

PRACTICE OF LAW BOARD STATE OF WASHINGTON

2325 Fourth Avenue, Ste 600, Seattle, WA 98101-2539

(206) 727-8252

Fax (206) 727-8314

February 9, 2007

The Practice of Law Board met on Friday February 9, 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, Rita Bender and Daniel Perez. Board paralegal Anna Schmidt and Board investigator Sandra Schilling also attended. Sandra Schilling acted as secretary to the Board. Guests Deborah Feldman, David Estudillo, WYLD representative, and Kristal Wiitala, BOG, attended in part.

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The Board postponed approval of the January minutes until the March meeting.

LEGAL TECHNICIAN RULE PILOT PROJECT

Deborah Feldman appeared and discussed the mechanisms available to evaluate the pilot projects. Ms. Feldman has 20 years experience in human services-related research. The Board considered funding issues and possible phasing of the evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION COMMUNICATION

Steve Crossland discussed concerns Kristal Wiitala had raised concerning possible discussions of the legal technician rule during a previous executive session. The Board wanted to be clear that no substantive discussions regarding the legal technician rule occurred during executive session. Mr. Crossland will follow-up with Ms. Wiitala.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (NON-PUBLIC)

The Board unanimously voted to enter Executive Session.

The Board voted unanimously to end the executive session.

SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Rita Bender reported regarding the Family Law subcommittee. They have divided their work into three sections, dealing with RCW 26.26, 26.10, and 26.09, respectively. It is possible that a legal technician could work in all three areas. They are also considering if a pilot project could be housed in a nonprofit.

Hon. Jane Smith and Nancy Ivarinen reported regarding the Housing subcommittee. They are focusing on areas best serving the low income, including defenses to unlawful detainer actions, enforcing housing standards, determining sufficiency of notices, and assisting in small claims court. The pilot project appears to be supported by the Whatcom and Skagit county commissioners.

Stephanie Delaney and Daniel Perez reported regarding the Immigration committee. They currently have a list of about 20 possible members and hope to complete the subcommittee by the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hon. Paul Bastine suggested whether the POLB should take public comment at the next ATJ conference. He will raise the issue with the ATJ planning committee, of which he is a member.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Guest Kristal Wiitala raised a concern that the public had difficulty knowing when executive session was over so that it knew when to join the meeting. She suggested whether the Board could use a schedule, or send an email when executive session was over.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Steve Crossland will confirm the status of C. Robert Ford's membership.

The meeting was adjourned.