



## February 9, 2022 LELS Executive Committee Meeting

### Attendees

Tina Aiken – Chair  
Kelli Schmidt - Treasurer  
Angela (Angie) Hayes - Secretary  
Brad Medlin – Immediate Past Chair  
Cassandra Lenning  
Amy Mensik  
Lauren Parris Watts

### Not Present

Chiedza Nziramasanga  
Elyse Maffeo  
Carson Phillips-Spotts  
Jacob Metzger  
Devon Blevins  
Carolyn MacGregor, WSBA Section Program Specialist

- Approval of January 2022 minutes
  - Moved and approved; no discussion; unanimous approval
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Labor & Employment CLE
  - Date: November 17, 2022; waiting for Kevin at WSBA to confirm
  - Location: Washington State Convention Center or Webcast
  - Panels and speakers TBD at annual retreat
- 2022 Annual Retreat
  - Angie will volunteer to coordinate
  - Location: Zoom; Seattle location or Sleeping Lady, Leavenworth
  - Date: April dates are only weekend dates available at Sleeping Lady
  - Angie will check on Sleeping Lady postponement fees
- 2022 Mini-CLEs / Informal Lunchtime Meetings
  - **Mini CLEs** – Goal is to host 3-4 mini-CLEs during the year; via webinar or live presentation at WSBA Conference Center
  - Suggestion to possibly host mini-CLE with another section such as the Civil rights section

- **Informal Lunchtime Meetings** – Goal is to host meetings during months when no mini-CLE or annual CLE planned
- Volunteers to coordinate a mini-CLE or lunch time presentation:
  - Cassie – USERRA topic
    - Two attorneys in Spokane are potential speakers – Matt Crotty and Thomas Gerard
    - They have written materials already so this would work as a mini-CLE for credit
    - “Know your rights” general presentation with discussion of the presenters’ USERRA case
    - [MiniCLE@WSBA.org](mailto:MiniCLE@WSBA.org) is contact address for setting up mini-CLE
  - Amy – Legislative Update
    - Amy will contact Bob Battles at AWB about a legislative update when the session ends; possibly May 2022 presentation for the post-legislative update
  - Lauren – Return to Office and DEI topic
    - Lauren has reached out to initial speaker who is not available
    - She will check with other potential speakers
- 2022 Executive Committee Election – Tina, Brad, Jacob; non-exec member is Trinh Tran
  - Need to recruit:
    - Plaintiff Counsel (3-year term) – Colin McHugh (Vancouver WA) has contacted Cassie to express interest
    - Defense Counsel (3-year term) – Matt Kelly, Associate with Foster Garvey intends to submit application
    - Neutral (3-year term)
    - Public Sector Defense Counsel\* (2-year term)
    - Public Sector Defense Counsel\* (1-year term)
  - \* If proposed Bylaw amendments are approved, one of the Public Sector Defense positions would change to a position open to any individual practicing labor or employment law.
  - March 14 – April 15: Application portal open
  - Discussion re having more than one attorney on committee from a single firm – this is not a formal rule; this has just been a practice of the committee (preference is to not have more than one attorney per firm on committee) – however, committee discussed that it was important to have people who are interested in participating (regardless of firm affiliation)
  - Discussion of immediate past chair position – non-voting member who remains on committee for one year
  - Reach out to nominating committee with any other suggestions for potential committee members
- 2022 Officer Election
  - Officer term: October 1 – September 30 (1-year term)
  - Officers nominated and elected by Executive Committee between March and June for term beginning October 1

- Officers:
  - Chair: Cassie interested
  - Secretary: Angie Interested
  - Treasurer: looking for potential member to fill this role
- Tina will send out an update to section about election and open positions
  
- Bylaw Amendments
  - Placed on Consent calendar at BOG EC meeting
  - Next steps:
    - Presented to BOG at general meeting on March 10-11
    - Bylaws will tentatively be approved on the consent calendar – thereafter WSBA will update the ballot to represent open positions (consistent with new bylaws)
  
- Law School Connection
  - Provide networking opportunities for law students
  - Plan lunch or virtual event at one or more law schools where attorneys and law students can network
  - Dates: TBD
  - Location: Law school or Zoom
  - These exec members will follow up with law schools:
    - Seattle University – Lauren
    - UW – Devon
    - Gonzaga – Angie
  
- Other Standing Committees
  - Communications and Website
  - Summer Grantee Committee
    - Gonzaga – Elyse
    - University of Washington – Amy
    - Seattle University – Cassie
  
- WSBA Section webpage description revision
  - WSBA has proposed a revised L&E Section description for the webpage
  - Vote needed to (1) keep current description, (2) replace current description with WSBA’s proposed revised description, or (3) suggest edits or provide a different description
  
  - Proposed revised description:  
The Labor and Employment Law Section of the Washington State Bar Association is one of the larger and fastest growing sections of the WSBA, mirroring the growth of the practice area. The Section includes members who practice many different aspects of labor and employment law, including lawyers representing private and public sector employers, unions, management, and individual employees, as well as law professors, arbitrators, and other neutrals.

The Section provides benefits to members by coordinating events that keep practitioners informed on the latest developments in employment law, which promotes competency and ethical practice in the Bar. The Section hosts an annual CLE and business meeting, and also funds a labor and employment law summer work internship for a student at each of the three law schools. Members of the Section also meet with law students throughout the year.

Discussed the proposed revisions – motion and second to adopt the proposed revision (see above); no discussion; changes unanimously approved

**Next monthly meeting is Wednesday, March 9, at 9:00 a.m.  
Tina will send a Zoom invite a few days before the meeting.**