

Minutes of Workers' Comp Section Executive Council Meeting
January 25, 2013 Miami Beach, FL

I. Presiding: Dawn Traverso, Chair

A. Welcome-

Minutes approved as amended to include attendance at August meeting of Rick Thompson, Mike Rudolph and Alison Schefer.

Attendees:

Paulo Longo	George Cappy
Rob Grace	Chris Smith
Geoff Bichler	Bill Rogner
Alan Kalinoski	Robert Strunin
Richard Berman	Allison Hunnicutt Hauser
Rick Morales	Timothy Dunbrack
Neal Falk	Bill Berke
Chris Petrucelli	Michael Rudolph
Philip Augustine	Rick Thompson
Leo Garcia	Glen Wieland
Richard Chait	Alison Schefer
Mike Winer	Jeff Jacobs
Brian Sutter	Dawn Traverso
Paul Anderson	Joanne Prescott
Martin Leibowitz	Richard Sicking

Special Guest: Judge Langham

B. Treasurer-Alan Kalinoski

Realized \$72 in revenue, which is more than we estimated (\$57k) probably due to increased dues, forum and winter retreat. If maintain budget, we will have \$2400 surplus, first time ever. Kudos to Traverso and Smith
Explained income asset allocation, investment of our money by the bar.

C. CLE-Chris Petrucelli

Asked for speakers at Learn at Lunch seminars to sign up in advance
Ray Malca has been working with Diana to get trial advocacy workshop set up for June.
Dawn encouraged firms to send at least one person
WC ski retreat: first week march, Tahoe, embassy suites, ½ block from, Heavenly Gondola.

D. Legislative

House Bill 903-Brian Sutter
Section is actively working
A lot of cases pending and innovative approaches.
A lot of bills to be filed, and expect more to come.
Repackaging bill back—difference now is doctors have made known to FMA their opposition so expecting them to weight in
CFO has put in a bill—committee bill, may be clean up bill,

Chait encouraged communication among the section; will need a presence in Tallahassee—much better network, but still vulnerable.
Bar is having a breakfast for section head chairs

- E. New & 440 Report—Mike Winer spoke for Jeff Appel, Chair
Next edition almost done, would like to get Chair's comments
Jeff needs help to provide articles; send to Mike or Jeff
- F. Appellate Issues Committee—Bill Rogner, Chair
Mike Winer case Section filed amicus brief Cat Callanos, same brief as Kauffman and BF,
In roads made with 1st DCA and participation in Forum in years to come. They are interested in possibly having an oral argument heard there, or having at least 1 judge participating in some way
- G. Membership Committee—Paolo Longo and Tim Dunbrack, Co-chairs
Table at forum, new sign ups
Would like to do that again and have one at the convention as well
Would like to reach out to other sections, like Social Security section, for interplay
Also pursuing working with national groups like DRI and CLM about advertising in their publications in exchange for advertising in News & 440
- H. Forum Committee—Allison Hauser, Chair
So far...20 adjusters
8 law firm sponsors
Complimentary books given to all judges and DCA contact
Books to include rules, max cr, pv tables, life expectancy tables
Advertising and emails, Fla. Bar News—b/w ad
Copy of add for Judge Langham's blog and emails
If you know of any other sections or groups to advertise in, please let Allison know
- I. Rules Committee—Christopher Smith, Chair
New rules enacted this year
Given our feedback, we were successful in having proposed rules changed
Change in child support, DOR through JCC, still get child support information from circuit
If any suggested rule changes, bring to Chris's attention
Diligent in watching MSA changes, responses much quicker now with new CMS vendor, ie, Smart act—conditional payments
- J. Judiciary Committee—Leo Garcia
New rules approved, not published yet
- K. Board Certification—Phil Augustine
11 people signed up for test, article in News and 440 to promote board certification
Section raised the issue 6 months ago about concern over number of trials and equivalents to obtain certification and recertification, but rules have remained the same
- L. Technology—Martin Leibowitz

Website up and running! Kudos to Martin
Training on running website, let martin know, will be scheduled in next few weeks
Event calendar
CLE links
News and 440 link
Email blast
Legislative information
Blog page—Dawn and Fausto and possibly Judge Langham
Friends of 440 information

- V. Chair's Report: Dawn Traverso, Chair
- A. Dawn met with Fausto and will continue to do so to represent the section in Tallahassee
 - B. Chicago Retreat: Diana has arranged for us to stay at Renaissance Hotel on the river, Cubs game, architectural tour. Information to follow.
- VI. Chair-Elect's Report: Chris Smith, Chair Elect
- A. Suggested coordinating a presence for all meetings in Tallahassee
 - B. Suggested New York for meeting in 2014, but still investigating.
- VII. New Business:
- A. Paolo discussed section making an annual donation to Friends of 440 for scholarships. There does not seem to be any impediment legally preventing us from doing it. FWA contributes \$500 per year, so Chait recommended \$500. There will be a \$2600 surplus for 2013/2014. Motion to make a \$500 donation for 2013 and will make it a budget amendment. Motion approved.
 - B. Judge Langham
Thanked us for patience for getting eservice up and running; 95 carriers added, but 30-40 still not registered
Pleased to see continued interest in board certification, demonstration of commitment to the practice, and encourages it.
Judge Langham spoke regarding Judge Kuker's failure to be reappointed and explained it was a decision left to the Governor.
Encouraged letter writing for support proactively prior to decisions being made to contest the lack of reappointment.
Rick Thompson suggested nominating Kuker for the Professionalism Award.
JNC probably will not meet until August, and we probably will not have decisions until January or November for Kuker's replacement.
Program on February 8, all day CLE seminar, will be broadcast to 6 different JCC offices and a phone number to call in to.
Glen Wieland and Karen Gilmartin will be doing a presentation to the judges and mediators on perception of judges and mediators around the state.
 - C. Fausto Gomez
- VIII. Future Meetings:

- A. Winter Retreat—March 3-7—Lake Tahoe
- B. Executive Council Retreat—May 16-19—Chicago