**PROBATE BENCH-BAR COMMITTEE MEETING**

Overview from February 8, 2021

Location: Zoom

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Notes from the meeting:

* Speakers and ideas for topics are needed for the annual guardian ad litem CLE seminar (to be held in late May or early June). Even if you do not wish to be a speaker, please do not hesitate to contact Katy Borowski or a co-chair with ideas for topics.
* The Mental Health Task Force may have someone available to speak on alternatives to guardianships (e.g., conservatorships, supported decision-making) and advocacy regarding the right to vote.
* The list for GALs is being updated. Please check to ensure that you are on the appropriate lists for GAL and adversary counsel appointments. Bilingual GALs continue to be needed. Please spread the word among your colleagues.
* The catch-up on Watts hearings (held on Zoom) continues. The annual report is required before a Watts review. Contact Lee if no report has been filed.
* There is still no definite plan to return in-person to court. Please remind clients that although the hearings are on Zoom, courtroom etiquette still applies: no eating, background distraction, or recording of the hearing. The only official record is the court record.
* Petitions for extensions on the Order to Show Cause hearings should be submitted at least two days in advance.
* The Zoom identification and passcodes are the same for hearings scheduled on Monday afternoons and Wednesdays; the information for the Tuesday and Thursday hearings are also the same. The guardianship hearings heard on Monday mornings have different Zoom identification and passcodes from Monday afternoon hearings.
* Donnie Ness has announced his retirement. Veronica and Lisa are assisting with hearings for the calendar in Room 408.
* Reminder: notes from previous meetings of the Probate Bench-Bar Committee can be found at [https://milwbar.memberclicks.net/probate-bench-bar](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fmilwbar.memberclicks.net%2fprobate-bench-bar&c=E,1,qcQO2LxGG65z_CamguRmq-9EHosO2OvmmbgFGe1XtaPZq7wV_9Z2rmocFFXFkc0uPrP2KvDLkjlm5sbjrwOmPfLshsVOlt2Nbe4Hb5pyK0I,&typo=1).
* The next Bench-Bar Meeting via Zoom will be on Monday, March 8 at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy L. Shue