United States District Court, Northern District of Iowa Federal Practice Committee Meeting Minutes May 4, 2022, at 12:00 PM

Meeting was held in the 5th floor conference room in the Cedar Rapids Courthouse and via phone conference

Attendees:

Jeana Goosmann, Chair, Judge Williams, Paul De Young, Misti Michel, Brad Price, Patrick Parry, Alison Guernsey, Shelby Mars, Ashley Corkery, Emma Barden, Cathy May

1. Introductions

No new members to introduce

2. Motion to approve November 3, 2021 minutes

Motion to approve minutes from November 3, 2021 was made and approved

3. Update regarding the 2022 USAO/FPC CLE on Federal Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ISBA Federal Practice Committee will co-host this free CLE on August 18) (Melissa Carrington/Shelby Mars)

The date of the CLE, August 18, 2022, has been confirmed. Shelby Mars and Melissa Carrington are working to finalize speakers and approve the agenda. They will circulate the agenda when it is finalized. The ISBA would like to collaborate. The event will be free of charge.

4. Update regarding the joint letter from the Federal Practice Committee and the Iowa State Bar Association to Senator Grassley and Senator Ernst

Jeana Goosmann reported that David Brown joined the last ISBA group call concerning what might be done to obtain an additional judgeship in the Northern District of Iowa. Mr. Brown said that, instead of sending a letter, it might be better to rely on individuals that have connections to the Senators' offices. He offered to reach out and present the information and data included in the drafted letter. He indicated that approval and funding for the DSM courthouse was obtained after sharing information and discussing concerns with Congressional members and/or staff.

Jeana indicated that she would continue to work with the ISBA, monitor progress and follow up with Mr. Brown. Depending on the feedback Mr. Brown provides her, Jeana is hopeful that a meeting with ISBA members, committee members and Congressional members and/or staff could be scheduled.

The committee agreed that having Mr. Brown reach out to his contact(s) appeared prudent. The draft letter will be held until further information is obtained.

5. Potential Fall CLE

The ISBA Federal Practice Committee has several CLE programs that run from June through the fall. It would be difficult to come up with any additional program topics on top of what is already being offered. Given the federal practice series of CLEs that the ISBA is offering and the August CLE that the Northern District of Iowa is co-hosting, the committee agreed that a Fall CLE is not needed.

6. Other business

Brad Price provided an update regarding the subcommittee that is focused on supervised release violation discovery issues. According to the FPD's Office and the Probation Office, the current practice is that discovery issues should be addressed on a case-by-case basis and through motion practice. He is looking to set up an in-person meeting in the Northern District of Iowa for people on all sides of the issue to come up with a collaborative approach that provides guidance and reduces litigation. He hopes to have a meeting by early summer, depending on scheduling availability.

Allison Guernsey added that she has been doing research on a national level, including a survey she conducted in December and January. She has found that most districts have similar frustrations and have no guidance or policies in place. The exception was the Western District of North Carolina. She will forward its Memo of Understanding to the committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:19 PM

Next meeting

August 3, 2022