

MILITARY AND VETERANS LAW SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 4, 2013

In attendance: Chair Chris Kent, Jess Barton, Mark John Holady, Treasurer Dan Skerritt, Lori Alton and OSB staff Kay Pulju and Susan Grabe.

1. Revisions to OSB Specific Standards for Representation in Criminal & Juvenile Delinquency Cases: Jess Barton reports that the Task Force committee is expected to finalize its report in late September. Jess, Rich, and Chris to contact BOG members. It is expected that the Task Force will adopt the section's proposed changes that recommend detailed exploration into criminal defendant's military background. Hopefully, the section can review the Task Force's draft before the final recommendations are submitted for BOG approval.

2. Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) Applicability to VA claims: Kay Pulju reported the possible applicability of applying a referral fee to lawyers handling of disability claims. The committee discussed the problems with this:

- 1)) few Oregon practitioners, could discourage Oregon lawyers from taking these cases because of the lack of mentors, expertise in the community, etc.;
- 2) capped fees, making sharing with LRS more painful;
- 3) long wait for recovery of fees, a couple of years in most cases, and several years in other cases.

These factors, limited lawyers, limited fees, and delayed payments justify an exemption. After a discussion, the committee unanimously recommended that the LRS completely exempt disability claims from the LRS. There is a BOG meeting in late September to discuss this. Chris to call Rich to brief him; other executive members to attend the BOG meeting on this topic. Details to follow.

3. CLE: Nov. 14th topics: VA Accreditation? Chris to check with Karen Lee to make sure.

4. Next Meeting: Noon Tuesday October 29th at the OSB. 5. Post meeting -- details were circulated regarding election of 2014 officers, and annual meeting. Nominating committee to be established at October Meeting.

S/ Christopher H. Kent