

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Extended Family Visitation
Monday, October 23, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

The meeting began at 1:07 p.m. with the following attendees:

Scott Rubin, FLABAR FLS Chair
Charlotte Karlan – Committee Co-Chair
Angel Bello-Bellini – Committee Co-Chair
Matt Capstraw – Designated Archivist
Frank Zilaitis – Secretary

Charlotte informed the Committee that Westlaw has graciously agreed to provide open access to their service to research non-parent visitation statutes across the country.

Scott announced to the Committee that he received a telephone call from two staff attorneys in Senator Joyner's office who informed Scott that Senator Joyner wants to introduce a grandparent visitation statute into the 2009 Legislative Session. Senator Joyner had done this in 2007 and a FLABAR FLS subcommittee had previously analyzed her bill but made no report. Scott informed Senator Joyner's staffers that the FLABAR FLS has taken no official position on the issue and we have no standing committee regarding the issue. Scott informed the staffers that the subcommittee would have supported Senator Joyner's bill with the following concerns: federal and state constitutionality, especially in light of the state constitution's privacy rights. Scott also offered Charlotte's and Angel's names as contacts within the Section.

Our Committee agreed to review Senator Joyner's 2007 Bill (SB2536) along with staff analysis of the bill and the FLABAR FLS' comments regarding the Bill.

Angel and Scott engaged in a dialogue regarding the issues/hurdles/approaches to passage of this Bill in the 2009 Legislative Session.

Matt Capstraw agreed to be the archivist for all work-product gathered/reviewed by this Committee.

Our next meeting is November 10th at noon. Telephone number and pass code to be provided.

Respectfully submitted by,

Frank Zilaitis