

Human Rights Committee
April 11, 2011
Meeting Summary

- 12:10 p.m.:** The meeting was chaired by Amanda Heyman.
- Members present:** Evan Wilson, Sonja Peterson, Pete Mikhail. Daniel Reynolds, Valerie LeMaster, Valerie Aggerbeck, Lauren Schrero, Margaret Erickson, Justin Cummins, and Caroline Palmer appeared by phone.
- Discussion items:** Mr. Wilson reported on several resources regarding Rule of Law initiatives:
- The World Justice Project: <http://worldjusticeproject.org/>
 - The ABA Rule of Law Initiative:
<http://apps.americanbar.org/rol/>
 - The International Bar Association, "Building the Rule of Law":http://www.ibanet.org/ENews_Archive/IBA_September_2008_ENews_BuildingRuleofLaw.aspx
- Ms. LeMaster and Ms. Schrero agreed to discuss co-authoring an article about ICE detention standards and immigrant detainees.
- Ms. Peterson reported to the Committee about the status of proposed Minnesota legislation related to human rights.
- Ms. Heyman stated she is stepping down as Committee chair at the end of the 2010-11 term, which officially ends June 30th, and issued a call for candidates to serve as chair for the 2011-12 term. Interested members should contact Nancy Mischel at nmischel@statebar.gen.mn.us.
- Action items:** Ms. Peterson moved that the Committee issue a recommendation taking a position against proposed state legislation on fraudulent documents (HF 152/SF 108). Mr. Mikhail seconded the motion. After some discussion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Ms. Peterson will draft a written statement to accompany the formal recommendation, and the Committee will vote on the statement at the May meeting.
- Ms. Peterson moved that the Committee issue a recommendation taking a position against the proposed state budget bill that significantly cuts funding for the MN Department of Human Rights (SF 958 §14.) Mr. Mikhail seconded the motion. After some discussion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor of the

motion. Ms. Peterson will draft a written statement to accompany the formal recommendation, and the Committee will vote on the statement at the May meeting.

Next meeting: The final meeting of the 2010-2011 term will take place Monday, **May 16, 2011** at noon in the MSBA offices.

12:35 p.m.: The meeting was adjourned.