

## MSBA CIVIL LITIGATION SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2009

MSBA Office - Minneapolis, MN

**Attendees:** Dan McGrath, Jan Conlin, Mark Delahanty, Edward Matthews, Judge Gary Larson, Kevin Curry, Andy Luger, Judge Jill Halbrooks, Judge Marilyn Justman Kaman, Brett Olander, Paul Godfrey, Galen Robinson, Mary Vasaly, Kim Basting.

Minutes were approved for February 2009 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The account balance is \$80,895.

**Times Up Manual:** Jan Conlin will arrange for more manuals to be ordered, as we are out of stock.

**Judicial Directory:** Charlie Bird prepared a draft judicial questionnaire. The judicial directory subcommittee will prepare a distribution plan for the questionnaire. Council members will review the questionnaire, provide comment, and consider what retired judge can spearhead follow-up calls to judges.

**District Court Opinions:** Greg Luce (MSBA) reported there are presently 300 district court opinions on Fast Case. Greg will index the present opinions to make them easier to search. The Civil Litigation Section is working with the Labor/Employment/ Family Law sections to increase the number of opinions on Fast Case. Possible ideas:

- (1) Have a retired judge spearhead the project,
- (2) Have the MSBA pay the Minnesota District Judges Association for opinions (similar to the fee MDJA gets for JIGs).

Thomas/West is also building a district court opinion database.

**Judicial Funding:** Judge Larson discussed the serious nature of this situation. A hiring freeze is in place. Freezing summary judgment motions, freezing civil trials and cutting conciliation court are also possibilities.

**Annual Meeting:** Based on early RSVPs, attendance should be good. The committee agreed to drop the price to \$20 for public sector lawyers. Dan McGrath and Brett Olander will form a subcommittee to consider the new section officer for 2009-10.

**Taxation of Legal Fees:** The issue is once again before the state legislature.

Meeting Adjourned.