

PRACTICE OF LAW BOARD STATE OF WASHINGTON

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August 10, 2007

The Practice of Law Board met on Friday August 10, 2007 at the Washington State Bar Association in Seattle, Washington. Those present were Steve Crossland, Chair, Hon. Paul Bastine, Vice Chair, Nancy Ivarinen, Stephanie Delaney, Meg Bridewell, Hon. Jane M. Smith, Jeanne Dawes, Rita Bender, Cheryl Kringle and Daniel Perez.

MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the June 2007 meeting minutes with one correction and the executive session minutes from the May 2007 meeting.

RETREAT PLANNING

Brian Dano and Cheryl Kringle are the retreat planning co-chairs. Stephanie Delaney will plan the food in coordination with Brenda Jackson.

A major focus of the retreat will be discussing the pilot project and the sub committee reports.

LEGAL TECHNICIAN RULE PILOT PROJECT

The Board briefly discussed whether to recommend one area of law for the pilot project or provide a choice of two or more. The Board did not reach a decision on this issue. Mr. Crossland reported that the consultant, Deborah Feldman, suggests one area of law and a limited geographic area for purposes of cost and data-gathering. Ms. Feldman would also like to provide input to the Board prior to the retreat. Additionally, she would like to work with an oversight committee from the Board. Mr. Crossland also reported contact with an insurance broker who indicated that although a final decision could not be made prior to knowing the area of law, an insurance product would likely be created for Legal Technicians. Ms. Feldman indicated that she believed the Board should request \$5,000 for her services in the 2007-8 budget year. The Board voted to request those funds.

The Board also discussed the issue of Legal Technician and a privilege protecting client information. The Board is considering several alternatives to protect client information provided to Legal Technicians, including a modification to the existing statute and modifications to the discovery rules.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

ELDER LAW: This sub committee expects to have a final report available prior to the September meeting.

IMMIGRATION LAW: This sub committee will issue a report recommending that immigration is not an appropriate area of law for Legal Technicians. Although there is a large need for representation, in the post 9/11 atmosphere, even small tasks, such as sending FOIA requests can have negative consequences for clients.

FAMILY LAW: This sub committee will issue a final report prior to the September meeting.

HOUSING LAW: This sub committee will issue a final report prior to the September meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (NON-PUBLIC)

The Board unanimously voted to enter Executive Session.

The Board voted unanimously to end the executive session.

The meeting was adjourned.