

## **Appellate Practice Section Mini Retreat Part II**

(2 hours of CLE credit with one ethics/professionalism)

January 21, 2010

12-1:00

### **Mini retreat working lunch**

- Message from the Chair: Format and Goals for the Day (Dorothy Easley)
- Roundtable introductions of attendees
- Handout addressing results from Part I (Valerie Yarbough)
- Summary of Mini-Retreat Part I (Hala Sandridge)
- Assignments to Break-Out Group (Hala Sandridge)

1-2:15

### **Break out groups**

#### **Susan Fox: Leadership, Ethics and Professionalism**

- attract new members to the Section
- update Bylaws and make them better (clarify who is on Executive Council and how the Section accomplished different things)
- focusing on professionalism (but is level of professionalism among appellate lawyers already much higher than trial lawyers?)
- become more engaged in advocacy
- more involved in the Judicial Nominating Commissions around the state
- training and education of younger appellate lawyers
- take responsibility for promoting excellence in the practice of appellate law
- improve the continuing legal education programs whenever possible
- offer programs to teach how to write appellate briefs
- address use (or lack of use) of three-judge panels at the circuit level
- elicit more input from public defenders and Attorney General's office
- communicate more with local/voluntary bar associations

## **Jack Reiter: Section Finances and Fiscal Independence**

- promote our continuing legal education programs
- advertise on our bar website
- maximizing profitability of continuing legal education programs by moving more toward more web-based seminars
- co-sponsor with other sections whenever possible to reduce costs
- hiring a professional fund raiser to seek grants from different foundations that give money to different institutions
- work with law schools to hold seminars there and save money
- explore ways to insulate and keep the funds with the Section
- Review Section's decision to pledge funds to different institutions and noted that there may be some confusion as to what the Section will or will not fund

## **Hala Sandridge and Dorothy Easley: E-filing**

- sell electronic filing as an investment to save money in the future
- educate or lobby the legislature in a formal fashion
- ask the Florida Bar to undertake such efforts (Bar has paid lobbyists and Florida Bar President has committed to e-filing)
- reach out to other Sections to get involved in this issue (Criminal Practice Section has hired lobbyists to try and promote this)
- get email alerts regarding opinions issued (First District currently does)
- more argument by videos
- use technology to handle alerting lawyers of matters that are expedited
- address Americans with Disabilities Act requirements related to electronic documents
- archive oral arguments for viewing
- access briefs electronically (ask Westlaw if they could provide as a member benefit)

2:30-4:30 Executive Council meeting

6-9 Cocktails and Dinner - Seasons 52