

## MINUTES OF THE WDMO FEDERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

September 14, 2012-12:00 p.m.

Via conference call

Present on the call were: Ann Thompson, Julia Kitsmiller, Lisa Nouri, Willie Epps, Brian Gaddy, Doug Harpool, Joe Whisler and Mike Oliver.

The conference call began at 12:00. Ms. Kitsmiller chaired the meeting, and Lisa Nouri took the minutes.

The call started with Ms. Kitsmiller thanking all who attended the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Conference. She noted that Judges Benton and Gaitan were pleased with the Western District of Missouri bar turnout and proclaimed the conference a huge success.

The minutes from the July, 2012 meeting were then approved with no revisions after a motion was made by Willie Epps and seconded by Joe Whisler.

The next item of discussion was the upcoming FPC Criminal Law CLE. Lunch has been approved and the time schedule is set. Ann Thompson noted that a short flyer will be distributed with an RSVP request. Further discussion ensued about the lunch menu and other program logistics.

Discussion then turned to the upcoming Federal Practice Committee meeting in Springfield on Oct 11, 2012 with the reception for Judge England to follow from 5-8 p.m. The Highland Springs Country Club will serve as the location for both the meeting and the reception. The meeting will start at 3:00 or 3:30pm. with new Magistrate Judge David Rush as the featured guest. Ms. Thompson indicated that the entire Springfield area federal bar will receive email invitations to the reception and that all are welcome. The speakers for the reception will be David Rush, Judge Maughmer and another member of the Springfield bar. The program will start at 6:30. The Springfield Clerk's office staff and agency heads from various law enforcement offices will also be invited.

Concerning Judge England's retirement, Doug Harpool suggested that a gift be provided to the Judge from the FPC. Doug will research an appropriate gift and will solicit contributions from FPC members. The gift will be in honor of Judge England's retirement. Judge Dorr will give the welcome at the reception and then introduce Ms. Kitsmiller and Mr. Harpool for presentation of the mementos on behalf of the FPC.

The next item of business was an Early Assessment Program (EAP) update. A survey about the program was developed last year by an FPC sub-committee. However, the project was postponed when Kent Snapp announced his retirement plans. It was determined that it would be more productive to kick off information gathering with the new administrator once that person is in place. Ms. Thompson reported that the job vacancy was just posted by the court. Once the

new Administrator comes on board, that person will be invited to a FPC meeting and the survey and focus group ideas will be reviewed for additional committee input.

Ms. Thompson then gave an update on the recent community outreach efforts, advising that Larry Miller and Judge Whitworth gave a presentation to a community group in Jefferson City.

Discussion ensued about the 2013 FPC year, and it was noted that Ms. Nouri will take over as Chair in January. At the first meeting in 2013, a Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect will be selected.

Reminders were also given about the Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> FCAS Bench Bar Dialogue Luncheon at the Whittaker Courthouse and the November 7, 2012 lunch for the FPC with the Judges, again at Whittaker.

Willie Epps moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion which was seconded by Joe Whisler, and the meeting was adjourned by Ms. Kitsmiller.