

Board of Directors
National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards, Inc.
Tuesday, June 14, 2005
9:00 a.m. (PDST)
Telephone Conference Call

Present: John VanBolt, President; Judge Ron Stovitz, Past President; Karen Watkins, President-Elect; Elaine Bixler, Board Member; Judge Bill Lucero, Board Member; and George Riemer, Secretary. A guest participant for part of the meeting was Donna Roberts, administrator of the Louisiana Disciplinary Board.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

Ms. Watkins moved, Ms. Bixler seconded, and the board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 17, 2005 special meeting with one typo to be corrected by the secretary (advice to advise).

2. Program Committee.

The board discussed the composition of the program committee for the next annual meeting and it was agreed by consensus that the committee would consist of Karen Watkins, chair, Judge Stovitz, Judge Lucero, Elaine Bixler, and Liz Row of Louisiana. Mr. Van Bolt indicated he would participate ex-officio as President. The Program Committee will go forward in its planning for the 2006 annual meeting.

3. Meeting Site in New Orleans.

Ms. Roberts provided information about the location of her office and the location of the major hotels and Supreme Court Building in New Orleans. Two spots mentioned for the 2006 annual meeting were the PAN-AM Building and the Supreme Court Building. Ms. Roberts indicated that it would help if the board made a formal request to hold its meeting in the Supreme Court Building. Mr. Riemer moved, Ms. Watkins seconded, and the board unanimously approved having Mr. Van Bolt send a letter requesting that NCLDB be allowed to use an appropriate sized meeting room in the Louisiana Supreme Court Building to hold the 2006 annual meeting. [Mr. Van Bolt has since sent such a letter.]

4. Louisiana Disciplinary Board Training Session.

Ms. Roberts indicated that her office was in the process of scheduling its 2006 training session for the members of the Louisiana Disciplinary Board and she could select a date that was close to the 2006 NCLDB annual meeting date. She invited members of NCLDB to attend her board's training session. The members of the board thanked Ms. Roberts for this invitation. It will add to the benefit of attending the 2006 annual meeting and was wholeheartedly endorsed by the board.

It was suggested that Brigette Bertrand get in touch with Donna's assistant, Jennifer Stewart, to start checking out hotel possibilities for sleeping rooms for attendees. Jennifer's number is 1-800-489-8411.

5. Texas Tax Issues.

Mr. Riemer indicated he was still waiting to receive the decision of the IRS on NCLDB's application for 501(c)(3) status. If the application is approved, it will solve most of the issues with the Texas Comptroller of Accounts. That status will not affect the issue of the application of the Texas Hotel Tax to NCLDB, but that should not be a big issue.

6. Financial and Membership Update.

As Sally Akins was not available for this conference call, it was agreed that a financial and membership update will be carried over to the next meeting of the board.

7. Web Site.

Mr. Riemer indicated that if anyone had any information about their agency, board or disciplinary process that they would like to have posted on the NCLDB web site, please let him know.

8. List Serv.

Ms. Watkins wondered if two list servs could be established, one for volunteers and one for staff. Mr. Van Bolt indicated that the list serv should be promoted as a very useful tool to quickly acquire information. The National Organization of Bar Counsel list serv is very effective. It was decided by consensus that the members should be surveyed on their desires for two list servs in connection with the survey distributed at the annual meeting next year. Mr. Riemer indicated that creating two list servs would require approval of the ABA and would also require two list serv administrators. As the present NCLDB list serv is not used very much, he felt the idea of better publicizing the existing list serv made the most sense at this point in time.

9. Next Meeting Date.

The board will meet again by conference call on Wednesday, September 7, 2005.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of July, 2005.

George A. Riemer
2005-2006 Secretary