

**Washington State Bar Association Pro Bono and Legal Aid Committee**  
**September 13, 2012**

In attendance: Esther Park, Rory O’Sullivan, Dan Ford, Stan Kehl, Lew Zieske, Randy Winn, Jennifer Carter (WSBA), Joan Fairbanks (ATJB), Megan McNally (WSBA), Karen Schweigert, Joana Otero, Gail Smith, Rachel Rappaport, Will Ross

Attending via telephone: Carla Reyes, Mike Cressy, Todd Nunn, Brian DeFoe

Unable to attend: Reagan Dunn

**September Meeting Minutes** were approved.

**Orientation.** Esther, Megan, Dan and Jen provided an overview of WSBA, the role of the committee, resources, and policies.

**History & Context:**

**PBLAC Accomplishments** – Gail provided a history of the committee and noted that not all successes are immediate; sometimes the impact is further down the road. The committee has: commented on the work of others, such as insight about the effects and repercussions of programs, policies, etc.; conducted surveys; recommended rules such as MCLE rules, emeritus rules, in-house, and GR 34; developed model law firm policies; worked with Court on “honor roll” of pro bono attorneys; conducted outreach; published and/or ghost written articles; and, piloted Long Distance Lawyers. Going forward, Gail notes the committee will increasingly be asked “What proof do you have this will do any good?” Might not always have proof, but some evidence the strategy will have an effect will make it stronger.

Dan gave an overview of the MCLE rules recommendation and status.

**WSBA Strategic Goals** – Megan reviewed WSBA’s strategic goals and emphasis on “enhancing a culture of service among the WSBA membership.”

**Access to Justice Board** – Joan reviewed the ATJB history and noted that while PBLAC is the “voice of the profession” on pro bono and legal aid issues, the ATJB has a wider scope and serves and engages a wider constituency. PBLAC and ATJB at times work together on issues of mutual concern.

**Brainstorm of Possible Priorities for FY13:**

- Rule 34 follow up
- Supreme Ct honor roll
- Gen counsel, firm, local bar pledge
  - How well plumbing in house counsel for pro bono?
  - Gov attys
- Long distance lawyers follow up
- MCLE issue follow up
- Outreach about the fact that people *can* get CLE credit for pro bono
  - video
- Outreach to part time and contract attorneys
- Free newsletter

- Judiciary – do they help recruit pro bono attorneys?
- Review recommendations from civil legal needs work group
  - ie, unbundled rules
- Look at 2.2 code of judicial conduct rule
- Corporate and public entities
- Which QLSPs want more volunteers
- Limited practice
- Law school intern
- Funding for legal aid programs (expanding beyond current funding)
  - Beyond the legal community
- Direct representation
- Interactive forms
- Celebrate Pro Bono
- Mentoring
- Other professionals
- Outreach to others / network
- LLLT rules – pro bono requirement
- Mandatory pro bono
- Coordination w/ law schools
- Training for non attorney staff at VLPs
- Outreach beyond legal community