



BUSINESS LAW SECTION LABOR DAY MEETING
Wednesday, January 13, 2021 | 3:00 pm – 4:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Chair: Carlos E. Sardi
Vice-Chair: Amanda Finley

2d Vice-Chair: Kathleen McLeroy
Judicial Chair: Hon. Laurel M. Isicoff

JANUARY 13, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

- I. Introduction and Welcome – Carlos Sardi
- II. Reading of Mission Statement – Carlos Sardi
To Achieve 100% participation in pro bono services by Business Law Section Members and the other attorneys in their firms
- III. Old Business -
 - A. Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2020 – Approved
- IV. Ongoing Work and Initiatives
 - A. Report from IOTA Task Force on The Florida Bar’s Task Force on Distribution of IOTA Funds – John MacDonald (Not present but presented by Carlos Sardi)
 - i. Meeting moved to 8:00 a.m. on 1/15/2021
 - ii. Task Force submitted recommendations to IOTA Rule on September 15, 2020. Comments to the proposed rule are due on February 3, 2021, and any response to the comments are due by February 24, 2021.
 - a. Comments are expected from past presidents of FLA Bar and other entities.
 - b. Proposed comments of BLS will be oriented to cater to our business practices and how it affects our practitioners, judiciary and other aspects that impact BLS work.
 - iii. Task Force expects Florida Supreme Court to schedule oral argument to hear comments and/or responses and make a determination.
 - iv. John McDonald is preparing comments to propose on behalf of BLS. Comments will have to be approved by EC.
 - B. Website Update – Carlos Sardi

- i. BLS website is being redesigned and the Pro Bono pledge will be highlighted in the website.
- C. Pro Bono Challenge – Judge McEwen
 - i. Hope to receive a response from other sections on the Section Pro Bono challenge for Chair Leyza Blanco to send out to other chairs
 - ii. Most effective if coming from the Chair as opposed to the Florida Bar Foundation.
- D. Pro Bono Heroes and Superheroes – Kathleen McLeroy
 - i. They received the hours from the Florida Bar.
 - ii. Goal is to try to increase participation much more than what we have.
 - iii. Carlos Sardi proposed potential requirement for BLS Fellows to have a pro bono hours requirement
- V. New Business – Veterans Financial Literacy Project – Judge Isicoff
 - A. Proposed joint project for both Pro Bono and Financial Literacy Committees.
 - B. Purpose is to model the Veterans Village of San Diego project. Project involved partners visiting the Veterans Village to offer a financial literacy program based on CARE, geared towards veterans. Use of volunteer lawyers from San Diego Legal Aide and community.
 - i. Program started with Bankruptcy Judge Chuck Walker – who had an introductory presentation.
 - ii. Judge Isicoff proposes including a power point presentation after the introduction and to then break-out into session.
 - iii. Proposal would be to do a similar project for our members. It would be helpful for lawyers who have experience on veterans issues to be involved.
 - C. Jayme Cassidy – co-chair of Mission United, the legal subcommittee of United Way stated she would involve Mission United in this effort as it has experiences making CLEs for Veterans.
 - i. Judge Isicoff agrees that if Veterans Project is undertaken by Financial Literacy and Pro Bono Committees, they would work with Mission United.
 - D. Motion for Pro Bono Committee to do project with Financial Literacy Committee on Financial Literacy and Support for Veterans:
 - i. Motion Approved by Committee
- VI. Executive Board Message from Chair Leyza Blanco
 - A. Raffle ideas to generate funds to donate to the Florida Bar Foundation.
 - B. Idea to have a pro bono service event project for EC trip.
 - C. Request by Carlos Sardi to read pro bono mission statement during the EC to encourage more pro bono participation and to recognize Pro Bono Heroes and Superheroes was approved by Chair.

Next Meeting:

Annual Meeting, June 9–12, 2021, Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek & Waldorf Astoria
 14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane Orlando, FL 32821
 (Depending on COVID-19)