

Minutes of the Federal Practice Section

April 11, 2007

In attendance were:

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Hon. Janet Arterton, David Atkins, Jeffrey Babbin, Francis J. Brady, Peter L. Costas, Richard Gora, Hon. Janet Hall, Dorit S. Heimer, Anthony Kaplan, Patrick Klingman, Daniel Krisch, Ethan Levin-Epstein (Co-Chair), Nancy Martin, Jon Orleans, Christopher Perry, David N. Rosen, Paul Sanson, David R Schaefer, Frank J. Silvestri, David A. Slossberg, Eric Smith, Brian E. Spears, Elizabeth Stewart, Jonathan Tropp (Co-Chair), and Hon. Stefan Underhill.

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The meeting was called to order by Jonathan Tropp at 6:35 p.m. at the Quinnipiack Club in New Haven.

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1) Jonathan reported that the Federal Practice Section undertakes a number of activities, including providing CLE, and providing opportunities for interaction between members of the bench and bar with a mutual interest in the federal courts, both of which were on the program for the evening.

2) Jonathan reported that we would have a CLE program on Settlement Conferences and Mediation in the Federal Courts at CBA headquarters on May 29, 2007, with Judges Garfinkel and Martinez and Tim Shearin.

3) Jonathan reported that we will have a CLE program at the CBA annual meeting on June 18, 2007 on E-Discovery, and that registration can now be done online at ctbar.org.

4) Jonathan urged those in attendance to join us and to encourage their colleagues to join us for our annual Pine Orchard Social, which will be Wednesday, June 6.

5) In Chief Judge Chatigny's absence, Jonathan reported on some changes in the District, including that U.S. Atty. Kevin O'Connor has assumed the additional role of Chief of Staff to the Attorney General. He continues to serve as U.S. Atty. for Connecticut, while his deputy John Durham assures the smooth operation of the office. Additionally, he reported that Judge Vanessa Bryant has been sworn in as a district judge in Hartford.

6) Dan Krisch and Jeff Babbin gave an interesting presentation on Supreme Court Practice for the Connecticut Practitioner, including tips on how to make an appeal "cert worthy" and how to write a useful amicus brief, as well as entertaining anecdotes based on their own considerable experience practicing before the Supreme Court.

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The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,
Dorit S. Heimer
Secretary

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