

*Draft Minutes from January 12, 2009, meeting of the Judicial-Media Committee*

Present: Co-chairs, Mr. G. Claude Albert and Judge Douglas Lavine; Mr. Tom Appleby; Judge Patrick Clifford; Attorney Joe D'Alesio; Judge Nina Elgo; Attorney Chuck Howard; Mr. Ken Margolfo; Mr. Chris Powell; Mr. Thomas Scheffey; Judge Michael Shay; and Mr. Dave Ward.

Also present: Nancy Brown, Scott Hartley, Jim Maher and Rhonda Stearley-Hebert (taking minutes).

*I. Call meeting to order*

Judge Lavine called the meeting to order and thanked Dave Ward of Channel 3 for allowing the committee to use the station's conference room for the meeting. He also told committee members that Melissa Farley, executive director of the Judicial Branch's External Affairs Division, is now a member of the committee.

*II. Minutes*

Committee members unanimously approved the minutes from their meeting of Oct. 6, 2008.

*III. Committee reports*

Regarding the Events Subcommittee, Mr. Albert updated the committee on the upcoming "Journalism School For Judges," scheduled for March 19, 2009.

Regarding the Ad Hoc Committee relating to op-ed pieces, Judge Lavine reported that it remains a work in progress.

Regarding the Pilot Program, Judge Clifford and Mr. Appleby provided a brief summary and said that the next step is to prepare a report.

*IV. Follow-up matters raised at Oct. 6 meeting*

Committee members first discussed audio recordings. More specifically, members addressed a recommendation made at the October meeting that a subcommittee be appointed to draft proposed rules regarding audio recordings of court proceedings. Judge Lavine said that he believes a subcommittee should review the subject and return with a report in three to four months. The committee designated Attorney Howard as chair of the subcommittee; Patrick Sanders and Tom Scheffey volunteered to serve on the group as well. Attorney D'Alesio said he would let Attorney Howard know who would be on the subcommittee from the Judicial Branch.

The committee decided that the subject of jury access outside of court would play out on a case-by-case basis and need not be discussed again as a separate topic at a future meeting. Previous discussions about the subject is a positive development, Mr. Sanders added, and is why the Judicial-Media Committee exists.

Committee members then turned to the Chief Justice's response to recommendations developed from last year's surveys of judges and journalists. Judge Lavine said he thought that the response was very affirmative overall.

V. Next meeting

The committee will meet next on May 11, 2009, at 2 p.m.

VI. Adjourn

The committee adjourned its meeting at 3:30 p.m.

After the meeting adjourned, Dave Ward gave committee members a tour of the WFSB facility, which was very informative.