

Minutes
Public Service and Trust Commission
Pro Bono Committee
Logistics Subcommittee
Teleconference
April 21, 2011

The Logistics subcommittee held a teleconference on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.

The following subcommittee members participated in the teleconference: Attorney Livia Barndollar (chair), Hon. William Bright and Attorney Jan Chiaretto.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:31p.m.
2. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the outstanding logistical issues necessary to plan the pro bono summit in the fall. The subcommittee discussed the venue options, namely the Legislative Office Building (LOB) in Hartford, the Supreme Court and Quinnipiac Law School in Hamden. The issue of potential cost for the venue site was raised as well as which venue has a configuration which would be most conducive to the format of the summit. Krista Hess, staff to the Logistics subcommittee will contact both Quinnipiac Law School and the LOB to determine not only the availability of the venues, but any restrictions or limitations.

The subcommittee discussed the issue of invitations to the summit and whether the invitations were being professionally printed, how many people were going to be invited, etc. The subcommittee agreed that the ideal number of attendees was somewhere between 70-80 and that it was important to begin networking with the managing partners of the larger Connecticut firms to ensure the highest yield at the summit. To this end, Judge Bright is reviewing a list of the Connecticut firms with approximately 25 or more attorneys as well as a list of Connecticut corporations to identify in-house counsel. Judge Bright will also attend a meeting of the Counsel of Bar Presidents on April 26th and will talk to them about who from the CBA should be invited to the summit.

The subcommittee also discussed inviting the leadership from both the CBA and the CBF and how important it was to ask the CBA to recognize pro bono efforts by firms or in-house counsel. It was agreed that mandatory reporting of pro bono efforts made a noticeable difference and increased the numbers of attorneys who provided pro bono services. It was also important to have this initiative supported by the bar presidents so the pro bono message can be taken back to their respective constituents and the message of the importance of providing pro bono services can be delivered effectively.

Attorney Barndollar will contact the CBA Corporation Counsel division and will also obtain the list of county bar association presidents as well as a list of current and incoming CBA officers.

The subcommittee discussed the cost of providing food at the pro bono summit. Since the summit is planned for the morning, breakfast items including bagels, donuts and cookies will be provided.

The subcommittee also discussed who would be speaking at the summit and agreed that the speakers should be at the highest level in their respective organizations. The subcommittee agreed that it would be better to have multiple speakers who speak for shorter periods of time rather than one or two speakers who speak at length. The Chief Justice will provide introductory remarks to all of the summit attendees.

The subcommittee discussed having a client with a success story speak at the summit. Attorney Chiaretto will ask her legal aid colleagues if they have a client who they think would be appropriate to speak. Also, Judge Bright will talk to representatives from General Electric, Pfizer and United Technology Corporation to see if they have an interest in speaking at the summit. The subcommittee agreed to ask the larger Pro Bono Committee for suggestions on the name of a managing partner from a large Connecticut law firm to speak.

3. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25p.m.