

MINUTES

Paraprofessional Licensing Implementation Committee

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2021
Location:	Zoom Call
Chair:	Sr. Judge Kirsten Thompson
Vice Chair:	Sr. Judge Dan Harris
Committee Attendance:	Judge Xiomara Torres, Sue Gerhardt, Linda Odermott, Jon Dennis, Brian Cox, Ralph Gzik
Advisory Group:	Katherine Denning, Nik Chourey, Danny Lang, David Friedman, Walter Fonseca, Ryan Jennings, Jason Specht, Jered Brown, Madeleine Campbell, Aubrey Baldwin, Crystal Sullivan, Dr. Johnny Lake
Guests:	Jade Priest-Maoz (OSB), Troy Wood (OSB), Coua Xiong
Staff present:	Helen Hierschbiel, Susan Grabe, Matt Shields, Kellie Baumann

ACTION ITEMS

Meeting notes for 2/8 approved
Breakout Session Meeting Notes from Admissions & Education Workgroup for 2/8 approved
Breakout Session Meeting Notes from Regulation Workgroup for 2/8 approved.
Breakout Session Meeting Notes from Admissions & Education Workgroup for 2/15 approved

INFORMATION ITEMS

Interested Party Introduction – Interested party Coua Xiong, a representative from Asian Pacific American Network Of Oregon (APANO) introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her background.
Troy Wood, Oregon State Bar Admissions Department – Troy Wood with the Oregon State Bar Admissions Department, provided an overview of existing admissions requirements, the process for making character and fitness recommendations, and options for paralegals. Then he took questions from the committee.
Jade Priest-Maoz, Oregon State Bar Minimum Continuing Legal Education Department – Jade Priest Maoz with the Oregon State Bar MCLE Department provided an overview of pre- and post-admission continuing education requirements for lawyers and options for paralegals. Then she took questions from the committee.

Discussion Points Resolved by the Full Committee

- Mandatory Reporting of Child/Elder Abuse: The committee discussed the pros and cons of whether LPs should be mandatory reporters and determined that they should be mandatory reporters. There was discussion about privilege and whether LPs should also be subject to RPC 1.4.
- IOLTA Accounts: The committee discussed the pros and cons of whether LPs should be required (or allowed) to have IOLTA accounts. Different billing methods were discussed. The consensus of the group was that LPs should participate in IOLTA and be allowed to set up Trust accounts. They group further suggested that there be random automatic audits of LP trust accounts.
- Tabled for a future meeting were recommendations related to the following:
 - Scope of license and
 - Access to free or low cost CLEs were tabled for a future meeting.

Workgroup breakout sessions

- The Workgroup on Admission & Education, Regulation Workgroup, and Stakeholder Workgroup briefly met in Breakout Rooms to discuss their respective work plans.

Workgroup Breakout Room Discussion:

- The three workgroups briefly discussed what the group discussed in their breakout sessions.
- Stakeholder Workgroup – Judge Harris provided an update on the Stakeholder Workgroup breakout discussion as follows:
 - The Stakeholder Workgroup decided to request an opportunity to be on the SFLAC meeting agenda to give them a heads up on the work of the committee.
 - The Workgroup is also going to create a one page informational overview background document to start to share with some of the primary stakeholders.
 - The Workgroup also discussed reaching out to presiding judges, the circuit court judges association, and court administrators to let them know this is coming and give them a chance to comment on how they see the work of our committee fitting into their world.
- Admissions & Education Workgroup – Linda Odermott provided an update on the Admissions & Education Workgroup breakout discussion as follows:
 - Linda discussed how the Admissions Workgroup has an almost perfect draft to send to the full committee for discussion. There are still some parts that will require additional input and discussion.
 - The Workgroup would also like to request an additional workgroup only meeting on possibly March 1st.

- Regulation Workgroup – Ralph Gzik provided an update on the Regulation Workgroup breakout discussion as follows:
 - The Regulation Workgroup will be meeting tomorrow, February 23rd at 3:30pm to work through their discussion topics including the Oregon evidence rules and privileges.

Future meetings:

- February 23rd will be a 2 hour Regulation Workgroup Breakout Session meeting.
- March 8th will be a 2 hour full committee meeting.
- March 22nd will be a 2 hour full committee meeting.
- April 5th will be a 2 hour full committee meeting.
- April 19th will be a 2 hour full committee meeting.

Next steps:

- The next meeting for the full committee is scheduled for March 8th and will be for the full committee.
- The February 23rd meeting is for the Regulation Workgroup to have a breakout session.