

# COLORADO BAR ASSOCIATION

## SOLO AND SMALL FIRM SECTION

Minutes of October 26, 2011 meeting

Revised at direction of Council 1-25-2012

Members present:

Joe Lusk, Chair; Christopher Hayes, Secretary; Mark Miller; Sheri Roswell; Phil Shuey; Dave Sprecace; ~~Martha Karnopp~~ Barbara Cashman

By Phone: James Duve  
Andy Friedman  
Mark Larson

Absent: Eric Nesbitt (unexcused)

YLD Representative: Jennifer McGinn

CBA/CLEC Staff present: Reba Nance  
Brandi Rohm  
Lauren Eisenbach

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 after a quorum was determined.

### I. Minutes of August 27 Meeting

The minutes of the council meeting of August 27, 2011 were approved unanimously following a motion made and seconded.

### II. Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report.

### III. Legislative Liaison Report

There was no news reported by the Legislative Liaison.

Chairman Lusk solicited volunteers to serve in this capacity.

### IV. Report on ABA Small Firm Section Meeting – Denver

a. There were 244 attendees

b. Issues addressed were:

- i. Are solos/small firms being singled out for disciplinary action?
- ii. Mac and other Apple systems for Solos
- iii. Reviving the CLE in CO Conference on Solos and Small Firms
- iv. Barb Hahn did a taped presentation on "How Elder Law Attorneys are Transforming the Practice of Law"

## V. Old Business -

- a. The Section continues to offer “Small Firm – Big Success” short programs for one hour every second Monday of the month; these are generally well received. Most recent presentation was Barb Hahn on blogging.
- b. CLE in CO has asked whether we would be doing one December, as there is an apparent conflict with the Holiday Party scheduled for 12/12
- c. The Supreme Court has scheduled a focus group meeting for 12/21, to look at e-filing issues in the substantive areas of probate, water, domestic relations, civil litigation, and fee collection. The following council members agreed to participate and provide input for our section: Mark Miller, Dave Spreccace, and Phil Shuey.
- d. Casemaker Elite is going to be released any day now. Really.
- e. The November 8 Happy Hour will feature live music by Chris Koltak.
- f. Lengthy discussion was held about how to reach solos outside of the Metro Area, including:
  - i. Listserv
  - ii. Lending library
- g. Congratulations to Lauren on her work organizing the lending library
- h. Law School Outreach: Committee is scheduled to meet following the Council meeting (and met immediately following; report attached).
- i. Fee discount proposals: No progress to report on this issue. Jim Duve raised the issue of whether to tack on a free 6-month S-SF Section membership for new CBA members. The motion passed.

## VI. New Business

- a. Sarah Crocker and Barb Hahn continue to develop the blog (SoloIncolo.com). Traffic has been increasing steadily and they are now publishing items daily She urges Section council members to submit blog posts on relevant issues (400-700 words, not in a formal style).
- b. NABE has awarded CBA a “Luminary” award for SoloInColo.
- c. Jim Duve reported that 31 people attended the CLE on file retention, and at least 5 have joined the Section.
- d. Jim attended and spoke at an orientation session for new lawyers, attended by 17 new members of the Colorado Bar.
- e. Jim proposed that we create a one-pager for these types of events, setting out the Section’s features for potential members.
- f. It was moved and approved to adopt “Small Firms – Big Success” as the Section’s motto. (Subsequently ratified by CLE in Colorado).
- g. Lauren reported that the directory is up and running, though small glitches remain.

- h. Andy Friedman reported on a plan to set up a “cookbook” for best practices in electronic file management. Reba reminded the council that the David Masters outline is the current standard. It was noted that this would be a good topic for a blog entry.
- i. Joe Lusk raised the issue of whether Section members would take JAG referrals for military cases; it was pointed out that there is an existing Military Law Section; Joe will look into the question of whether we have anything to add there.
- j. Reba is putting together a “consult a colleague” service to put together willing participants. She stressed that this is not a mentoring program.
- k. There was much discussion of the form of the Holiday Party; a majority voted to hold a lunch as has been done in the past.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by motion at 1:45

/s/ Christopher Hayes

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## Law School Outreach Committee Report

Immediately following the Section Council meeting, Jennifer McGinn, Reba Nance, Phil Shuey, Mark Miller, Joe Lusk and Chris Hayes met as the Law School Outreach Committee.

Phil shuey reported that the Bar Association has done LPM CLEs at law schools in the past, and suggested that we approach the schools with a proposal for a Saturday program.

Reba advised care in scheduling such an event to maximize potential attendance.

Joe reminded the committee that we need to keep night students in mind as well.

Reba was tasked to put Brandi to work on blocking out appropriate calendar dates;

The other committee members are tasked with developing content.