Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2019
Court of Appeals Conference Room
Matheson Courthouse
450 S. State St.
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Justice Deno Himonas, Presiding

Attendees:

Justice Deno Himonas, Co-Chair Carrie Boren Elizabeth Wright Monte Sleight Matthew Page Ashley Mendoza Angela Allen

Excused:

Judge Amber Mettler, Co-Chair Steve Johnson Heather Farnsworth Julie Emery

Staff:

Larissa Lee Marina Kelaidis, Recording Secretary

Guests:

Anna Carpenter, Director of Clinical Programs at SJ Quinney College of Law

1. Welcome and approval of minutes: (Justice Himonas)

Justice Deno Himonas welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for approval of the minutes.

Elizabeth Wright moved to approve the October 17, 2019 minutes. Monte Sleight seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. **Action—Utah Rules of Civil Procedure 86:** (Justice Himonas and Larissa Lee)

Larissa Lee gave a brief overview of URCP 86 (effective November 1, 2019). Ms. Lee presented two potential issues with the rule: (1) Rule 86(c) requires a party to serve both the opposing LPP and the opposing party and does not account for when an attorney also represents the opposing party; and (2) the Court's e-filing system's Notice of Electronic Filing does not currently have the capability to include the party's name as a person who

must be served by traditional means. Fixing the second issue by updating the software would cost time and money and would require making the change in all cases, even where an LPP is not involved.

The committee recommended amending the rule to require an LPP who has entered an appearance to serve and inform their client of all filing made in the court, even if they are beyond the scope of the LPP's representation. Elizabeth Wright and Larissa Lee will draft the proposed language to be circulated to the committee at the next meeting.

3. **Discussion—Update from the Bar:** (Elizabeth Wright, Carrie Boren, and Matthew Page)

Elizabeth Wright reported that ALPS is developing a malpractice insurance policy for LPPs in Utah that will be modeled on their LLLT policy in Washington. Ms. Wright further reported that only one LPP currently needs an IOLTA account (the others work for law firms), and she has connected this LPP with a bank to get the IOLTA account opened.

Carrie Boren reported that the marketing efforts are proving to be successful as she continues to see increased interest in the LPP program. She has all of the data for tracking interest in the program and will work on creating a database for tracking those who are interested. Ms. Boren also reported that there are currently six applicants registered for the upcoming March exam.

Matthew Page reported that the bus billboards for the LPP program are up and running and will continue through November. The television streaming package is still running and is reaching about 90,000 people per month. Mr. Page also reported that Angela Allen's law firm has created a marketing piece on their website about the LPP program, which he has shared on the Bar's website. Mr. Page proposed having Angela Allen draft an article for the Bar Journal, introducing herself and shedding more light on the work she does as an LPP. Mr. Page reported that four billboards will be up soon that will be rotating throughout the state

Mr. Page would like to increase marketing efforts to spread awareness about LPP program costs, role of an LPP, etc., especially in the more rural districts. This could be done through the Bar Journal, Newsletter, and word of mouth. In addition, Mr. Page would like to produce a 15-20 minute video that introduces the program and provide an in depth overview of the program that can be used for more outreach. Ashley Mendoza and Steve Johnson will identify potential community sources for grant funding for continued marketing efforts, in particular rural area grant opportunities.

4. **Discussion—Continuing education:** (Monte Sleight)

Monte Sleight reported on the current marketing efforts at Utah Valley University, and outreach to Salt Lake Community College, Southern Utah University, and Utah State University. Mr. Sleight is working on the possibility of Utah Valley University licensing its educational coursework to other Utah Universities. Ashley Mendoza and Anna Carpenter will look into possible opportunities with the University of Utah and connect with Jacqui Morrison.

5. **Discussion**— **Evaluation project:** (Anna Carpenter)

Anna Carpenter reported that she is currently focusing on securing funding for her research, including securing finances to bring Dr. Marc, her research partner, to Utah to conduct interviews and to pay for qualitative and data analysis tools.

6. Other business:

Carrie Boren and Monte Sleight discussed the need to create a larger question bank for the exam, which effort is currently in progress.

Justice Himonas questioned whether the requirements and practice areas established for LPPs make sense or are too onerous. Justice Himonas would like to review the educational requirements/costs with Julie Emery, Elizabeth Warren, and Carrie Boren to see whether any changes need to be made to make for a more successful LPP program in Utah.

7. Adjournment and next meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on November 26, 2019 from 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. in the Judicial Council Room at Matheson Courthouse.