

MSBA/NEW LAWYERS SECTION

Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2009

Members Present: Collette Adkins Giese, Joy R. Anderson, William R. Asp, Ambrea J. Bigley, Thomas A. Borash, Allison L. Burns, Mary E. Byrne, Charles A. Delbridge, Benjamin J. Dollins, Erika N. Donner, Michelle M. Eaton, Samuel J. Edmunds, Martha J. Engel (via teleconference), Ryan J. Fletcher, Ryan C. Frank, Melisa L. Franzen, Andrew G. Gifford (via teleconference), Trevor S. Helmers, Kirstin Elise Helmers, Tyree Ayers Jackson, Gabriel D. Johnson, Jeffrey P. Justman, Jay W. Kautt, Christopher W. Keyser, Jennifer L. Knapp, Karolina M. Konczyk, David J. Krco, Allen R. Lang, Anne K. Lindberg, Jennifer G. Lurken, Adam MacLeod Roth, Michael M. Miller, Scott J. Nelson, Michael E. O'Brien, Danell K. Olson, Bradley A. Pederson, Andrew J. Pieper, Lisbeth C. Robinson, Thomas H. Rose, Sandra M. Roth, Todd M. Schenk, Anthony J. Schmoldt (via teleconference), Joel P. Schroeder, Charles P. Schwartz, Angela M. Stewart Downham (via teleconference), Jessica L. Ulrich, Rebecca A. Vandenberg, Benjamin A. Wagner, Jody A. Ward-Rannow, Melissa M. Wendland, Joseph A. Wessbecker, Lauren E. Wood, Anne Zorn.

I. Opening Business

- A. Introduction and Call to Order at 5:30 P.M. at the MSBA offices. Meeting chaired by Erika Donner.

II. New Business

- A. Meaghan Harper of the MSBA spoke to the Section about MSBA Specialist Certifications generally, and the proposed Labor & Employment Law Specialist Certification specifically. The idea behind the certifications is that the profession itself should be the one to hold certain lawyers out as having particular expertise in certain areas of law, rather than allowing magazines or other third party organizations to do so. Within the last year, both the Labor & Employment and the Criminal Law sections decided that they wanted to offer a specialist certification. Before coming up with the standards for those certifications, both sections looked at similar certifications in other states, and at national certifications, for reference. The Minnesota Real Property certification standards require 3-years' experience with 25% of practice devoted to real property law, as well as a very difficult examination. The Civil Litigation certification requires 5 years' experience with 50% of practice devoted to civil litigation. The Criminal Law certification requires 5 years' experience with 25% of practice devoted to criminal law, and with a great deal of trial experience. The proposed standards for the Labor & Employment certification require 6 years' experience with 75% of practice devoted to

labor and employment law, or 10 years' experience with 60% of practice devoted to labor and employment law. The Labor & Employment section is hoping that their certification will be approved in April. Finally, the MSBA will have logos for each of the certifications, and they'd like input on the logos they're considering.

- B. Jennifer G. Lurken moved to table further discussion of the Labor & Employment Law certification until the February meeting. Charles P. Schwartz seconded. Samuel J. Edmunds requested a friendly amendment to the motion: that an e-mail be sent out to alert the Section that this issue will be discussed in February, and that anyone interested in the topic should attend February's meeting. The motion, with the amendment, passed unanimously.

III. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.