

MILITARY AND VETERANS LAW SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2018 MINUTES

The November 2018 regular monthly meeting of the executive board of Military and Veterans Law Section was held at 12:15 P.M. at the Oregon State Bar Center in Tigard, Oregon. . In attendance at the Bar Center were Mark John Holady, Treasurer, and Troy Wood (OSB Liaison). Attending via telephone were the following:

Jaimie Fender
Ross Neher
Michael Hajarizadeh
James Rice
Wesley Hill

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Outgoing Chair Jaimie Fender gave her annual report, starting with the attendance at the OGALLA annual dinner by Jaimie and incoming chair Ross Neher. Judge Beth Allen, Multnomah County Circuit Court, was the keynote speaker and gave a shout-out to the section for its support to the military and veterans. Over 120 bar members attended the function, and Jaimie gained the section good exposure.

Jaimie also noted that the Washington County Bar Association reached out to the section for speakers on veterans issues; the section was becoming the go-to resource on the topic.

LAW SCHOOL REPORT

Accolades were given to member Andy Blevins by Willamette Law School. He received the school's Pro Bono award. As Andy was unable to attend the ceremony, Jaimie accepted the award on Andy's behalf. Jaimie also noted that the law school liaisons are picking next year's contact. Each school has well-established student groups and had a Veteran's Day event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The legislative committee and the website committee had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Jaimie Fender reported that Elizabeth Esterbrook is the contact for female veterans at the Oregon Dept. Of Veterans Affairs. Jaimie and Ms. Esterbrook had a conversation similar to the one Jaimie had with Nathaniel Boehme, LGBTQ Veterans Coordinator for the ODVA about the need to create a good referral system for the ODVA. Jaimie wants to create a committee to create a program.

Mark John Holady discussed non-governmental organizations and faith-based groups having a local list of contact, a tie-in for them to provide referrals to local attorneys for local veterans.

Troy Wood noted that the crux of the problem was that many veterans desire to live away from the urban areas. Rural counties no longer have the resources, however, to deal with many of the civic needs. Faith-based groups and NGOs would be a source of services and a resource to develop.

Jaimie noted the upcoming Rural Oregon Legal Summit. It would be a good forum. She'll put the idea on the radar.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mark John Holady discussed the upcoming budget submission and the general financial picture of the section.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the executive committee meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark John Holady, Treasurer
For Lawrence Peterson, Secretary