

MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE THE DELIVERY OF LEGAL SERVICES
OCTOBER 7, 2020

Members present:

John Stewart, chair

Joseph Corsmeier

Santo DiGangi

Lansing Scriven

John F. Harkness, Jr.

Sarah Sullivan

Shawanna Hoffman-Childress

Adriana Gonzalez

Josias Dewey

Members absent:

Cesar Alvarez

Also present:

Lori S. Holcomb, Bar Consultant

Crispin Passmore, Passmore Consulting U.K.

Dori Foster-Morales

Michael Tanner

Steven Davis

Gary Lesser

Gary Blankenship, Bar *News*

The meeting was held by Zoom and began at 1:00 pm.

Steven Davis and Gary Lesser are running for president-elect of The Florida Bar. Each addressed the committee.

The committee then heard from Crispin Passmore of Passmore Consulting in the U.K. Mr. Passmore has worked with the U.K. and several US jurisdictions on regulatory reform. He spoke about many of the issues the committee is reviewing.

The committee then heard the following subcommittee reports:

Review of RRTFB 4-5.4 Professional Independence of a Lawyer & accompanying Ethics Opinions – Josias Dewey

Review of Pertinent Advertising Rules as found in RRTFB Chapter 4-7 – Santo DiGangi

Review of 4-7.17 relating to payment of referral to persons other than lawyers (including related rules and ethics opinions) – Joseph Corsmeier

Review of Lawyer Referral services including 4-7.22 (For Profit) and Chapter 8 (Not-for-Profit) of the RRTFB and related rules and ethics opinions – Adriana Gonzalea

Review of Regulatory Framework including entity regulation, regulatory sandbox and related concepts – John Stewart

Member and Public Engagement & Data collection and review – Sarah Sullivan

No action was required or taken.

John Stewart reported that he hoped to have concepts from the subcommittees by the end of January, beginning of February. It will not be necessary to have a written report at that time. However, the subcommittees should have concepts that the full committee can discuss. John Stewart also requested that the subcommittees let him and Lori Holcomb know if there is anyone else they would like to hear from. Mr. Stewart is going to try to arrange a presentation from someone from Arizona. He also requested that the subcommittees be prepared to discuss possible surveys in January.

The committee approved the minutes of the July 29th and August 25, 2020 meetings. The subcommittees also approved the minutes of their meetings.

Dori Foster-Morales addressed the committee. She believes that it is important to engage the Board of Governors sooner rather than later. The Board is holding meeting between the regularly scheduled meetings to discuss various concepts. She suggested that John Stewart and the subcommittee chairs be invited to the meeting to be held between the December and January meetings.

Michael Tanner addressed the committee. He encouraged the committee members to look at the bar's new Covid webpage and suggested that may be a place to put content to get concepts to the members.

Lori Holcomb will send doodle polls to the committee members to set the meetings for November and December.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.