## Washington State Bar Association Pro Bono and Legal Aid Committee August 11, 2011

<u>In attendance</u>: Andrea Axel, Catherine Brown, Andy Guy, Steve Larsen, Angie Maddox, Joanna Otero, Diana Singleton, Gail Smith, Jen Werdell, Randy Winn, Dan Young, Lew Zieske

Attending via telephone: Mike Cressey, Joan Fairbanks, Brian Flock, Alison Holcomb

<u>Unable to attend</u>: Jim Bamberger, Joanna Boisen, Reagan Dunn, Rebecca Glasgow, Michael Kleps, Joe Marshall, James McCormick

**Introductions** Angie Maddox is WSBA's new Public Service Training Specialist and Jen Werdell is a new Associate Director for Seattle University's Access to Justice Institute.

July Meeting Minutes were approved.

WSBA's Guiding Principles At WSBA's request, PBLAC reviewed language to focus WSBA's Guiding Principle which states: WSBA will operate a well-managed association that supports its members and advances and promotes access to the justice system. With input from the Access to Justice Board, WSBA proposed the following focus language: Enhancing a culture of service by providing training and leveraging community partnerships to create opportunities for lawyers to give back with a particular focus on services to low and moderate income people. PBLAC discussed that the proposed focus is too narrow and that it should include efforts to close the justice gap, especially for clients in rural areas. The Committee agreed on the following language: Enhancing a culture of service for lawyers to give back with a particular focus on services to underserved low and moderate income people by: providing training, leveraging community partnerships, and fostering opportunities to close the justice gap. Andrea will send PBLAC's suggestions to Paula Littlewood.

**Celebrate Pro Bono Week (Oct. 23-29, 2011)** The subcommittee is discussing where to place a calendar of pro bono events. Diana will circulate the 2009 letter which informed providers about Celebrate Pro Bono week and asked for information about their events. Reagan will request that the King County Council recognize Celebrate Pro Bono week. 2012 Celebrate Pro Bono should be part of PBLAC's planning schedule.

**PBLAC Planning** The Oct. meeting will be 2 hours in the late afternoon to plan and prioritize 2012 work.

Long Distance Lawyers Update GAVLS placed 5 cases with LDL attorneys. The subcommittee is drafting a flow chart with referral process details and will circulate to PBLAC soon. The subcommittee plans to publicize LDL in Grant County and will identify counties for LDL expansion. PBLAC will likely need to seek BOG guidance to determine when/if to terminate its LDL involvement. Andy shared LDL information with Jessica Bukowski of WA Appleseed who is creating a "best practices" manual for remote representation

**GR 34 Implementation**: PBLAC members should send Leslie Savina information about cases in which GR 34 is not being properly implemented.

The next PBLAC meeting will be Thursday, September 8 at 12:00 p.m. at WSBA.

Please make every effort to join us for this meeting (lunch provided) to thank our out-going Committee members for their camaraderie and service!