



Vintage Voices

Senior Lawyers Division

Newsletter
December 2021

We sincerely hope that all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. We are pushing ahead with a variety of programs and efforts on various fronts.

Mentoring: Don Powell and Richard Davis continue to head up this working group. As we have outlined in prior newsletters, the Bar has two programs: one a longer term one on one program and another that is available for lawyers who call in with a question.

The second program has more mentors than mentees currently. We are trying to determine, with the assistance of Bar staff, why so few younger or newer lawyers are reaching out and making use of the program.

We also mentioned we are working at getting a listing of other organizations where people can serve as mentors apart from the organized programs the Bar offers. These include the law schools, undergraduate schools and several community groups. We hope to be able to post a comprehensive listing of these organizations along with contact information soon and invite any of you who participate in these programs to pass on the name of and contact information for them to Don at d.powell@cplawfirm.com.

We are also very pleased to announce that Don is a new member of the Dean's Advisory Board of the University of Arizona's W.A. Franke Honors College. Congratulations Don!

Transition: The Drop-In on December 8 had well over 100 people participating in a discussion of some of the issues arising when transitioning to another practice, simply downsizing, shifting to another area of practice, or stopping altogether. Many

excellent questions were raised, and people had a chance to discuss their experiences and solutions to many common issues.

Our thought is that there is no one size fits all that works in these areas since individuals all have different goals, practice models and paths they want to follow. The more we can share anecdotal experiences; the better people will be able to see what solutions and options are out there and hopefully can find one that fits their particular circumstances.

The Drop-In sessions have grown rapidly from five participants to much larger groups in very short-order. Bob McWhirter's recent excellent Drop-In on Constitutional history was very well-attended and as mentioned, our most recent one had almost 200 registrants. These are free and provide a chance to network on issues and questions. We need you folks to reach out on areas that you want to see Drop-In sessions on to Walter Nash at walternashlaw@gmail.com.

We are already planning future Drop-ins on the different statuses of practice (active, inactive, *etc.*) - discussing the differences, requirements and how to move between them as well as on other areas of transitioning.

Pro Bono: Dean Christoffel has continued with his outstanding work in this area. Dean has posted a number of bulletins on the online community and is getting other *pro bono* information up on the SLD part of the Bar website.

If you have any questions on Rule 38 qualification or regarding places where you can perform *pro bono* work (and possibly earn CLE credit and credits on your Bar dues), reach out to Dean at Dean.Christoffel@gmail.com.

Convention: The Convention is scheduled for June 27 (Monday) – 29 (Wednesday), 2022. Dean has been working with Bar staff to have a breakfast for Division members on the 29th. There will be a modest \$35 charge that will include breakfast *and* all of the CLE presentations that day at the Convention at no additional cost. We are also working to keep the room after the breakfast for folks to catch up with one another.

We will circulate a survey after the first of the year to solicit ideas for topics to discuss at the breakfast and for CLEs.

Dues: This continues to be a vigorously discussed issue and there has been significant movement on it. Jennifer Rebholz, the State Bar President, invited Dean Christoffel to be a member of the working group addressing the issues. Fellow EC member

Hope Kirsch is also very active on the issue. The group is headed by Jeff Willis who was instrumental in the creation of this Division during his tenure as Bar President. The current focus of the group is on dues for retired lawyers, but that focus may expand.

We hope to have a report posted to the online community on the group's first meeting soon. The issue will eventually go to the Board of Governors for a recommendation that will be passed on to the Supreme Court for a final decision.

We have decided not to have an Executive Council meeting in late December due to the holidays, so our next meeting is set for January 26, 2022.

We wish all of you the happiest of Holiday Seasons and a joyous New Year!