

**WOMEN & THE LAW SECTION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
DECEMBER 6, 2006, 12:30 P.M.  
OFFICES OF GREENBERG TRAURIG, WILMINGTON, DE**

IN ATTENDANCE: Mindy Clifton, Maria Paris Newill, Jessica Zeldin, Susanna McDonald, Paulette Sullivan Moore, Matt Rifino, Victoria Counihan, Megan Mantzavinos.

**I. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES:** Subject to Amendments proposed by Kathaleen McCormick, the Minutes of the October Meeting were approved.

**II. LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE:** Kathaleen McCormick reported:

A. Mindy Clifton mentioned the possibility that the Legislators' Luncheon might be moved to the Second Wednesday in February.

B. There are no updates regarding the proposed changes to the elective share legislation discussed at the October meeting.

**III. LADIES' NIGHT OUT RECAP:** Mindy Clifton reported that, as usual, the event was well attended. Thanks to Claire DeMatteis for opening her home to the Section for the event.

**A brief business meeting was held during the November 1 event, during which Mindy Clifton reported that the Bar Association had approached the Section about co-sponsoring a seminar addressing the topic of stress management, called "Rules of the Jungle." The Section members in attendance voted unanimously to participate.**

**IV. RULES OF THE JUNGLE SEMINAR:** Mindy Clifton reported that the seminar was scheduled for December 7 at DSBA headquarters in Wilmington and for January 25 at the Terry Campus in Dover. It will also be presented in Georgetown on a date to be announced. Registration for the Wilmington presentation is closed.

**V. DELAWARE COALITION FOR WOMEN COAT DRIVE:** Mindy Clifton reported that we are working on this project with the Delaware Coalition for women. Donations can be dropped off at Claire DeMatteis's office - there is no deadline or end date.

**VI. NEW ADMITTEE HAPPY HOUR:** Mindy Clifton reported tentative plans for a happy hour in January or February. There was discussion regarding the difficulty we have had in years past getting contact information for people who have not yet been admitted. It was also noted that low turnout among new admittees has been a problem with this event.

It was proposed that the Section make money available to subsidize attendance of new admittees at the Retreat. The possibility of making eight \$50 scholarships available to anyone admitted to the bar in 2006 or 2007, on a first-come, first-served basis was discussed. This was discussed as an alternative to hosting a happy hour. A Motion was made to make the scholarships available. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. The Grace Cottage visit for December has been moved up one week to December 14. Questions should be directed to Judge Crowell.

B. The Annual Retreat is scheduled for March 2 and 3 at the Bellmoor in Rehoboth Beach. The food for the Friday night event will be the same as last year. Andrea Rocanelli is coordinating the CLE. The Friday night committee will begin meeting after the holidays.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Paulette Sullivan Moore reported that proposed amendments to the PFA Statute are being worked on for the upcoming legislative session.

B. Debbie Gottschalk reported that the new Womens' Level IV facility is being used as a drug treatment facility and not for work release. Women on work release are still going to the Plummer Center. In addition, it was noted that even if the facility were being used for work release, there are some issues regarding safety and the facility's accessibility to public transportation.

There was discussion about possible revival of the Subcommittee on female incarceration, and possibly inviting someone who has more familiarity with the facility to come speak to the Section.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.