

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

CRIMINAL LAW SECTION

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for *Saturday, January 11, 2014*

Meeting Location: 13 Coins, Seatac

Called to order: 8:37am

Adjourned: 9:25am

Present: Edwin Aralica, Rea Culwell, Tessa Gorman, Jimmy Hung, Kim Hunter, Leesa Manion, Blythe Phillips, John Sheeran, John Strait, Mark Vovos, Aaron Wolff

Absent: Hugh Birgenheier, Ronald Hammett, James Hershey, Dale Slack

Meeting Discussion

- **Minutes from Last Meeting:** Who took minutes at the last meeting?
- **All Section Meeting** will take place on Thursday, January 16 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the WSBA conference center.
 - Kim will attend, anyone who wants to go with her should let her know
 - The Section made a \$50 donation, authorized by Kim
- **Legislative Committee:** Edwin Aralica, Jimmy Hung, John Strait
 - When Kim receives bills she will send them to the Legislative Committee who will then send them out to the rest of the Executive Committee for voting. For the Section to take a position on a bill, a 2/3 vote supporting that position is required.
 - Kim received 3 emailed bills, including HB2190. She will send them on
 - Leesa suggested supporting a bill for the Certification of Restoration of Opportunity which provides a procedure for convicted criminals who have served their sentence and are current on their LFOs to regain their ability to apply for certain occupational licenses.
- **Membership**
 - New Secretary/Treasurer: Blythe Phillips is nominated and took minutes for today's meeting.
 - **Blythe** will check with her employer, Judge Andrus, to make sure the Judge approves her "defense" designation in the section as compliant with the Code of Judicial Conduct. John Strait agreed that there was no apparent ethical issue, but that the Judge should give her approval.
 - Need a new Chair-Elect (prosecutor): Jimmy Hung agreed to be considered for the position.
 - Reminder to renew membership in section when renewing bar membership
 - Section membership is dropping – how do we address this?
 - Kim suggested giving a presentation at public defense agencies, prosecutor's offices, and/or law schools
 - **Mark Vovos** will present at Gonzaga
 - **Kim** will chat with prosecutors and is willing to go to Spokane if necessary
 - **John Strait** will schedule something at Seattle University Law
 - **Ed** and **Rea** will present at the next board meetings for WACDL and WAPA (respectively)
- **Criminal Justice Institute:** Kim and Hugh are doing CJI again this year
 - **Tentative Dates:** September 18 & 19
 - **Goals:**
 - Reduce administrative costs by
 - Trying to identify where the money is spent on administrative costs
 - Seeing if we can reduce costs by having volunteers staff registration tables
 - Improve attendance – there is concern about CJI losing money
 - We should work on aggressively marketing CJI

- Perhaps changes can be made in cost structure such as making a 1-day option available
- Address the space issues – it is agreed the space is too large and has some problems, but it is free
 - **John Strait** will explore cost and scheduling options at Seattle U Law School, but is not optimistic that space will be available
- **Mini CLE** – how do we improve attendance? John Strait said that, historically, the most well-attended Mini CLEs were jointly sponsored with other sections
- **Budget** (concerns were addressed in CJI & Mini CLE discussions)
- **Next Meetings** – return to the 9:15am start time
 - March 15
 - May 31
 - August 16
- **Old Business:**
 - Newsletter
 - **Kim** has been trying to get newsletter formatting information but has been unsuccessful. She will see if the WSBA has any materials on newsletter formatting
 - Articles/Content are welcome. Suggestions included a CJI Highlights section and an article recognizing civility between parties in a recently overturned case.