

**COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL ETHICS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 17, 2026**

The meeting was held in person and via video conference.

Members present were Mark Fucile (Chair), Seth Endo, Judge Frederick Corbit, Michele Carney, Zachary Dillon, Abraham Ritter, Amber Lynott and Peter Jarvis. Sara Ayoubi was excused. BOG Liaison Mary Rathbone was absent. Also present were Jeanne Marie Clavere (staff liaison), Sandra Schilling, Professional Responsibility Counsel (PRC), Kevin Plachy, Director of Advancement Department, and Doug Ende, Chief Disciplinary Counsel.

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

**Announcements/Updates**

- Staff discussed recruitment for FY2027. There will be at least one opening, and members were encouraged to reach out to prospective candidates. The application process begins May 1.

**The February 20, 2026, Minutes were approved.**

**WSSC Suggested Changes to RPC and Comments re AI**

The committee discussed possible changes to the comments and agreed that the subcommittee should present their discussion notes to the Supreme Court liaison.

**Public Defender Caseloads.** The draft opinion has been sent to stakeholders for comment. In the interim, the Supreme Court has issued an opinion regarding the guidelines. The subcommittee made some small substantive changes in accordance with the court opinion. The subcommittee intends to present a final proposed opinion at the next meeting.

**CPE ROP, and Integration of Lawyer RPC, LLLTRPC and LPORPC**

The committee forwarded the draft procedures and draft charter to OGC for review. It intends to incorporate the suggestions from OGC and present a final draft at the next meeting.

**RPC 5.5 and "Assisting" UPL**

The opinion was submitted for the BOG materials for their next meeting for information only.

**Subscription Fee Models**

The subcommittee discussed issues presenting with the topic and received feedback from the committee. The committee will review this again at the next meeting.

**Issues Arising in Law Firm Departures**

The subcommittee shared main points of the pending draft opinion.

**Withdrawals and Declinations based on RPC 1.16 (a)(2)**

The committee reviewed the draft opinion. The subcommittee anticipates presenting a revised draft at the next meeting.

**Proposed Update to AO 1957**

The committee plans to issue a new opinion regarding the issue, and ultimately withdrawing the old opinion.

**Potential New Advisory Opinions**

Request for Advisory Opinion re RPC 6.5: A motion was declined to create a subcommittee on this matter.

Request for Advisory Opinion on Legal Mail and RPC 1.6: This request was tabled until the next meeting.

Request for Advisory Opinion re County Prosecutor Representing County Public Defender on Matters: A motion was declined to create a subcommittee on this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 2:06 PM