

MINUTES
BENCH BAR COMMITTEE
Monday, August 6, 2018
By C. Edward S. Mitchell, Chairman

Attendance

Present were: Judge Butts, Judge Lovecchio, Judge McCoy, Aaron Biichle, Brian Bluth, Eileen Dgien, Suzanne Fedele, Robert Elion, Skip Greevy, Mary Kilgus, Ed Mitchell, Joseph Rider, Clifford Rieders, Jeffrey Rowe, David Wilk

Old Business

Prothonotary Filing Fees

There have been no further developments in response to the request that the Prothonotary eliminate discontinuance fees by combining them with filing fees.

Jury Questionnaires

Drafts of jury questionnaires for use in civil cases have been presented to the Court Administrator. They will be discussed at the next conference of Civil Trial Attorneys scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2018.

Courtroom #3

Senior Judges Kenneth Brown, Dudley Anderson and J. Michael Williamson are covering Courtroom #3 for the remainder of 2018 and hopefully for 2019. There have been no developments in connection with a possible appointment by the Governor to fill the vacancy existing in Courtroom #3 until 2020.

New Business

Cell Phone Policy

The cell phone policy has been reaffirmed by Administrative Order.

Diversions Courts

Judge Butts is taking over mental health court which had been the responsibility of Judge Gray.

Judge Lovecchio is stepping down from underage drinking court. Aaron Biichle will assume those duties as a special master.

The court is considering making additional services available in all courts for Veterans.

LLA Website

The LLA Website is being redesigned in an effort to make it more user friendly.

Common Level Ratio

The current common level ratio for Lycoming County for use in converting assessed value to fair market value in real estate transactions is 1.36.

Legal Services

It is anticipated that Legal Services will have a full component of authorized attorneys as of October.

Calculation of Time

The court will use a standard method of computing time in compliance with Pa.R.C.P. 106.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2018 at noon in the Law Association Executive Offices.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Edward S. Mitchell
Chairman