

**WSBA CRIMINAL LAW SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2012 COINS (SEATAC)**

**MINUTES**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Hugh Birgenheier, Jeri Bonkoski, Jimmy Hung, Jennifer Grant, Aaron Wolff, Chris Maryatt, Edwin Aralica, Ron Hammett, Leesa Manion, Kim Hunter.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Aaron Wolff.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Hugh Birgenheier moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Jeri Bonkoski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER VACANCY**

Secretary-Treasurer Kim Hunter indicated that she had been very excited to take on the role of secretary-treasurer in 2012; however, she added that she currently had too much on her plate professionally and had to take a step back. Kim said that she intended to continue to co-chair the CJI. Chair Aaron Wolff stated that he had asked Chris Maryatt, who had served as secretary-treasurer in 2011, to take on the roll. Procedurally, both Chris and Kim would need to resign their seats in order to trade places. Secretary-Treasurer Kim Hunter resigned; Chris Maryatt resigned the remainder of his term on the defense position set to expire at the end of 2012. Chair-Elect Hugh Birgenheier nominated Chris to serve as secretary-treasurer and Kim to fill out Chris Maryatt's unexpired term. Jennifer Grant seconded the motion. Hugh indicated that he would like to see more diversity on the leadership of the Criminal Law Section, noting that for the past few terms, three out of the four members (Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past Chair) were from King County. The motion to appoint Chris and Kim respectively passed unanimously.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Aaron Wolff reported on the member benefit CLE. He indicated that roughly nearly double the number of registered attendees showed up. He noted that the lectures were good and that the CLE received a lot of positive feedback. Furthermore, we signed up new members at the event. The WSBA did accreditation and email blasts.

**CHAIR-ELECT'S REPORT**

Chair-Elect Hugh Birgenheier added he also felt that the CLE went well.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Secretary-Treasurer Chris Maryatt had nothing to report.

**LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

Committee Co-Chair Edwin Aralica spoke on behalf of both Jimmy Hung and himself. He

reported that while the legislature had been considering cutting funding for PDA, this was no longer happening. Edwin thought that the section ought to write a letter to the legislature indicating the Criminal Law Section's position on the issue. The letter should discuss what the Criminal Law Section is and further indicate that it supports public funding of the criminal justice elements of the budget. By consensus, the board decided to have Edwin write the letter. Regarding legislation generally, there was some discussion around questions of how much input we could actually give under a deadline and how to take everyone's viewpoint into account. The group decided by consensus that the Criminal Law Section should amend the bylaws to empower a committee composed equally of prosecutors and public defenders to vet legislation and to make recommendations to the legislature on behalf of the Criminal Law Section. John Strait, Jimmy Hung, Edwin Aralica, and Hugh Birgenheier would form the committee.

### **CJI**

Committee Co-Chair Kim Hunter spoke on behalf of both Hugh Birgenheier and herself. She suggested one interesting topic might include demonstrations of new BAC devices; however, she conceded that the new technology might not be available for demonstration at the CJI. Kim also indicated that we needed a "grand finale" to the CJI akin to the one we had last year (the "What If" Project) and suggested the Innocence Project. Leesa Manion indicated that a number of prosecutors would probably be turned off by closing with a presentation about the Innocence Project. There was a suggestion that there be a presentation about the use of dogs in the criminal justice system. Jennifer Grant suggested that veteran's court be a topic. Jeri Bonkoski suggested something on e-discovery. Kim indicated that she did not believe there was enough material at previous CJIs for newer attorneys and suggested that Francisco Duarte could present something for defense. Leesa suggested juvenile diversion programs as a possible topic. Jennifer added that competency could also be an important and timely issue to discuss. Other possible topics included: Immigration and Customs Enforcement, fingerprinting, the death penalty review board, medical marijuana, and a search and seizure update.

### **NEWSLETTER**

Newsletter Editor Chris Maryatt indicated that he was almost ready to proceed on the newsletter, but needed a piece on prosecution. Jimmy Hung volunteered to write an article.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The next meeting will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, at 13 Coins.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

### **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned.