

MINUTES OF THE WDMO FEDERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

March 29, 2012—12:00 p.m.

Whittaker Courthouse Kansas City, Missouri

Present in person were: Judge Beth Phillips, Chair Julia Kitsmiller, Ann Thompson, Brian Gaddy, Jeff Ray, Joe Whisler, Lisa Nouri, Lynette Siegel, Willie Epps and Travis Poindexter. Rodney Nichols was present via teleconference.

The meeting began at 12:05 p.m. with introductions of members to U.S. District Judge Beth Phillips.

Criminal Law CLE Update

Lisa Nouri updated the Committee on the program components: a sentencing panel with the judges, a Bureau of Prisons (BOP) panel and a third panel of Assistant U.S. Attorneys, including Gene Porter. Discussion ensued about program content, a final date and how to make sure the AUSAs all receive email notification of the event.

The Committee then engaged Judge Phillips in discussion about her views on various practice preferences and procedures. Discussion ensued about pre-trial conferences in criminal cases, the recusal process for a new judge and oral argument on motions. The Chair and the members also described the role of the Committee and various projects and programs it sponsored over the past several years.

Possible Ethics CLE

It was concluded that it would be impractical to try and schedule an ethics program before the June CLE cut-off, and discussion ensued about potentially planning this program after the first of the year. The Committee contemplated a program with one general session and then a break-out session and hopes to get judges involved with ethical “war stories.”

Mr. Whisler shared information on the ABA’s roll-out of Ethics 20/20, and he volunteered to try and tie that in with a WDMO program.

Meeting between Criminal Defense Bar & Probation Office in Springfield – April 11th

Ms. Thompson shared that Judges Gaitan and Dorr were hosting this meeting, and the Committee reviewed the basic goals and purpose. Ms. Nouri explained how the Kansas City meeting transpired for Judge Phillips.

Future Scheduling

Discussion ensued about scheduling for the remainder of the year. In particular, the Committee explored how and when to conduct a meeting in Springfield and/or Jefferson City. There was

discussion of the dates for the fall Missouri Bar meetings as well. November 8, 2012 was set as the tentative date for the Criminal CLE, pending confirmation of judicial availability.

New Business

Committee members took the opportunity with Judge Phillips to review various CJA Panel Attorney funding and billing issues, and discussion ensued about typical issues and the overall appointment process for CJA counsel.

Approval of Minutes

Julia Kitsmiller requested approval of the minutes of the February 13, 2012 meeting, and the Committee unanimously approved the minutes as written.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.