

State Bar of Michigan  
Domestic Violence Committee  
August 2, 2008 (by phone)  
Minutes

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at approximately 10:10 am.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting was co-chaired by Mary Lovik and Rebecca Shiemke.

The following people were on the call:

Janet Prater, Leslie Hagan, Elias Escobedo, Guerline Ladouceur-Laurore, Darnell Jackson, Mary Lovik and Rebecca Shiemke

Rebecca Shiemke took minutes

- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Vote was not taken to approve minutes from the June 21, 2008 meeting due to lack of a quorum. Rebecca will circulate the minutes by email and ask for approval electronically.
- IV. **Report of the Chairs** – No report.
- V. **Old Business** –

Update on judicial training – No report.

ICWA training update – Leslie reported that she emailed Julie Welsh with the prosecutors' assoc. and has gotten no response. It appears that the agenda is already set and doesn't include any domestic violence topic. We were hoping to get it added but change in personnel (from Carol Seiman to Julie) made it difficult. Leslie will report if any news.

Family Law Journal –

The committee reviewed and approved the schedule and process steps set out in the attachment previously forwarded to committee members.

Elizabeth Eggert, Lorna Beard and Christine Pfeiffer had volunteered to be editors of the articles. Rebecca or Mary will follow up with them.

Others volunteered to edit specific articles and the schedule will be updated with additional names and forwarded to committee members.

The next author is Heidi on SLAPP suits. Rebecca will email her to remind of the due date and to submit her articles to the volunteer editors – Leslie, Elias and

Darnell by August 25. Per the process, the editors will submit suggestions back to Heidi within one week and Heidi will submit the article to the Journal. Rebecca will provide her with the email address.

Guerline volunteered to write an article on parental alienation. She was assigned to the next open date, April 24, 2009. However, she will draft her article sooner and we'll hold it in case other tentative articles fall through.

VI. **Good of the Order –**

Mary reported that the FOC package of bills was introduced in the State legislature in June. The bills will alter much of the FOC responsibilities, including removing the duty to enforce spousal support orders unless there is also a child support order and changing some address and notice provisions.

Mary reported that the Michigan batterer intervention coalition has a conference Sept 18-19 in Shanty Creek on DV and fatherhood issues with some national experts. Check the website for more details.

The committee anticipates new members in September. Mary and Rebecca will put together an orientation/welcome packet for new members to bring them up to date on the committee's work. It will include last few meeting minutes, FLJ articles and the FLJ schedule.

VII. **Next Meeting –** We agreed that our next meeting, with new members, will be in person. The Bar building is open the first and third Saturdays so the meeting will be either September 20 or October 4. Notice to follow.

VIII. **Adjournment –** The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.