

Minutes of the Columbia Chapter of the South Carolina Roster Administrators

Meeting Date: Tuesday October 20th, 2009

Location: Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP
1320 Main Street
17th Floor
Columbia, SC
Host: Laurie Jennings

Attendees:

1. Laurie Jennings, Nelson Mullins, Laurie.Jennings@nelsonmullins.com
2. Jay-Jay Flanagan-Grannemann, Law Office of Daryl G. Hawkins, LLC, JayJay@dghlaw.net
3. Michael J. Cerkez, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd (HSB), MCerkez@hsblawfirm.com
4. Sharon Hyland, Nexsen Pruet, shyland@nexsenpruet.com

Via Telephone:

5. Ellen Swann, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd (HSB), eswann@hsblawfirm.com

Laurie called the meeting to order shortly after 1:00. She asked if anyone had any corrections or additions for last month's minutes. Jay-Jay advised that Karen Anders of Sowell Gray was the only person who responded to the contest in last month's minutes. It was agreed that all references to this contest will be removed from the permanent minutes of the organization after this month's minutes are sent out and Karen receives her prize.

We spent some time getting to know our new member, Ellen Swann from the Greenville office of HSB. Ellen has years of experience in corporate formation, so she was able to provide helpful advice once Laurie brought up our incorporation project.

Laurie had prepared drafts of the incorporation documents provided by Kim Harbison and had a number of questions about the forms. It was decided that Laurie will be the registered agent, using her home address, and that all 3 officers will be listed as incorporators to provide additional contacts in the event Laurie is unreachable in the future for any reason. Ellen volunteered to procure an EIN for the group once the incorporation papers are filed. We reaffirmed that we do not feel it is necessary to file for 501(3)(c) status with the IRS, as we will not be taking in any money, which simplifies the paperwork significantly. Laurie will finalize the paperwork and circulate it to Ellen and the other officers for review before filing. We hope to have this completed by year's end.

Laurie asked if anyone had heard any more from David Hamilton at SCCCROD. No one had. We hope to hear from him and his spring meeting planning committee soon about

options for speaking at or attending the meeting. If we do not hear from him, we may attempt to contact him again in the new year.

Elections ensued. There were no further nominations from the membership. Michael J. Cerkez was elected President, Laurie Jennings was elected Speaker, and Jay-Jay Flanagan-Grannemann was re-elected Secretary.

A brief discussion ensued regarding changing the title of and outlining specific duties for the Speaker position; Ellen and Jay-Jay assured Laurie that the proper place for designation of duties and titles is in the Bylaws, which we will begin working on once we get the incorporation papers filed and procure a website domain.

Laurie asked for a Rule citation that explains the timing of when a case can be placed on a roster. We reviewed SCRCP 40, with particular attention paid to sections (b) and (h), which require 30 days notice before a case can be called for trial once it is placed on the jury roster, 10 days wait after the filing of a motion before a hearing can be held, and 120 days after the Summons and Complaint are filed in a non-jury action before trial can be held.

Michael and Laurie mentioned that the year-end crunch is in full swing, with dozens of new rosters appearing. Michael thinks the economy is improving, meaning people are more willing to pay attorneys, so the number of cases is increasing. Also, he mentioned that the holiday season always brings an increased number of rosters as judges seek to clear their dockets before the end of the year.

Jay-Jay mentioned that Justice Toal has set goals for the courts to close a certain percentage of cases by the time they are 1 year old and that Court Administration is producing monthly reports listing the number of cases of various ages in each county and each judicial circuit, so it is possible to get an idea of how long it might be before a case is heard based on the number of older cases ahead of it in the queue for that county. These reports also provide insight into why certain counties so rarely have terms of court, as some counties have very low numbers of cases pending. The other attending members were not aware of these reports, so we reviewed the most recent one for Circuit Court cases on the Judicial Department website. The reports (which cover Circuit Court, Probate Court, and Family Court actions, as well as General Sessions and Master-in-Equity cases) can be viewed at: <http://www.sccourts.org/monthlyReports/>. Jay-Jay mentioned that you can also subscribe to receive an email when the reports are issued each month as she does.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 17th, 2009 at Nexsen Pruet with Sharon as host. The December meeting may be held at Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd pending management approval.

We are still seeking other locations for future meetings. Remember: lunch does *not* need to be provided; we just need a conference room, but would prefer to have a computer, Internet hookup, screen, and teleconference capability if possible. Please

contact Michael at the email address above if you are interested in hosting a future meeting. Thanks!

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay-Jay Flanagan-Grannemann

Secretary

South Carolina Rosters Administrators, Columbia Chapter

11/15/2009