

DIVISION 1: LITIGATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION
STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT
ABA FORUM ON CONSTRUCTION LAW

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 12, 2021 Meeting

10:00 AM PT | 1:00PM ET

Sheraton Grand Seattle | Room: Cedar A (Second Floor)

OR

Join Via Zoom

<https://pierceatwood.zoom.us/j/97190439940?pwd=dHQzV2xVL2FSRU9EcDIVUDhBdWxYZz09>

Meeting ID: 971 9043 9940

Password: 738498

1. Steering Committee and Division 1 Member Attendees

Tom Dunn (Chair)	Joe Imperiale (SC)
Cassidy Rosenthal (Immediate Past Chair)	Katie Kohm (SC)
	Mike Lane (SC)
Kanita Williams	David Kent
Jessica Sabbath	Patricia Thompson
Allen Overcash	Janie Winning
Jeff Oslon	MJ Torres-Martin
	Jade Davis

Mission Statement: Enhancing advocacy skills of construction lawyers in trials, arbitrations, and mediations; and developing innovative ADR strategies and procedures.

1. Division 1 Events in Seattle

(a) Practicum – Technology in Construction Law @1PM Redwood A (2nd Fl).
The practicum was excellent. Attendance was perfect – the room was filled (even had to bring in additional tables). There was active participation by the attendees. Joe Imperiale and his team did a great job. As lessons learned, he noted:

- *Having a local participant was key. It helped drive local attendance. Ashley Sherwood from Oles Morrison did a great job!*
- *The practicum continues to be a great series to show D1's thought leadership and it is a great tool for membership engagement and recruitment.*
- *We need to be more proactive in making sure the practicum is handled similarly as the other programs for the national meetings. We received*

last minute requests for bios, headshots, waivers, etc. The meeting was not setup the morning of the program either. Going forward, we will make sure that the practicum chair is in direct and regular contact with one of the program co-chairs.

- (b) Division Lunch – expert hot tubbing. *We had a full room for our program (co-hosted with Division 10). Cassidy reported that the program was well received and that the experts did a great job with it. Thanks Cassidy for speaking at this event!*



- (c) Rhein Haus - <https://www.rheinhausseattle.com/>. Thursday at 8pm. Thanks to JS Held for sponsoring. We are partnering with Division 5 and Division 10. ***HOW MUCH FUN WAS THAT EVENT!!! JS Held did an excellent job at hosting the event.*** *We had 6 bocce ball courts and a whole area reserved at Rhein Haus. I am happy to report that Tony Lehman and I defeated Katie Kohm and Jason Cagle in a very close game. I thought the event was great for networking and team building. Here are a couple of photos:*



2. Membership Engagement and Growth

- (a) Division 1 Branded Gifts & Focus on Division 1 Member Recruitment. *We have the following as Division 1 branded items: (i) umbrella, (ii) lanyard, (iii) waterproof phone case, and (iv) desk crumbee. Items (i)-(iii) are branded orange colored. I handed out these items at the planning retreat and during*

the program to interested members. I left a few at the membership desk as well. The idea is to give back to our members through these gifts while also trying to bring in new members. I will bring these to upcoming meetings as we did in Seattle.

(b) Goal – provide opportunities for engagement, speaking, writing, networking. *Some of the ideas we discussed were:*

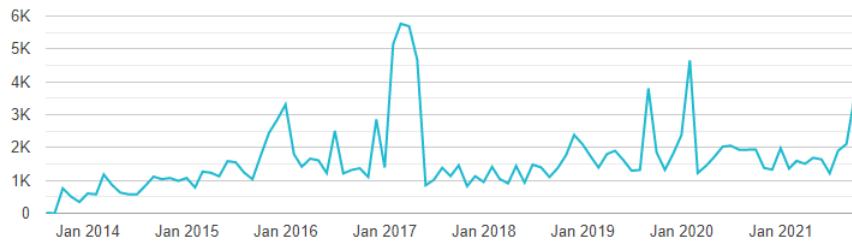
- (i) *Law Student Engagement. Janie mentioned that engaging with law students is great. We can have programs on ADR and construction law topics. Do some role playing exercises as well. These can be virtual or in person.*
- (ii) *NAWIC. MJ talked about a recent meeting where she met the NAWIC executive committee. They created a new D+I committee and are eager to collaborate. MJ will continue the discussion with them and we can plan out some events (in person or virtual) over the bar year.*
- (iii) *CLC. Do more joint programing with the Section of Litigation Construction Litigation Committee. This should benefit both groups as we have similar focuses. I met the new co-chair for the CLC while in Seattle. I will work with both co-chairs to see if we can increase our collaboration.*
- (iv) *Toolbox Talk Series. HUGE SUCCESS this year!!! We held these 30-minute discussion programs in April, May, June, September, and October. Jade Davis and her team have been great with developing this concept into a realty. For those of you who do not know, the TTS programs are 30-minute zoom programs (typically 4th Thursday of the month) on a discrete litigation or ADR topic. Two discussion leaders guide a discussion at 12PM ET. Going forward, we will map out each of these programs for 2022 later this year so we can promote the full series.*

- IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE TTS PLANNING TEAM OR PLANNING ONE OF THESE PLEASE CONTACT ME (rteddunn@pierceatwood.com).

(c) The Dispute Resolver. *Catherine Delorey and her TDR team have done a great job with this blog. Over the life of the blog, we have had 162,000 views. 21,300 views alone in the past year! We publish case summaries, litigation/ADR tips, Division I Neutral Features, and other content such as promoting programs and events. I also try to do a message from the chair every month or so. **This is a great opportunity to be published. Please contact me for more information.***

The Dispute Resolver -- Division 1 (Litigation & Dispute Resolution) Blog

Views



162K

19

- (d) [ABA Connect](#). *We discussed that this webpage has not lived up to its promise. It is not being used as a discussion forum/community. Rather, it is a place to post upcoming programs and events. Some divisions have had some success using this as an expert/attorney referral source. Katie Kohm will continue to explore ideas on how we can use this website. We do periodically review our new members (adds/drops).*

3. Concepts / Special Programs Committee & Ideas

- (a) Concepts Team: Joe Imperiale, George Fink, Lexie Pereira, Chris Stanek, Laura Brazil, Nicky Steen. *Joe and this team are working to develop a series of ideas for the concepts book. The Forum incoming Chair uses these program ideas for his/her upcoming programs. Submissions are requested by NOW (early November). **This is a great way to obtain a speaking opportunity.** Please contact me if you have ideas for the concepts book team.*

4. Planning for Upcoming Bar Year (Outside of In-Person Meetings)

- (a) Monthly Meetings – *2nd Monday of the Month at 3PM ET. There was some discussion about changing the regular time. No change will be made at this time.*
- (b) Toolbox Talk Series – *4th Thursday of the Month at 12PM ET for 30 minutes. We will plan out the 2022 programs by the end of 2021. If you are interested, contact me.*
- (c) Virtual Programs
- (i) Jury Selection (Jason) – *targeting late January for this virtual program*
 - (ii) Other programs from Trial Deskbook

5. Planning for Upcoming In-Person Meetings (identify and discuss open programs)

2022. If you are interested in planning/speaking at these practicums, please contact me.

- (e) **Jan/Feb 2023:** Midwinter Meeting – Date TBD / Location Puerto Rico
 - (i) Practicum: Construction Trial Advocacy – Part II
- (f) **April/May 2023:** Annual Meeting – Date TBD / Location TBD
 - (i) Practicum: Construction Trial Advocacy – Part III

6. Division 1 Liaisons to Forum's Standing Committees / Groups – we have a new Pubs chair – Rebecca Takacs from Oles Morrison (Oakland office) and a Tufts Alum like me! Congrats and thank you Rebecca!

- (a) Young Lawyers – Lexie Pereira
- (b) In-House Counsel – Edward Green
- (c) Membership – Marissa Downs
- (d) Technology – Brett Henson
- (e) SPEC (Special Programs and Education) – George Fink
- (f) Diversity – Jessica Sabbath
- (g) Publications – Rebecca D. Takacs
- (h) Marketing – MJ Torres-Martin