

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Court Rules and Procedures Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2019

Members Present:

Chair Jefferson Coulter, Kristin Ballinger, Claire Carden, Rike Connelly, Stephanie Dikeakos, Tony DiTommaso, Brian Esler, Duffy Graham, Richard Greene, Karen Horowitz, John Ledford, Sarah Lee, Alison Markette, Kirk Miller, Tim Moran, Isham Reavis, Rachel Reynolds, James Smith, Ann Summers, and Emory Wogenstahl.

Members Excused:

Jody Cloutier, Joyce Heritage, Ashton Rezayat, Rachael Rogers, Rooein Roshandel, Jeff Sbaih, Jon Zimmerman, and Brian Zuanich.

Also Attending:

Judge Blaine Gibson (SCJA Liaison), Judge Bradley Maxa (COA Rules Committee Chair), Nicole Gustine (WSBA Assistant General Counsel), Kyla Jones (WSBA Paralegal), Dana Barnett (WSBA Diversity & Inclusion Specialist), and Paige Hardy (WSBA Public Service Specialist).

Chair Jefferson Coulter called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The September 16, 2019, minutes were approved by consensus.

Diversity Orientation

The Committee received Diversity Orientation, titled "Digging Deeper into Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity." Dana Barnett, WSBA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist, and Paige Hardy, WSBA Public Service Specialist, provided the presentation.

Subcommittee Assignments

Under the Schedule for Review from the Supreme Court, the Committee will be reviewing the Mandatory Arbitration Rules (MAR), Civil Rules for Superior Courts (CR), and Civil Rules for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (CRLJ). A subcommittee will work on each of the rules up for review. Brian Esler will chair the MAR Subcommittee, Rike Connelly will chair the CR Subcommittee, and Claire Carden will chair the CRLJ Subcommittee. Tony DiTommaso will chair Subcommittee X. Chair Coulter will reach out to Jon Zimmerman, Chair of FY 2019 IRLJ Subcommittee, to determine if the IRLJ Subcommittee would like to continue into FY 2020.

Chair Coulter received suggested amendments to CR 55 "Default and Judgement." The Committee discussed the best next step for this rule suggestion, and decided to send it to the CR Subcommittee.

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GR 12.4 – Public Records Request to Bar Records and WSBA Expense Report Policy

Nicole Gustine discussed WSBA's Access to Records Policy under GR 12.4. Members were advised that communications of the Committee, including e-mails on which WSBA staff is copied, are subject to disclosure if a public records request is made. Ms. Gustine also discussed WSBA's reimbursement policy. The WSBA will reimburse for the cheapest method of travel and for reasonable hotel accommodations. Members were advised that telephonic attendance to meetings is perfectly acceptable.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.