

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Saturday October 13, 2001

Minutes

Chairman Tim Maragos called the meeting to order with Yigal Bander, Sandra Cosby, Andy Dotson, Packard Phillips, Elizabeth Ryan and Lori Ruello in attendance, with Erin Beyer, Brian Jackson and Craig Freeman participating by telephone.

Law School for Journalists: Program was resized to 1/2 day and rescheduled for 8:30-12:00 Friday, December 7, 2001 in Baton Rouge. The content will include CLE Ethics and the Mock Grand Jury Presentation. The strategy was to draw some lawyers and judges to the program. Last year's program feedback suggested the need for Journalist/Lawyer dialogue and the Grand Jury was of great interest to the Journalists. Lori reports that brochures will be ready soon and ads will run in Bar Journal.

Statewide Lawyer Referral and Information Service: Andy Dotson reports that his subcommittee had some difficulty determining its exact role. President Mike Rubin is reviewing the operating documents of the Baton Rouge program to use as a framework. It was suggested that the PIC form a special subcommittee drawn from those LSBA Sections who will be most involved in referrals: Insurance (Bander); Labor & Employment (Dotson); Civil Law & Litigation (Cosby); Probate (Beyer); Consumer Protection & Bankruptcy (Phillips); Environmental (Ryan); Family (Maragos); Young Lawyers (Freeman); Criminal (Jackson); Small Firms (Cosby); Minerals (Freeman). A letter of invitation will be issued and follow ups by PIC members will hopefully get a reasonable number of "volunteers" who can make up the nucleus of an operating/policy committee. This committee ultimately will become a stand-alone to operate the referral service. It is contemplated that PIC will continue to be involved with Promotion and Recruitment. The initial test market has been determined to be Alexandria.

Law School for Non-Lawyers: The program is designed to provide legal solutions to family law problems. Erin Beyer will coordinate the initial program in Alexandria and work with the local lawyers to establish it.

Disaster Response and Relief Plan: This program needs to move from an approved paper plan to actual implementation. Brian Jackson and Sandy Cosby will serve as Co-Chairs in this endeavor.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2001 at the Baton Rouge Bar Association Office.