

MILITARY AND VETERANS LAW SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
JUNE 17, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

The June 2014 regular monthly meeting of the executive board of Military and Veterans Law Section was held at 12:00 P.M. at the Oregon State Bar Center in Tigard, Oregon. In attendance, either in person or via telephone were the following:

Chair Mark A. Ronning  
Secretary Mark John Holady  
Treasurer Daniel Skerritt  
Jesse Barton  
Don Crowe  
Wesley A. Hill  
Charles R. Williamson  
BOG Contact Richard Spier  
Matt Shields, bar liaison  
Troy Woods, bar liaison

MINUTES

The May 2014 regular meeting minutes, having been previously distributed through e-mail, were read and approved with one correction.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Review of MVLS Activities and Opportunities

- Schedule of MVLS 2014 Annual Meeting

The committee discussed holding the annual meeting in August, with the section CLE program, or in October. Because of the need to nominate the executive committee 60 days in advance, October 21, 2014, was chosen as the date to hold the annual meeting.

- Discussion of UCMJ Recommendations

Regarding the UCMJ, military prosecution, commander-driven military justice issues currently under discussion, the section moved to recommend to the Board of Governors an Oregon-specific response to the Defense Department request for input. The response will pay particular attention to conflict-of-interest and professional misconduct. Dan Crowe and Mark Ronning have worked on a response. Dan Crowe will present the response to the BOG in Pendleton at its June meeting. The response resulted from an off-line and in-person discussion regarding the independence of the prosecution and defense counsel within the military, and the last of state bar sanctions for military lawyers' misconduct.

- Oregon Veterans Summit Recap

Throughout the state, each geographic group cited legal support as the top are of need. The Oregon Veterans Summit was not aware of the OSB Military Assistance Panel. There has been a disconnect between the panel's intent and the audience served. Most people thinks the

panel serves the needs of deployed service-members only. Meanwhile, the needs of Oregon's 300,000 are missed.

- 41 Brigade Deployment Update  
Although units are moving out, there is no media coverage. The Section is on its own to publicize the need and the resources available to the legal community.  
12:15 p.m. - 12:25 p.m. Old Business
- Veterans Court - Multnomah County Presentation; tabled
- Pro Bono Legal Services to Veterans - Eugene Legal Clinic model  
At the Oregon Veterans Summit, Mark connected with the Lane County Veterans Legal Clinic for the purpose of getting guidance on establishing a similar clinic in Multnomah County. Meanwhile, Renee R. Stineman of Dunn Carney is also working on establishing a Multnomah County Clinic.
- Update on Veterans History Project  
The project is gaining steam, but more volunteers are needed to interview our veterans.
- WWII Memorial Dedication  
Mark reported that the Salem Capitol dedication of June 6, 2014 was well attended.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee Report; tabled

- CLE Committee Report, Mark Holady  
The CLE will be held August 7-8, for 1 ½ days. The topics covered will be SCRA, USSERA, criminal law as it affects the vet, domestic relations law and the military, legislative update, and handling veterans claims.
- Legislative Committee Report, Mark Ronning  
Michele Grey and Western Oregon Univ. staff Kyle Rogers have been contacting Oregon district attorneys regarding the use of SB 999. Unfortunately, the majority of the 36 DA offices have not responded. Follow-up work is necessary. Jess Barton mentioned that the Pacific Policy Research Institute, in conjunction with Dr. William Brown, conducted a study for the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, cited in the OSB Bulletin article by Melody Finnemore. Most attorneys do not ask their clients whether the clients are veterans. Consequently, SB 999 is usually not brought up as an option. Jess would like to see some judicial review of the DA's decision whether to apply SB 999. If review were an option, the defense bar might request SB 999 application more.
- Information Committee Report, Charlie Williamson  
1. Jonas Hemenway joined Charlie on the committee. 2. Send Charlie your links, materials, resources, etc.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None brought up for lack of time

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at the Oregon State Bar Center, Tigard, Oregon, on July 15, 2014, at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark John Holady, Secretary