

FLNB ATTORNEY BOARD OF ADVISORS

August 15, 2011 -- 1:30 Eastern / 12:30 Central
Tallahassee Bankruptcy Courthouse 2nd Floor Conference Room

Attendees: William Blevins (*Clerk of Court*), Sherry Chancellor, Esq.*, Steve Jurnovoy, Esq.*, Tracy Strom, Esq.*, Bill Miller, Esq., Philip Bates, Esq.*, Traci Abrams (*Facilitator/Minutes*), Wade Feltman (*WebEx demonstration facilitator*) and Lucy Lawrence* (*re WebEx demonstration only*)

*indicates attendees via teleconference

MINUTES

1. Internet Re-design Project

- Traci Abrams provided an overview of project goals.
- Wade Feltman demonstrated the mock Internet site via the conference room monitor and WebEx explaining how:
 - User/Board input was used to guide site redesign goals and methods;
 - Content will be reorganized including dedicated Chapter information pages;
 - Forms will be reorganized and the national forms link will operate;
 - Site design will be made more intuitive and easier to understand;
 - Machine readers will be able to interpret the site for individuals who are vision impaired;
 - Keyword searches of site content can be carried out; and
 - New features including an RSS feed, Google Translate, and font manipulation will improve the user experience.
- Beta site will be released in September 2011. Users will have the ability to submit comments through the site.
- Live site will be released in October 2011.

2. Local Rules Process Status Update

- The Local Rules Committee has completed its work in compiling a package of suggested changes to the Local Rules. The package was sent to members of the Bar for preview/comments and is currently under review by the public during the month of August. No public responses have been received thus far.
- The draft will be discussed during the September Bar seminar.
- After the public comment period has concluded, changes must be approved by the District Court and the 11th Circuit. Subsequently, implementation will take place on December 1st. Any alteration to this plan will be communicated through emails from the court, and information will be posted on the web site and in the newsletter.

- A printed and bound version of the Rules will be made available upon request. A PDF version will be made available through the Court's Internet site.

3. Filing Statistics

- A 20% decline in case filings has been experienced over the past eight months. Declines have also been experienced by other courts nationwide.
- National statistics can be found on the U.S. Courts (www.uscourts.gov) Website.
- Reasons for decline include filing costs and the lack of benefit to debtors.
- Long-term impacts of decline will involve staffing levels, fee collections, and lower funding overall.

4. ECF Upgrade to Version 4

- Preparations for implementation during the week of December 3, 2011 continue.
- Dates for informational opportunities and training will be announced in the newsletter.
- Firm "volunteers" for the new *Filing Agent* module have been identified and will be contacted. This module has not yet been perfected which is why its use is being limited at this time.

5. CourtCall Telephonic Appearances

- Judge Killian has authorized attorneys outside the divisional office cities (Tallahassee, Pensacola, Panama City, and Gainesville) to appear via CourtCall for all applicable hearings. There is a fee associated with the use of CourtCall. Information may be found on the FLNB Website (www.flnb.uscourts.gov).

6. Social media usage

- The Clerk's Office is researching the use of social media technology (e.g., Twitter, Facebook) as a method of communication with members of the bar. Comments were solicited from the Board to gauge the workability of this solution.
- Philip Bates and Sherry Chancellor spoke specifically to Facebook and expressed concerns about security and vulnerabilities to hacking (such as that accomplished through Spear Fishing schemes). Sherry Chancellor indicated that our current avenues of communication (i.e., Internet site and email) are sufficient and that the utilization of Facebook would create more work on the part of the attorney since a Facebook page would have to be routinely monitored.
- All Board members seemed to agree that the current methods of communication are sufficient.

7. Kevin Davis

- Status update.

8. Next meeting

- To be announced.