Agenda Committee on Resources for Self-represented Parties

June 14, 2013 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Administrative Office of the Courts Scott M. Matheson Courthouse 450 South State Street Judicial Council Room, Suite N31

Welcome and approval of minutes	Tab 1	Judge John Baxter
		Judge Royal Hansen
Pro Bono and Modest Means Programs		Robert Rice
		Jason Ralston
		Russ Minas
On-line Court Assistance Program		Stewart Ralphs

Committee Web Page: http://www.utcourts.gov/committees/ProSe/

Meeting Schedule: Matheson Courthouse, Judicial Council Room, 12:00 to 1:30 unless otherwise stated.

August 9, 2013 October 11, 2013 December 13, 2013

Tab 1

Minutes	Committee on Resources for Self Represented Parties							
Meeting Date	February 8, 2013			Meeting Room	Conference Room B	Room B/C		
Committee	Member	Present	Excused	Committee Member		Present	Excused	
Fred Anders	son	0	0	Judge Scott Johansen		0	0	
Judge John	Baxter, Chair	0	0	Jose Lazaro			0	
Lisa Colins		0	0	Russ Min	as	0	0	
Emily Chian	g	O	C	Shauna O'Neil		O		
Mary Jane (Ciccarello	0	0	Barbara I	Procarione	0	0	
David Domi	nguez		0	Stewart F	Ralphs	0		
Judge Micha	ael DiReda	0		Virginia S	Sudbury	0		
Carol Frank		0	Judge Douglas Thomas		0	0		
Robert Jeffs	5		0	Jessica Van Buren		0		
Staff 7	Tim Shea							

Торіс	Approve	minute	es of November 30,	2012	Ву	Judge E	Baxter	
Motion:	Approve a	as prep	ared.		By	Acclima	ation	
Vote:	Yes	All	No	Abstain	Pa	ass 💽	No Pass	0

Topic What's next? By Tim Shea	Topic Wha	ťs next?	Ву	Tim Shea
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Discussion: Mr. Shea said that he would like the committee to discuss what next steps the committee wants to focus on. He summarized the tasks remaining from the previous two strategic plans. He said that efforts to improve forms and efforts to improve education would continue. If the committee wants more or a faster pace, then we would need more resources.

Ms. Sudbury said that electronic filing for self represented parties would be beneficial, and suggested that the law library and self help center would be major players. Ms. Van Buren said that e-filing for self represented parties through OCAP is already an objective, but there is no estimated completion date. She said that a planned feature of the OCAP interview is to provide to the user contact information for the self help center.

Ms. Ciccarello suggested that the self help center could review documents before filing to make sure that they are complete. Ms. Sudbury said that document review should not include evaluation of content or merit. Judge DiReda said that medical malpractice claims have to be screened before they can be filed, and asked whether there might be a similar process for papers from self represented parties. He described a recent circumstance in which a self represented litigant had presented incoherent pleadings. Ms. Collins said that she sees incoherent pleadings from self represented parties on a regular basis.

Mr. Minas suggested that private lawyers could prepare and review documents as well as give advice

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about content and merit, although the self help center could not give advice. Professor Chiang asked whether lawyers would be able to obtain liability insurance for this volunteer work. She said that the S.J. Quinney Law School has a program for using third year law students in pro bono cases.

After more discussion, the committee decided to further investigate the possibility of using lawyers and third year law students to prepare and review documents for self represented parties.

Professor Chiang suggested video presentations to supplement our current public education efforts. The committee discussed the advantages and limitations and will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Action: