

**FEDERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri**

**Minutes from the February 3, 2015 Meeting**

**Present:** Christine Blegen, Andy DeMarea, Tina Fowler (via telephone), David Ketchmark, Julia Kitsmiller, Erica Mynarich (via telephone), Lisa Nouri, Travis Poindexter, Jeff Simon, Ann Thompson.

Chair Christine Blegen called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Julia Kitsmiller agreed to take minutes during the meeting.

**Introduction of Newest Judge**

United States District Court Judge Stephen Bough was introduced to the members of the Federal Practice Committee. Judge Bough answered questions from members of the committee.

**Introduction of Newest Members**

Andy DeMarea introduced himself to the group. Our other two new members were court and could not make it to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Lisa Nouri moved to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2014 meeting as written. Travis Poindexter seconded the motion, and it carried.

**Election of Chair-Elect**

Travis Poindexter nominated Jeff Simon to serve as the Chair-Elect of the Federal Practice Committee. Julia Kitsmiller seconded that motion, and it carried.

**Meetings in 2015**

The Committee reviewed the meeting schedule for 2015. Meetings have been scheduled for March 12, 2015 (phone), April 14, 2015 (possible meeting before CLE program in Springfield), May 14, 2015 (phone), August 13, 2015, September 10, 2015 (phone), October 8, 2015, November 12, 2015 (phone), and December 3, 2015. Additional meetings will be added if necessary.

**Events in 2015**

- The Federal Practice Committee will host a CLE and reception in Springfield, Missouri, on April 14, 2015. Erica and Tina offered to assist with the planning of this CLE. There will be a one-hour question-and-answer panel with the judges. There will also be another hour concentrating on ethics with breakout groups. The attendees will break out into different tables. At least one person at the table will serve as the table leader and will

facilitate the table's discussion. Andy brought up the idea of including the ethics of negotiations as at least one of the table topics.

- Christine proposed inviting some of the Judges to the Committee's August meeting. She asked that committee members think about potential topics or questions for that meeting. Suggesting potential speakers for the Bartlett Lectures was recommended as a potential topic of discussion.
- The Committee decided to forego hosting a criminal law CLE in 2015. Over the course of the last few years, there have been many more opportunities for criminal law CLEs such that it probably makes more sense to hold these every couple years.
- The Committee discussed the possibility of hosting a CLE in the fall to highlight the upcoming changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Ann Thompson is going to reach out to the Federal Court Advocates Section of the KCMBA to see if there is interest in co-hosting this CLE.
- The Committee discussed the New Attorney Orientation program and decided that it only be offered every other year. The Committee will consider hosting another New Attorney Orientation program in 2016.
- Christine is soliciting ideas for the annual luncheon with the Judges.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.