

MINUTES OF THE WDMO FEDERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

April 18, 2013—12:00 p.m.

Kansas City, Missouri Whittaker Courthouse

Present (in person and via teleconference): Lisa Nouri, Erica Mynarich, Lynnette Siegel, Andrew Hirth, Joe Whisler, Larry Miller, Dave Ketchmark, Christine Blegen, Travis Poindexter and Ann Thompson.

Chair Lisa Nouri called the lunch meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Introduction of New U.S. Attorney for WDMO

Ms. Tammy Dickinson, new U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, joined the Committee at the beginning of the meeting to introduce herself and describe her experiences for the first 90 days in office. She answered questions from the Committee and reiterated that the focus of her office continues to be prosecution of violent crime in Kansas City.

Approval of Minutes

Travis Poindexter moved to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2013 meeting. Dave Ketchmark seconded the motion. With no opposition, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Old Business

EAP Survey and Program Status. Ann Thompson updated the committee on the timing of the EAP survey and indicated that Jill Morris would be conducting follow-up focus groups and will be including FPC members with program experience.

Election of Vice-Chair. Mr. Poindexter was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect of the FPC. The nomination was seconded, and Mr. Poindexter was unanimously elected to so serve.

Criminal CLEs. The Committee determined that it would be better to skip the program in Kansas City this fall and offer it in Springfield instead so that the Springfield bar could have a chance to hear in person from the Kansas City judges who travel there. The program would then reconvene in K.C. the next year.

Mr. Ketchmark reported that the format for the Springfield program would be modified slightly from the K.C. format. There will not be a Bureau of Prisons segment. There will be a segment with a panel of district judges, a segment with Judge Rush (and any K.C. magistrates that can join) and then a segment with an AUSA, a FPD representative and a CJA lawyer. He further noted that the sub-committee is speaking with representatives from the MOCIC facility to see if it could be used for the program free of charge. Ms. Thompson was asked to check on 6-14-13 or 6-21-13 as possible dates. (Following the meeting, Ms. Thompson reported that the judges

were unavailable on the June dates. **September 13, 2013** was identified as an acceptable date for all and is now on the judges calendars.)

Community Outreach Efforts. Ms. Mynarich noted that she was doing a program that afternoon with Judge Rush for a Joplin leadership group. Mr. Miller described the program he did with Judge Whitworth for a Jefferson City Rotary Club breakfast.

Discussion ensued about the program for the diversity bar organizations, and Mr. Miller indicated some preliminary discussions with Lajuana Counts on the topic. Mr. Poindexter said he would continue to contact the diversity bar Presidents.

KCMBA Article on the FPC. Ms. Thompson indicated that the KCMBA is doing a big article on the Bell Room this summer, so it would be acceptable to postpone an article on the FPC until after that. Ms. Blegen was going to follow-up when the time comes.

New Business

Additional Community Outreach Solicitations. As new members, Mr. Ketchmark and Ms. Blegen were encouraged to seek out additional groups where the Committee might do community outreach presentations with the judges.

Joint Ethics Luncheon with FCAS. The Federal Court Advocates Section of KCMBA currently has a Bench and Bar Dialogue Luncheon set for October 9th. Discussion ensued about an FPC/FCAS collaboration to convert this event to a 2-hour (110 CLE minutes) Ethics program using the format of judges at tables of 8-10 attorneys. Ms. Nouri and Mr. Poindexter volunteered to follow-up with FCAS leadership.

CCA Video Opportunity. Ms. Thompson reminded Committee members about the District of Kansas program where defense counsel can go to the Dole Courthouse and meet with CCA clients via video. She indicated that the system now allows attorneys to conduct such a meeting without leaving their office by connecting directly to the video conference room at CCA. Further details will be provided to Ms. Nouri and Mr. Poindexter as volunteer testers. Discussion ensued about when such a video link would or would not be useful to defense counsel.

At 12:55 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.