Solo and Small Firm Section Council Meeting

March 7, 2013

Minutes

The Section Council convened on March 7, 2013 at the Bar Conference Center. Council members in attendance were Chairperson John Nichols, Monet Pincus, Emily Johnston, Alex Postic, Tony Dessausure, and David Wyatt. Attending telephonically was council member Flo Vinson. Representing the Bar were Courtney Kennaday and Shelby Crawford.

Chairperson Nichols called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

Mr. Nichols welcomed all present and called for corrections to the minutes of the last meeting, held December 13, 2012. Hearing none, the minutes of the December meeting were adopted as written.

Report from Section Liaison

<u>Section Funds:</u> Ms. Kennaday reported that the current Section balance, as of January 31, 2013, was \$23,150.65. Year-to-date revenue was \$13, 420.00 and year-to-date expenses were \$4,596.19.

Membership: Ms. Kennaday reported that there were currently 660 members of the Section, up from 597 at the previous meeting. She remarked that this was the highest number of members the Section has ever had.

Solo and Small Firm Awards

Council member Tony Dessausure presented information regarding an award that the Section could begin giving to solo and small firm lawyers. The Council voted to create a Solo or Small Law Firm of the Year Award and also voted to adopt the following language in the criteria used for the award: "This award is presented annually to a sole practitioner or small law firm that has demonstrated faithful service and leadership to the community or fellow lawyers." The Council discussed presenting the award at the Solo and Small Firm Conference, or perhaps the Bar Convention. The Council thanked Mr. Dessausure for his presentation.

Election of New Section Council

Ms. Kennaday presented ballots listing the 2013 nominees for open Council positions. The Council members discussed the nominees and subsequently voted to elect Allen 'Jack' Barnes and Catherine Hendrix. The Council voted to reelect Mr. Tony Dessausure to an additional term on Council. The Council also elected Flo Vinson as Chair Elect.

2013 Solo and Small Firm Conference Planning

Ms. Kennaday discussed topics that will be covered and speakers who will be presenting at the Section's annual conference. The Council discussed options for a happy hour social the night before the conference.

<u>Future Meetings and Conference Calls</u>

Chairperson John Nichols was to be contacted to set the date for the next meeting after the Bar Convention.

<u>Adjournment</u>

All present business of the Committee being concluded, Mr. Nichols then adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.