



Civil Rights Law Section
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee Meeting

MEETING MINUTES
WSBA – Civil Rights Law Section
April 12, 2021
(DRAFT)

PRESENT: Tobin Klusty, Laura Sierra, Mickey Moritz, Stephan Yhann, Bridget Bourgette, Cameron Sheldon, Sarah Derry, Alec Stephens, Molly Matter

1. **CRLS Values Statement.** Approved by WSBA. To anchor everything we do throughout the year. To be revisited yearly at annual retreat. And to be affirmed/set forth in Section newsletter.
2. **March Minutes.** Approved and adopted.
3. **CLE Update(s).**
 - CRLS & World Peace Through Law (WPTL): “The War on Drugs: A Domestic and International Driving Force of Mass Incarceration” (May 18, 2021)
 - i. Will provide attendees with brief history of War on Drugs and its contribution to mass incarceration; an international perspective on the War on Drugs; and steps we can take to develop a rehabilitative system as opposed to a punitive one.
 - ii. Speakers include:
 - Dr. Charissa Fotinos (WA Health Care Authority); Katherine Beckett (UW); Adria Cots Fernández (Int’l Drug Policy Consortium); Salvador Mungia (GTH)
 - iii. CRLS and Cannabis Law Section (CLS): Beginning Discussions
 - Summarize conversation with CLS chair about developing CLE discussing social justice issues surrounding marijuana legalization and steps to take to ensure social justice with ongoing legalization.
4. **CRLS & ELUL Law School Networking Event.**
 - Focus on the intersection of environmental law and justice issues.
 - EC approved CRLS-EC collaboration with ELUL.
5. **Legislative Research Committee Update(s).**
 - Legislative session updated—

- i. Sunday (April 11) was the Opposite Chamber cutoff date. Bills needed to be passed by that date. For bills that were amended in the Opposite Chamber they need to go back to the Chamber of Origin for concurrence.
- Bill updates—
 - i. SB 5476 – Bill concerning the *Blake* decision;
 - CRLS EC will write GR 12 Statement – write a statement to support.
 - Cameron, Molly & Mickey will contribute.
 - ii. SB 5263 (“Concerning defenses in personal injury and wrongful death actions where the person injured or killed was committing a felony”);
 - Would modify a 1986 law that prevents recovery of damages from police departments for people who have been killed or injured by police &
 - Waiting for governor to sign.
 - iii. SB 1090 (re: for profit detention);
 - Delivered to the governor on April 8.
 - iv. SB 1078 (re: restoring eligibility for all persons convicted of a felony offense who are not under DOC jxn); and
 - Waiting for governor on April 5.
 - v. SB 1202 (re: providing COA for persons injured by police misconduct).
 - Stalled on March 10.
- GR 12 Statement Drafting—
 - LRC and others seek guidance on GR 12 statement drafting.
 - Molly will help with short term orientation on GR 12 statement drafting.
 - Laura and other CRLS-EC members are participating on Equity and Diversity Task Force Update subcommittee (in collaboration with WSBA General Counsel) on making GR 12 statement more accessible and streamlined such that other Sections can engage in and make use of the process.
 - Cameron will share repository of GR 12 statements that CRLS has written in the past, and clarify which ones were successful and/or ran into roadblocks.

6. Community Connections Committee Update(s)

- Outreach should include nonlegal organizations.
- Outreach should mention bills we are following to engage interested organizations.
- Molly to work with AIDNW to set up CRLS HH

7. Election Committee Update(s)

- Open positions
 - i. Chair Elect
 - ii. Secretary
 - iii. Two at large positions
- Deadline: April 16, 2021

8. Awards Committee Update(s)

- All award nominations that we provide are on the website.
- Discussed nomination process and potential ceremony dates.

9. Equity and Diversity Task Force Update(s)

10. Open Table: Outstanding Topics or Update(s)

- Stephan is coordinating a CLE involving outreach to members of the State and Federal judiciary to speak to CRLS re: civil rights in practice and as they have observed it in the courtroom. Ideal date is before/around June.

Meeting adjourned.