

# MSBA CIVIL LITIGATION SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

November 14, 2008

Location: MSBA Office - Minneapolis, MN

**Attendees:** Jan Conlin, Dan McGrath, Peter Carter, Kevin Curry, Andrew Luger, Marcy Wallace, Galen Robinson, Mary Vasaly, Dean Gavin (via phone), Bill Sjöholm, Will Partridge, Bruce Candlin, Melissa Wendland – New Lawyers’ Section, Jill Kittock – MSBA

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Secretary’s Report:** The Council approved the October meeting minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The Section balance of approximately \$81,000 is in money market funds.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Membership:** No report.

**District Court Opinions:** No report.

**Judicial Directory:** No report. But Mark Delahanty has prepared an article to help solicit judicial support for the directory.

**Annual Meeting:** Possible ideas: 1) A CLE/mock trial based on Dow v. Wilkinson. Michael Ciresi can present the plaintiffs’ case; Joe Anthony can present the defense case. This would be followed by a mock jury and a discussion about jury behavior. 2) Have Jeff Tobin and/or Franken and Coleman’s counsel talk about the current Senate recount. Andy Luger and Peter Carter will research the feasibility of option 2.

Room rental and the food/beverage minimum at the Raddison (\$6000) is a significantly less expensive than the Depot (\$18,000), Hyatt (\$17,000), or Millennium (\$20,500). Jan Conlin will reserve the Raddison for Thursday, April 16, 2009.

**Section Lunches:** Clay Taylor and Melissa Wendland (New Lawyers’ Section) are putting together a panel of seasoned lawyers and judge(s) to talk with law students and new lawyers. Another possibility is a December lunch discussing the Senate recount, with both a Democrat and Republican speaker.

**Judicial Funding:** On November 20, 2008, the MSBA will host a meeting with lawyer/legislators at the State Capitol. Representatives from the judiciary, legal aid, and the public defender’s office will discuss 2009 funding needs. Mary Vasaly, Andy Luger, Peter

Carter and Kevin Curry will attend. On November 23, a similar breakfast meeting for legislators will be held in Mankato. Mary and Kevin discussed efforts to impress on Governor Pawlenty and corporate counsel the importance of adequate judicial funding.

**Use of Section Funds:** Possible uses of section funds that will support the section's mission: support court self-help centers; increase sponsorship of high school mock trial programs; return money to members; hire Jeff Tobin to speak at the annual meeting.

**Legislative Update:** Marcy reported on the Probate Section's attempt to modify Minn. R. Civ. Pro. 60 as applied to probate. Probate lawyers want two years to make a Rule 60 motion. The Rule 60 norm is one year. Other sections have until November 20 to comment on this issue. Mary Vasaly will look at this issue.

**MSBA:** On November 18, 2008, MSBA president Mike Ford is holding a meeting of MSBA section presidents to discuss issues of importance to all sections, to "cross-pollinate" ideas. Dan McGrath will attend.

~~**The next meeting is December 12, 2008, 7:45 a.m., at the MSBA Offices.**~~ \_\_\_\_\_