

State Bar of Michigan
Domestic Violence Committee
In-Person Meeting
Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 AM

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order: Meet was called to order by Mary Lovik at 10:30 a.m.
- II. Welcome and Introductions. Meeting was chaired by Mary Lovik. The following persons were in attendance in person or via teleconference. Mary Lovik, Charlotte Allen, Hon. Kay Hansen, Hon. Darnell Jackson, Gail Krieger, Guerline Ladouceur-Laurore, Heidi Naasko, Christine Pfeiffer, Janet Prater, Sarah Prout, Mary Rubio and Amanda Chubb.
- III. Approval of Minutes. Minutes from the August 2, 2008 meeting approved.
- IV. Report of the Co-chairs:
 - a. Mary Lovik reported on the BISCMI Conference: Shifting the Paradigm: Strategies for Addressing Batterers as Fathers. The conference explored, among other things, the reality that battered women with children will in many instances either be obliged to have ongoing contact with the DV perpetrator/father, or will choose to do so. Sessions at the conference explored ways to provide survivor safety and batterer accountability in the midst of this reality. There was a focus on collaboration with responsible foatherhood and father involvement initiatives; distinguished from “fathers’ rights” organizations. Brochures are available at [http://www.biscmi.org/stp/STP Brochure.pdf](http://www.biscmi.org/stp/STP_Brochure.pdf) or email questions to dgarvin@csswashtenaw.org.
 - b. Mary Lovik also reported on the Father Policy Forum-Fathers in Transition: Building Pathways to Healthy Relationships. There was an overwhelming interest in these issues and the conference was well attended.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Judicial Training: It was agreed that Mary Lovik and Rebecca Shiemke would draft a letter to the Michigan Judicial Institute to propose a plenary session at the next annual Judicial Conference. Judge Hansen suggested that fatherhood issues would be a good topic for a plenary session, similar to a session from the recent BISCMI conference and fatherhood forum. Judge Jackson agreed that such a topic would be of great interest to Judges and suggested a potential speaker, Judge Sheran Chatman. Judge Jackson agreed to contact her to see if she would be interested in participating in judicial training in Michigan. Charlotte Allen moved to have Mary and Rebecca draft a letter to MJI, Janet Prater, seconded the motion.

- b. Judicial Survey: Amanda reported on the Judicial Survey that was drafted last year but not sent out. Charlotte Allen moved to have Amanda pursue the Survey, Janet Prater, seconded the motion.
- c. Family Law Journal Articles: A schedule for submitting articles to the family law journal was circulated. The article on domestic violence and firearms was split into two sections. Charlotte Allen reported her work on an upcoming article about tribal courts. Judge Hansen reported on her work on an article about the domestic violence in the Military and domestic violence and consumer law.
- d. District Court Judges Training: Discussed an interest in presenting a topic at the August 2009 District Court Judges training. Charlotte Allen suggested that a potential topic for training could be alimony and child support questions, how these financial issues impact safety. Charlotte agreed to draft a proposal.

VI. New Business

- a. New Legislators Training: Decided to discuss training for new legislators on the issue of domestic violence at the next meeting.

VII. Good of the Order

VIII. Next Meeting

- a. November 8, 9:45 a.m. (by conference call)
- b. December 13, 2 p.m. (by conference call)

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.