MINUTES

BENCH BAR COMMITTEE

Monday, October 30, 2023

By Brian J. Bluth, Substitute Chairman

Attendance

Participants were: Judge Linhardt, Judge Carlucci, Prothonotary Thomas Heap, Court Administrator Adrianne Stahl, April McDonald, Brian Bluth, Corey Mowery, David Wilk, Liz White, Robert Hoffa, and Michele Frey

Method: The meeting was conducted in person at the LLA Office.

Prothonotary Heap provided an update on electronic filing in civil cases. There have been over 300 filings in the first six weeks. Some preliminary challenges include lengthy briefs and conforming motions/petitions. The prothonotary's office is working with its software vendor to determine if the electronic filing system can effectuate service via email of each filing on all counsel of record. Counsel will need to notify the prothonotary's office of any updates to contact information. Ultimately, the prothonotary would like all civil filings to be electronic only. There are no plans at present to accept family/domestic court filings electronically, in part because of the number of pro se litigants.

The committee continued its discussion about helping young lawyers develop trial skills. The LLA anticipates providing a CLE in the future to include local presenters as well as people from the PBA who are helping to implement Project LITIGATE.

Michele Frey announced that the new attorney admission ceremony will be on December 7, 2023. Any petitions should be submitted to the Court Administrator's office. The LLA Annual Meeting and Banquet will be on January 8, 2024.

There were no agenda items from the Judges or the Chairpersons of the substantive law committees.

The meeting began at 12:00 pm and adjourned at 12:16 pm.

The next meetings will be called at the discretion of the Chairman. The Notice will include the date, time, method, and location.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian J. Bluth, Humble Substitute