

Employment and Labor Law Section Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Employment and Labor Law Section of the Idaho State Bar was held on November 19, 2008, at noon at the offices of the Idaho State Bar.

The following members were present:

Brian Benjamin
Erika Birch
Grant Burgoyne
Rob Dickinson
Scott Gingras (via phone)
Pamela Howland
Dean Martin
Neil McFeeley
Kim Pearson (via phone)
John Sahlberg
Julie Tetrack
Cydni Waldner

Cydni Waldner opened the meeting. The first item of business was upcoming meeting dates. There will be no meeting in December. Meetings will be held on January 28 and February 25.

Cydni then indicated that Julie Tetrack has volunteered to take on the secretary position left open by Karen Sheehan's recent resignation. Julie was congratulated and thanked.

Cydni then reviewed planned 30-minute CLEs. Brian Benjamin will give a presentation on the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 at the January meeting. Ideas for presentations at future meetings include discussion of the Administrative Procedures Act and the different agency procedures and due process for agencies in Idaho (David Fogg checking); Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) (Cydni checking); executive terminations; company bankruptcy and its effect on employer/employee relations issues is another idea (Rob Dickinson checking).

Idaho Partners Against Domestic Violence has asked for a donation. After discussion, it was moved and seconded to donate \$1000. Cydni will coordinate with Terri.

Cydni then asked Erika to review some items from the last meeting. Erika pointed out that the section website now contains links to websites members may find useful. She asked for additional suggestions or thoughts on what should be included there.

Erika then discussed sponsoring an Advocate issue. The section will co-sponsor the August 2010 issue with the Workers' Compensation section. Articles will be due by May 2010 so there is plenty of time to plan.

Erika also brought out some ideas about section activities: Employment Lawyer of the Year Award could begin in 2009; service activities with the schools, such as offering to present a 30-45 minute class on job activities (what's permitted; what's not; sexual harassment; pay requirements; etc.); a CLE with Judges presenting View from the

Bench; ½ day joint CLE with Workers' Compensation section; newsletter produced periodically to announce new ideas/programs and the new handbook when ready.

As there were no other items of business, the business portion of the meeting concluded, and Cydni then gave a 30 minute CLE on recent changes and updates to benefits law.

The meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on January 28th, 2009, at noon at the offices of the Idaho State Bar.