

Family Law Section

Legislation Committee

Teleconference for NEW members (July 12, 2010)

Roll Call:

In Attendance

Thomas Duggar
Maria Gonzalez
Benjamin Hodas
Susan Savard
Belinda Lazzara
Jodie Seitlin
Steve Pennypacker
Robyn Vines
Christopher Rumbold
Jason Brodie
Caryn Green
Peter Hobson
Sam Jubran
Robert Kohlman

Not in attendance

Hon. Elizabeth Adams
Sheena Benjamin-Wise
Michael Gilden
Amy Hamlin
Patricia Kuendig ¹
C. Debra Welch

Thomas Duggar gave opening remarks and then discussed the following:

- There will be a series of meetings during the year both in-person and telephonic
- It is very important for everyone to attend each meeting
- We will choose five (5) bills to lobby that we will submit to Executive Council
- The Lobbyists (Nelson and Edgar) will obtain sponsors
- Volunteering in Tallahassee
 - Great opportunity to learn how the legislative process works
 - Great help to the Section
- By September 2010 we will be voting on the bills we like and that we will send to Executive Council for approval.

¹ Ms. Kuendig is the Chair of the Sponsorship Committee and was hosting a Sponsorship teleconference during this Legislation teleconference.

- We need to have the bills selected and approved by January 2011.
- When we get sponsors for the bills, they are no longer “our” bills
- Again discussed the importance of Friday meeting during session
- There will be a leadership roundtable at Hammock Beach – very informative to get a feel for the legislative process

Jodi Seitlin asked if the proposed domestic violence legislation that was discussed at the June 2010 meeting in Boca will be one of the five (5) bills; Thomas said that Robin Scher (chair of that DV subcommittee) would be contacting those members to meet prior to our September meeting.

Steve asked how we obtain Sponsors; Thomas again stated that we leave it up to our lobbyists (Nelson and Edgar) for the most part.

Important to advise Tom and Maria if you know potential legislatures/contacts in Tallahassee

Maria stated that members will be receiving materials and the Legislation Committee Handbook at Leadership Retreat on flash drives. New members should read the Handbook.

- All committee members must notify Thomas or Maria by email if they cannot be present at any meetings
- More than four (4) unexcused absences will be a basis for your removal from the Legislation Committee
- Caryn Greene and Robyn Vines advised that they cannot attend the Leadership Retreat at Hammock Beach in July due to prior commitments
- recommended that members get familiar with the House and Senate websites
- members are encouraged to contact any Committee officers with any questions

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.