

**FAMILY LAW SECTION
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Florida Bar General Meeting

Tampa Airport Marriott

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

Carrie Arvine

Odette Bendeck

Linda Braithwaite

Eric Bruce

Alex Caballero

Matt Capstraw

Deborah Day

Nicole Goetz

Ken Gordon

Doug Greenbaum

Susan Greenberg

Rosemarie Guerino

Amy Hamlin

Cindy Harari

Benjamin Hodas

Allyson Hughes

Charlotte Karlan

Norberto Katz

Ingrid Keller

Diane Kirigin

Julia Ledis

Avonelle Mackerell

David Manz

Monica Pigna

Carin Porras

Alberto Romero

Elisha Roy

Scott Rubin

Susan Savard

Robin Scher

John Schutz

Jay Schwartz

Holly Schuttler

Eddie Stephens

I. WELCOME: INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS/ROLL CALL

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2008

Motion to approve. Vote Unanimous to approve minutes.

b. Recent events:

Recent telephonic seminars are doing well. Numbers are not final yet, but this form of seminar has proven to be profitable.

1. Leadership Retreat and Legislative Update – Marco Island July 31-August 3 – report: Carin Porras

Biggest telephonic seminar in the history of the bar. Approximately 500 people attended. Brief technology glitch occurred. In the future, a committee member should be on the phone at a telephonic seminar in order to alert the chair in the event of connection problems.

c. Report on code of conduct at CLEs: Sheila Norman, Holly Schuttler, and Melinda Gamot

Study is ongoing. Recommendations should be available before January meeting.

d. Coordination of information on website

Issue here is consistency of information on the website concerning available CLE seminars. This seems to have been remedied.

Chair recommends that additional speaker materials and seminar planning materials be placed on website to encourage others to participate. Calendars for future seminars are on the website already. Evaluation form should be added. Speaker tips provided at meeting and may be added to website. Checklist for a good speaker will be added to website as well.

e. Realtime broadcasting update

This form of seminar is being studied for use by the section. Cost associated with this technology is a concern. Other concern is whether this will depress live attendance at seminars.

III. UPCOMING SEMINARS/RETREATS

a. **Upcoming seminars** (*calendar on website*)

1. Report on Sept. 18, 2008 seminar: Dealing with Paternity and Dependency Issues in your Family Law Practice: Chairs: Howard Raab, Carmen Gillett, and Lucy Espey Francis

About 40 people signed up so far.

Unrelated discussion about how to make some form of replay available for seminars given live. Video vs. internet.

Discussion about effectiveness of recent webinar (seminar shown on the web) attended by committee members on parenting plans.

2. Cruise on the Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas October 23-27, 2008 Chair: Scott Rubin

Short time left to sign up for this event.

3. Report on Nov. 12, 2008 telephonic seminar: Mechanics of Board Certification Exam: Chairs: Caryn Green, Ingrid Keller

Speakers have been secured for the seminar and it is ready to proceed. This seminar is open to all interested participants – the seminar is not restricted to those taking the test.

4. Report on Dec. 10, 2008 telephonic seminar: Insurance issues: Chairs: Sheryl Moore, Bonnie Sockel Stone

Ready to proceed. Brochure disseminated.

5. Report on Marital & Family Law Review course: Jan. 23-24, 2009 :Chairs: Caryn Green, Elisha Roy, Melinda Gamot, Carin Porras

There will be a cap on attendance this year at 800 participants. This is the last year the seminar will be given at the Grand Floridian. Great panel of speakers lined up. Brochures will be out soon. Hotel is already accepting reservations. More sponsors needed. All levels of contribution accepted – cookie breaks, ice cream breaks, etc. Not all are expensive sponsorships. Holly Schuttler and Susan Greenberg will

sponsor. Dr. Day and Ken Gordon will sponsor. Call Divorce 360 as a possible sponsor.

2010 and 2011 seminar will be at Disney Beach and Yacht Resort – walking distance to Epcot.

Cert Tips and Nibbles will be the Wednesday before the Family Law Review seminar. Committee meetings will be Thursday. Executive council meeting will be Saturday afternoon.

6. Report on Feb. 26, 2009 telephonic seminar: Representing the disabled: Chairs: Charlotte Karlan, Jeannie Etter, and Lucy Espey Francis

Chairs are having trouble finding speakers for this seminar. Discussion on using this time slot for seminar on parenting plan since it will be new and there will be lots of questions by the bar. Suggestion made to advertise this with the family law review seminar brochure. Further discussion that the family law review seminar may adequately cover the issue, but separate seminar will draw those who do not attend family law review. Having a judge on the panel for February would be a draw. Interactive web seminar or telephonic that is interactive would be a draw as well.

Motion to change Feb 26 telephonic from current title to new topic addressing parenting issues. Vote unanimous. Chairs: Charlotte Karlan, Deborah Day, Elisha Roy, and Holly Schuttler.

7. Report on Mar. 19-20, 2009 seminar: Quality divorce on a budget: Chairs: John Schutz, Doreen Inkelees

John will report on progress at November telephonic meeting.

8. Other future seminars:

Calendar for 2009-2011 seminars is filled

Spring Retreat in New Orleans is at a great hotel and should be a big success.

Tax seminar May 20, 2009 is looking for speakers.

Trial Advocacy seminar is underway. There will be a new fact pattern suitable for immediate level. Parenting will be one of the issues in the fact pattern. They will need psychologists for the seminar.

Sep 2009 equitable distribution – Eddie Stephens will assist with this seminar.

At January meeting, we will set calendar for 2012.

Discussion about need for a seminar on military divorces. Insurance and retirement issues differ for military personnel. Garnishment is distinct in military also. Per David Manz, you need four hours for the topic at a minimum. Perhaps doing two seminars of two hours each may work. Discussion that live seminar may be more effective. Live location may be more effective near a military base – perhaps two or three locations. Cost of multiple live locations is prohibitive and may not draw enough participants. Discussion about telephonic vs. web vs. live.

Motion - Full day military divorce seminar live in Tampa with web access. Motion carries by unanimous vote. Time frame end of May or beginning of June, 2009. Chairs: David Manz, Nicole Goetz, and Charlotte Karlan. Contact Robin Vines and Joe Hood to see if they will assist.

Motion to create March 25, 2009 telephonic seminar. Electronic discovery is a good topic. Motion carries by unanimous vote. Volunteers: Susan Greenberg and Amy Hamlin. Also contact Denise Stubbs for speakers. There is ABA book on electronic discovery that may provide ideas for topics.

IV. SUBCOMITTEE REPORTS/DISCUSSION

a. Speaker list/bios: Summer Hall and Carin Porras compiling from past and future seminars.

b. Newsletter: Eddie working on this and will present at November meeting.

c. Certificates for speakers: Summer Hall working on this and they will be presented at June meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Congratulations handbook: We have been tasked to update this booklet which is given to couples seeking a marriage license explaining the law. Volunteers: David Manz, Elisha Roy, Doug Greenbaum, and Ken Gordon. Chair would like to have a draft for November meeting.

- b. **Additional telephonic seminars? Do we need? Potential topics: Electronic discovery? Torts?** Addressed above.
- c. **Speaker guidelines and speaker tips.** Addressed above and disseminated at meeting.
- d. **Revise description of the committee:** Carin Porras will do a first draft and send around.
- e. **Big Bar Retreat:** Ingrid Keller and Amy Hamlin will attend big bar retreat on behalf of the Section to report on our activities and report back to this committee on what they learn.
- f. **Discussion of live vs. webinars vs combination.** We can use the military seminar as a test to see how well received a combined live/web seminar is. We can conduct a survey through FAMSEG or on the survey at Family Law Review. Cost of live seminars is a factor we have to consider. We can make video seminars available for viewing sometimes technologically subject to on demand on the web. Cost of audio only recording is more expensive than video recording. There are many creative methods now available for seminar presentations cost.

VI. Adjournment; Thank you to committee members!