

**RHODE ISLAND BAR ASSOCIATION**

**Federal Bench/Bar Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Jury Assembly Room**

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Welcome**

Pat Rocha welcomed members to the January meeting and noted the great meeting turnout.

**II. Annual Meeting Program**

George Lieberman reported that the Committee will be presenting a seminar at the Annual Meeting scheduled for June 13 and 14, 2013 and asked that any topic suggestions be forwarded to him.

**III. Local Rules**

Stacey Nakasian, Co-Chair of the Local Rules Review Committee, reported that the Court is expected to approve amendments to the Local Rules effective January 15, 2013. Stacey also reported that a subcommittee has been formed to address electronic discovery issues and the first meeting will be scheduled in March.

**IV. Jury Instruction Project**

Tony Traini and Mike Levin reported on the Criminal and Civil Jury Instructions, respectively. The Criminal Jury Instructions are currently available on-line and continue to be updated as new instructions are given by the judges. Mike Levin reported that the Committee is working on finalizing the Civil Jury Trial Instructions and hopes that the project will be completed in the near term.

**V. University Symposium**

Howard Merten reported that the Committee is working to schedule another symposium jointly with Johnson & Wales University. If anyone is interested in working on the Committee, they should contact Howard directly. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for January 30.

**VI. 2013 District Conference**

Ray Ripple confirmed that the 2013 District Conference will be held on October 10<sup>th</sup> and the venue has yet to be determined; however, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will be the keynote speaker.

**VII. CM/ECF Update**

Frank Perry gave an update on CM/ECF, including the additional \$50 filing fee for civil actions effective May 1, 2013, as well as electronic filing for civil complaints. The electronic filing is currently a work in progress and hopes to be rolled out later this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia K. Rocha  
Chair