

Minutes

Meeting of Events Subcommittee of the Judicial-Media Committee

Tuesday, November 20th, 2007, at 3 p.m.

Judges' Conference Room, 6th Floor

Middlesex Judicial District Courthouse

1 Court Street, Middletown 06457

Members in attendance: Attorney Stan Twardy, Lynne Tuohy, Paul Giguere, Judge Robert Holzberg, Judge Michael Shay, and Adriana Venegas-McCormick.

- I. Meeting called to order at 3:15
- II. Approval of minutes from meeting of October 16, 2007.
- III. Discuss Spring program for journalists
 - Law School for Journalists to be held on March 19th, 2008, from 9 a.m. to noon or 12:30 p.m.
 - Received the OK from Judicial to use the CBA facilities in New Britain. The decision to use these facilities was based on their size, centrality and price (the normal fee to use them has been waived).
 - Discussion of tentative itinerary
 - Referred to minutes from previous (10/16) meeting.
 - Adriana has secured Prosecutor Ann Mahoney for panel.
 - Judge Susan Handy has contacted and secured Attorney Hope Seeley, Chief Probation Officer Bill Anselmo and Dave D'Amora for the panel. Also, Public Defender Tom Ullmann has agreed to be on the panel.
 - Lynne Tuohy will contact Justice Borden about making opening comments.
 - Judge Holzberg will give a hypothetical scenario of a sexual assault case going through the system. He will discuss access, new rules, and exceptions. There will be an informational handout, but Judge Holzberg still needs to hit the high notes in his presentation.
 - Judge Handy will moderate keynote panel on sex offenders.
 - Lynne Tuohy also offered to provide an informational handout covering common mistakes reporters make.
 - Discussion on making the panel newsworthy to attract journalists by covering hot topics and sensitive issues.
 - Committee members discussed the possibility of inviting legislators Subcommittee members discussed the importance of leaving time Q&A.
 - Tentative agenda to be presented at Dec. 10, 2007, meeting of the Judicial-Media Committee.
 - Tentative agenda:

8:30 Registration
9:00-9:10 Judge Borden
9:10-9:40 Judge Holzberg
9:40-10:00 Break
10:00-11:15 Panel w/ Q&A, moderated by Judge Handy
11:15-12:00 Legislative developments, if the
subcommittee decides to do that.

- Once the agenda is finalized, Rhonda will work on sending a brochure to the media. Suggestions for advertisement of event included brochures in courthouses, sending it through a listserv.

VI. New Business

- Lynne: Should the subcommittee have a secretary to handle taking minutes, etc? Not at the moment, but if Rhonda needs help in the future, she will bring it up.
- Judge Shay is concerned that with the substantial number of immigrants moving into his area, very few have the multilingual “how to” book, and he wants to increase its circulation. Asked if it would be appropriate for the subcommittee to put together a collaborative article (between the media and Judicial) in a Spanish paper to inform people that there is a book, to inform them on how to get an interpreter and tips.
 - Adriana Venegas commented that this population needs to be empowered with information.
 - Attorney Twardy offered to contact the Hispanic Bar for help with this.
 - Judge Holzberg mentioned the need of a bilingual support staff to help with paperwork.
 - Rhonda suggested working with the Public Service and Trust Committee on this because it is an equal access issue.
- Rhonda mentioned survey distributed to judges, media. Many respondents offered ideas for future seminars, programs.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 15, at The Graduate Club in New Haven.

V. Meeting adjourned at 4:10.