

Office of Military and Veterans Legal Assistance Advisory Group, Washington State Attorney General's Office

Friday, October 30, 2020, via GoTo Meeting

Present: Joyce Bruce, Sahar Fathi, Ellen Austin Hall, Anthony Pickett, Matt Huot, Caesar Kalinowski, Eric McDonald, Laurie Davenport, Robert Johnson, Mariah Hanley, David Henken, Sarah Morehead, Grady Leupold, Douglas Fender, Danielle Zemola, Paige Hardy, Phil Sanders

11:05 AM: Meeting brought to order, introductions.

11:08 AM: Discussion and adoption of the previous meetings minutes

11:10 AM: Joyce Bruce provide an update on OMVLA activities.

- 140 requests for assistance since the last meeting.
- Increase in inquiries regarding evictions.
- Veterans Day plans.

11:15: Mr. Kalinowski describes the article he's preparing for the November Washington Bar News, including a volunteer call to service.

11:18 AM: Ms. Bruce begins discussion on ongoing outreach and engagement activities.

- Ms. Hanley proposes reaching out to large law firm pro-bono coordinators.
- Mr. McDonald describes a LAMP survey to gauge the needs of prospective volunteers.
- Mr. Kalinowski proposes dedicated outreach to law schools and utilizing law student externs.

11:22 AM: Discussion of creating possible advisory group sub-committees, including:

- Outreach.
- Low Income Vets.
- Volunteer Needs/ Pro-Bono Coordination.
- Veterans of Color.

11:25 AM: Discussion of bylaw drafting.

11:26 AM: Roundtable discussion on:

- Unemployment and future uncertainty;
- VA benefits, backlog of exams;
- Veterans with limited access to technology;
- Volunteer workload and training opportunities;
- Evictions and the AGO's Civil Rights Division;
- Landlord eviction tactics;
- Pro-Bono organization finances;
- And the King County Veterans Program.

11:45 AM: Ellen Austin Hall provides an update on the AGO's legislative agenda and federal comment letters.

11:50AM: Ms. Bruce introduces the "Veterans Hero" Award, presented by the Attorney General to OMVLA volunteer attorneys.

11:55 AM: For the good of the order.

11:57 AM: Adjourned