

MILITARY AND VETERANS LAW SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
NOVEMBER 18, 2014 MINUTES

The November 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:

Mark Ronning, Chair  
David Kramer (incoming Chair-Elect)  
Mark Holady, Secretary  
Mary Ellen Farr (incoming Secretary)  
Bryan Boender  
Daniel Crowe  
Chris Griffin  
Jim Rice  
Sean Riddell  
Amrit Sidhu  
Robert Schulhof  
Brian Scott Wayson  
Troy Wood (OSB Liaison)

After roll call, the Annual Meeting minutes/October Section minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. The chair then identified the 2015 Leadership for the section.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The chair invited members to brainstorm about the section's 2015 goals. Regarding the Veterans History Project, volunteers are still needed to interview veteran. Contact Gretchen Magaroo at 503-299-6200 or [Gretchen@LNScourtreporting.com](mailto:Gretchen@LNScourtreporting.com) for more information. Interviews occur across the State and are also scheduled at the Bar following the MVLS monthly meeting. Law-school student and veteran Dr. Chris Griffin volunteered. Other law students would be great too.

New Executive Leadership

New Chair: Tom Flaherty - email: [flahertybrittany@gmail.com](mailto:flahertybrittany@gmail.com)

Past Chair: Mark Ronning - email: [mark@nwveteranslaw.com](mailto:mark@nwveteranslaw.com)

Chair-Elect: Dave Kramer - email: [david.kramer@doj.state.or.us](mailto:david.kramer@doj.state.or.us)

2014 Past Chair: Chris Kent - email: [ckent@kentlaw.com](mailto:ckent@kentlaw.com)

New Secretary: Mary Ellen Farr - email: [mefarr@maryellenfarr.com](mailto:mefarr@maryellenfarr.com)

Past Secretary: Mark Holady - email: [mark@holadylaw.com](mailto:mark@holadylaw.com)

New Treasurer: Brian Wayson - email: [brian@cascadiadisabilitylaw.com](mailto:brian@cascadiadisabilitylaw.com)

Past Treasurer: Daniel Skerritt - email: [dan.skerritt@tonkon.com](mailto:dan.skerritt@tonkon.com)

## Appointment of Military and Veterans Law Section Advisory Members

The chair then opened the floor for the nomination of advisory section members. The following slate was nominated and approved:

Hon Beth Allen  
Janelle Barton  
Jacques DePlois  
Chris Griffin

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

First, Mark Ronning facilitate the hand-off of committees to new heads, synchronize efforts, etc.

### Membership

Mark Ronning reported current membership at 95. It usually drops in January. Our goal is 150. Discussion confirmed that dues will not increase and will remain at \$20. Mark attended the Vets Day events at Willamette University Law School. He wants to put out word that when vets graduate, there is a section active and ready to assist them.

Discussion then began about increasing section membership and evolved into participation at section meetings. Non-OSB members can participate but cannot become a section member until they join the OSB and are otherwise qualified/not prohibited (e.g., because of conflict of interest, public office, etc.). When asked how the section recruits new members, the chair responded “through word of mouth, attending conference, induction ceremonies, bar functions, bar articles.”

Membership committee report (from Mark Ronning); current membership 95. Usually drops in January. Goal is 150; Confirming that dues will not increase. Remain at \$20. Ronning will also connect with Dan Crowe. Ronning attended Vets Day at Willamette Wants to put out word that when vets graduate, there is a section stood up ready to assist them.

### CLE

Mark Holady reiterated his desire to hold regional CLEs. For those of you that have suggestions for CLEs, send the suggestions to incoming Chair Tom Flaherty or committee chair Mark Holady.

Daniel Crowe will be heading the CLE Committee.

### Legislative Committee

Mark Ronning discussed the status of spousal reciprocity. The Section endorsed opportunity for spouses to practice without losing a year to review and take the Bar exam. Right now, the Board of Governors has approved it. Troy Wood said the House of Delegates does not need to approve, but the Board of Bar Examiners needs to review the matter.

The section still desires to amend SB 999. The amendment would authorize defense counsel to raise matter before judge or a judge to raise the matter sua sponte. Currently, only the District Attorney can raise the issue at the DA’s discretion. The section wants to raise

awareness through educational program across legal community is section's action item. Other Bar sections need to address the issue (e.g. Criminal Law) or OTLA, OCDLA, ODAA.

Jim Rice will be heading the Legislative Committee.

#### Information Committee

Still looking for Information Committee head. IC publishes what we do to world so that others have access to resources. Also raises awareness of the section and its goals. Charlie Williamson and Jonas Hemenway have faithfully served, and Jonas may be a candidate to chair the committee. The section handles its website to save costs instead of having an OSB staff do it. Mary Ellen Farr also voiced interest in serving.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The Classroom Law Project sought donation from the section. Generally, the OSB BOG authorizes sections to make contributions. Mark Holady voiced his concern over the lack of resources. Others concurred, and there is no groundswell of support to send limited resources at this point.

#### ADJOURNMENT

After discussion and vote, the December meeting was cancelled. The November meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting will be at the Oregon State Bar Center, Tigard, Oregon, on January 20, 2015. , at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mark John Holady, Secretary*