

**MINUTES OF THE WDMO FEDERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE**  
**July 25, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.**  
**Teleconference**

Present (via teleconference): Andrew Hirth, Willie Epps, Joe Whisler, Lisa Nouri, David Ketchmark, Travis Poindexter, Christine Blegen, Doug Harpool, Mike Oliver and Ann Thompson.

Chair Lisa Nouri called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Mr. Ketchmark agreed to take the minutes for the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Willie Epps moved to approve the minutes from the April 18, 2013. Andrew Hirth seconded the motion. With no opposition, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes. Travis Poindexter joined the meeting at this time.

**Old Business**

***Criminal CLE in Springfield, Missouri.*** The CLE has been confirmed for September 18, 2013. Ms. Thompson reported that Judges Gaitan, Wimes, and Phillips have confirmed, and she will try to get another District Judge if possible.

The CLE will consist of three panels: one being the District Judges; one being Magistrate Judges Rush & Whitworth; and the third being an AUSA, an AFPD, and a CJA attorney. So far all the judges and AFPD Ann Koszuth have confirmed they will participate.

The location was discussed. Chamber of Commerce no longer rents out a meeting room. Other possibilities include the Glass Hall Auditorium, a room at the Tower Club if a member of the club reserves it, or the Bass Pro which is 2.5 miles and 8-10 minutes away.

Ms. Thompson says that 50 is a good round number. She will be sending out the save the date notice and will have Johnathon put together a draft of a flyer that the committee can review and edit. The Court will pay for food and the location expenses. Information from the sub-committee on location needs to be provided to Ms. Thompson within the next two weeks. Lunch will be at noon and the panels will continue from that point depending on the Judges' schedules. The closer the location is to the Courthouse the better to accommodate the Judge's schedules.

Mr. Poindexter brought up the question of topics after speaking with Ann Koszuth. Mr. Oliver said once a CJA attorney representative is identified, they will have a meeting to brainstorm topics.

Mr. Oliver would like volunteers from the committee to be moderators. Ms. Nouri, Mr. Poindexter and Mr. Oliver will be moderators for the panels. The moderators will be responsible for coming up with questions.

Joe Whisler joined the call at this time.

**Joint Ethics CLE.** This event is being hosted jointly with the Federal Courts Advocates Section of KCMBA. Ms. Nouri and Mr. Poindexter will be meeting with Lajuana Counts who is the chair of FCAS. Ms. Counts suggested reaching out to Judge Benton as well to secure his participation in addition to the WDMO judges.

The CLE will be held over the lunch hour on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. in the Whittaker Courthouse. There was a discussion of stretching the time to 110 minutes to get everyone two hours of ethics. Ms. Thompson proposed 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. The format will include a District Judge at each table and ethics questions. Ms. Nouri asked the committee to come up with ethics questions/issues for both civil and criminal and to get them to her by August 9, 2013.

Ms. Thompson suggested one to two tables for criminal with a Magistrate Judge. Mr. Poindexter agreed and suggests that this will help fill the two hour time frame. Ms. Thompson also suggested talking to the branch offices to give them an opportunity to host a small lunch with ethical issues even if it is only one hour long. This would be a separate program.

**KCMBA Article on the FPC & Community Outreach.** KCMBAs says it would be good to have some type of topic or focal point for the article. Possibilities include a community outreach activity such as the Lee Summit Optimist Club on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Ms. Thompson and Diane Diaz will look into trying to see if a judge is available. Ann Thompson indicated she would start with Judges Gaitan and Hays, and if neither is available, she would contact other judges. If we get a judge to participate, Ms. Blegen will attend and take photos.

The second option for the KCMBAs article is the joint ethics CLE on October 9, 2013. Brandon Bullware at the Downtown Rotary Club will be getting back to Ms. Blegen on this potential opportunity. Hopefully we will get the article done this fall.

Mr. Poindexter noted the outreach project in Southwestern Division by Ms. Mynarich and Judge Rush. Since Ms. Mynarich was not in attendance on this telephone conference, she will be asked to report on this at the next meeting.

Everyone was asked to consider additional audiences or groups for community outreach.

**CCA Video Interviews.** Ms. Thompson asked that this be tabled until the next meeting.

### **New Business**

**Next meeting.** The September meeting will be an in-person lunch on September 26, 2013. It was proposed that the Committee skip Jeff City for one year in terms of conducting meetings in divisional courthouses and due to the Springfield CLE this year.

Ms. Nouri suggested inviting Tracy Diefenbach to attend a future FPC meeting since she is now the new Operations Manager in Kansas City for the court. Ms. Thompson will contact Ms. Diefenbach about attending. Ms. Thompson asked if there was anyone else people wanted to

invite to let her know. Ms. Nouri also mentioned inviting someone from the Civil Division in the U.S. Attorney's Office to explain more about what the civil side does. Mr. Ketchmark said he will contact Civil Chief Jeff Ray to attend.

***Talking Points for November luncheon with Judges.*** This topic was continued to the next meeting.

***EAP (now MAP).*** Ms. Thompson announced that the court approved a new General Order which will be effective August 1, 2013, and a copy of the order was shared with the committee. The court is waiting on the notice period to run on the corresponding local rule change.

The new order will be posted on court's website August 1, 2013. If anyone has-any comments pro or con please contact Jill Morris directly. You can contact her as a committee member or on behalf of the bar generally.

***Other new business?*** No one had any further new business to discuss.

At 12:43 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.