



WSBA

PRO BONO AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

Conference Call: 1.866.577.9294 | Participant Code: 52111#

In Attendance: Kevin McGuire, Judy Lin, Paul Okner, Emily Nelson, Jordann Hallstrom, Brendan Vandor

Attend by Phone: Adam Yeaton, Chiedza Nziramasanga, Emily Arneson, Beth Leonard, Liz Lee, Sara MacDuff

Unable to Attend: Hilary Hibbeln, Bruce Conklin, Governor Bill Pickett, Na Crabtree, Priya Cloutier, Kristina Ralls, Lindy Laurence, Leslie Blankman, Angeline Thomas

Staff: Jennifer Small, Kelly Nee, Joy Williams, Jean McElroy

PURPOSE STATEMENT: *The Pro Bono and Public Service Committee works to enhance a culture of service by promoting opportunities and best practices that encourage WSBA members to engage in pro bono and public service with a particular focus on services to underserved low and moderate income people.*

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, September 14, 2017 – 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

1. **Welcome and approval of Minutes (January, March & May)** Committee Co-Chairs, Kevin McGuire, Emily Nelson
Sara MacDuff moved to approve January and March Minutes, Paul Okner seconded. Kevin McGuire moved to approve May minutes, Liz Lee seconded.
2. **Updates on Military Spouse Rule and Emeritus Fees**
Chief Regulatory Services Counsel, Jean McElroy informed the committee that the Military Spouse Rule is currently being looked at outside the bar association. Jean spoke about the benefits of the uniform bar exam, allowing attorneys to practice throughout Washington state although there are many ways attorneys can practice if licensed in other states. The only thing that a Washington license is essential to is opening a practice, and working in a practice where you are advising on Washington law/going to court. The Bar has been working on not continuing or creating new licenses where very few people were licensed in that way. The bar has not adopted any changes in rules for military spouses, because of the various ways that military spouses can practice in Washington without actually needing to be licensed in Washington. Jean also discussed the Emeritus Pro Bono rule, the biggest change being removing non-member Emeritus. The house counsel rule was also amended for those who are not licensed in Washington but work for a firm and do pro bono services. LLLT's and LPO's are also able to serve in an Emeritus capacity. Jean also informed the committee that in the past, inactive attorneys have been reached out to about Emeritus and changing their status to Emeritus in order to practice (this might be a good way to increase numbers of Emeritus members.)
3. **Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. **Promotion** – Emily Nelson informed the committee that Jordan has a blog post about Emeritus, and Emily's article about Pro Bono month will be in NWLawyer. Emily spoke about WAWebLawyer and that the program will be suspended. She talked about the barriers around the interface of the website itself, and that there were only a few issues and a very select group of clients that were being addressed through this website.

- b. **Policies** – Chiedza Nziramasanga informed the committee that this subcommittee hadn't met since June. However, at the last meeting they decided that they would pool the resources about the various Pro Bono policies and Kevin would help draft a Pro Bono policy checklist for law firms. The subcommittee also decided to include firm's statement of commitment, what constitutes pro bono, and pro bono efforts, the target audience for this packet would be attorneys and maybe non-attorneys that are firm staff. Kevin informed the committee that Oregon also has a checklist that lays out everything to be considered when creating a policy, they also have technology that helps build out policies based on certain pro bono policies for different law firms to consider.
- c. **Barriers** – Brendan Vandor created a memo about Emeritus. The overall consensus is that there needs to be raised awareness about programming and the option to practice through Emeritus status. Paul Okner compiled resources about technological solutions to barriers. The ABA survey showed that time and experience were the biggest barriers, and approaching those two barriers should be an ongoing goal.
- d. **ABA Survey** – Beth Leonard informed that the ABA survey results and national compiled data was received last month. They are working on comparing the survey results with the national report.

4. Announcements

Jennifer Small informed the committee that the Pro Bono Fair is October 11th, at Perkins Coie, there's a 1 hr free CLE at 3:00 p.m. on that day. There is a Legal Lunchbox on Pro Bono in October as well, about clients and intellectual disabilities on October 31st. There is a MentorLink Mixer focused on Pro Bono work in King County on October 24th.

Kevin McGuire moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:02 pm with no oppositions.

2016-17 Meeting Dates | All meetings @ WSBA, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

November 10th	March 9th	July 13th — CANCELLED
January 12th	May 11th	September 14th