arnold and Ana Selvidge (WSBA Staff Liaison)

Attending via telephone: Todd Nunn, Catherine Brown, Esther Park, Stan Kehl and Sunil Mootien-Pillay

Unable to attend: Geoff Revelle, Thomas Brixius, Richard Ricketts, Joanna Otero, and Carla Reyes

**Minutes for November** – Approved as is

**Announcement** – In regards to last committee meeting discussion on changing the term limit, the CPR committee normally meets once a year in the summer and would take this request at that time. If the committee meets sooner than the summer, Ana will provide the committee with an update of when. At the next Governor’s Forum, Dan will inform the Board of Governors about PBLAC’s request to change the term limits.

## Long Distance Lawyer

### 1. LDL Pilot Project Next Steps

- First, connect and with the five attorneys who have taken a case through the LDL panel and conduct information interviews. See attached survey questions.
- Second, Angeline will reach out to Open Door Legal Service and examine how they use remote assistance to deliver their services.
- Third, interview Walla Walla Program Coordinator to understand how much capacity goes into managing these types of cases.

Rory O’Sullivan suggested renaming the pilot project so it does not match with the subcommittee. Two suggestions are the Urban to Rural Partnership and the Remote Assistance Project. Also discussed was the idea of recruiting attorneys for specific issue areas and possibly adding wage claim in Yakima because of the large need and the high number of attorneys who are conflicted out of representing clients in these types of cases.

### 2. Tennessee Project Next Steps

- Joanna is going to interview the project program coordinator to determine evaluation and outcomes of the current program.
- Subcommittee members will test the sight to have a better idea of the technology needed.
- Final goal is to develop a proposal for ATJ, potential funders and for a potential home. Rachel will speak with Patrick Palace about whether the proposal should be presented to the BOG.

This project also needs to be renamed; possible suggestions are: WAWebLawyers and AskALawyer.

Angeline Thomas raised the need for this site to be connected to WashingtonLawHelp or other types of related service and that the committee should answer the question of how this fits in the existing model so we do not duplicate or create confusion.

For both of these projects, the idea was discussed to provide a write-up for the Board of Governors and get their guidance for these projects.

### **Unbundled Legal Services**

Rachel provided an update on the subcommittee efforts. Sunil compiled all the rules in WA related to Unbundled Legal Service. Now the subcommittee is developing further detailed write-ups for each individual rule. Dan, Sunil and Carla are working on this more detailed document. Esther reached out to Pam Feinstein to gather information on what was the VLP experience with Judges who maybe do not comply with ULS rules. Esther is setting up one-on-one calls with VLP coordinators, and Katie and Rachel will assist.

Discussion ensued on outcome of models that provide effective service. How do we know that the unbundled model works? Clients come with other service needs, than just legal needs. John shared the [Bronx Defenders model](#). Should legal service also provide wrap-around services like this model?

The group examined the possibility of developing a CLE that would encompass unbundled legal service, ethics of working with your pro bono client, cultural competency of working with pro bono clients and community resources. The group discussed whether Fall would be an appropriate time for the CLE, and Ana clarified that CLE's generally take 5-6 months to prepare.

Ana to see where there might be a VLP overlap between both subcommittees and coordinate this outreach.

John Vanek discussed the tax write-off for volunteer hours and the possibly of writing a letter to the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service in support of this effort. Rachel will check-in with Patrick to see if this is something the PBLAC should pursue.