

MINUTES

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

January 20, 2017

The meeting of the Washington State Board of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education was called to order by Chair Andrew Lee Benjamin at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2017. Board members in attendance were:

Andrew Lee Benjamin, Chair
John Bender
Scott Bergstedt
Stacy Bjordahl
Aaron Okrent
Melissa Skelton
Rebecca Stewart-Levon (via phone)

Liaisons and Staff attending were:

Robert Henry	Associate Director, Regulatory Services Dpt.
Renata de Carvalho Garcia	MCLE Manager/MCLE Board Staff Liaison
Nina Winder	MCLE Analyst
James Doane, via phone	Board of Governors Liaison

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 7, 2016 meeting were approved by motion.

MCLE MANAGER REPORT:

The MCLE Manager provided a verbal report to the Board regarding updates to recent WSBA MCLE matters, including current compliance statistics and a proposal for a special MCLE Board meeting to discuss APR 11.

WSBA DESKBOOK POLICY REVIEW:

The Board revisited the current policy to allow WSBA Deskbook authors to claim MCLE credit for their writing contribution before publication – an exception to APR 11(e)(5). The WSBA Deskbook Senior Legal Editor provided an overview of the existing process and answered questions from Board members. Considering the clear language of APR 11(e)(5), the Board decided to discontinue the existing exception effective January 1, 2018. Authors may file a petition to request extension of time to meet the MCLE requirements on the rare occasions where the writing and publication cross the reporting period deadline.

MEMBER PETITIONS/APPEALS:

The Board reviewed and decided by motion on 12 member petitions.

The Board reviewed one member's appeal of accreditation decisions made for their writing applications. The appeal was decided by the Board and so moved. No listing of these motions is attached to these minutes to protect the confidentiality of the members.

COURSE AUDIT REPORTS:

The Board heard a report from Andy Benjamin on his audit of the Brain Injury Alliance of WA's course, "THE Legal-Medical Seminar on Traumatic Brain Injuries for Attorneys, Health Care Professionals, and Insurance Representatives".

The Board heard a report from Aaron Okrent on his audit of WSAJ's course, "Subrogation: Untangling the Gordian Knot of Lien, Reimbursement, and Subrogation".

The Board heard a report from Renata Garcia on her audit of LawProse, Inc.'s course, "Advanced Legal Writing & Editing".

HEARING:

The Board held one APR 11(i)(7) hearing via phone and moved on a decision. The Board will issue findings of fact and order and will provide the lawyer with a copy of the same.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business at hand, the MCLE Board meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 7, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Renata de Carvalho Garcia
MCLE Board Staff Liaison