

MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2001 CONSUMER LAW COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark McQuality at the Austin Convention Center. He made no comments.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 30, 2001, council meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl Turner reported that there was a \$2,000 loss for the year due to no income from CLE. She expects increased income from increased membership dues rate. The Texas Consumer Law Journal was over budget by \$6,000. A section financial report was distributed.

History of Consumer Law Section Chairs: A list of consumer law section chairs was passed out.

Nominations: Tracy McCormack reported the following nominations for officers for the 2001-2002 term:

Chair - Tracy McCormack
Chair-Elect - Cheryl Turner
Secretary - Eliot Shavin
Treasurer - Charles Levy

Tracy reported the following nominations for council members with terms expiring in 2004:

Steve James - El Paso
Craig Jordan - Dallas
Russ Horton - Austin

Arbitration Project: Eliot Shavin reported on the progress of the arbitration project in Dan Rentfro's absence. A draft of an arbitration brochure entitled "Buyer, Beware: A Consumer's Guide to Arbitration in Texas" was distributed. A grant from the Texas Bar Foundation may be sought but may not be needed. Eliot hired a former student to draft the brochure. He asked the council members for comments to be directed to his e-mail address: eshavin@mail.smu.edu. Funding may be necessary if distribution is wider than presently anticipated.

Comprehensive Consumer CLE: Cheryl Turner reported that there will be a planning session at the next council meeting,

Ultimate Insurance CLE: Charles Levy reported that he has received no accounting from the State Bar. Evaluations have been received and distributed to the speakers. They indicate that the seminar was well-received and that the speakers were good. The section will receive no money from this seminar if less than 150 people attended, or perhaps \$3000.

Advanced Business & Commercial Litigation CLE: Tracy McCormack, Mark McQuality and Richard Alderman were speakers. The evaluations were very complimentary, but the seminar was poorly attended.

Consumer Law Journal: No report.

Membership: The section is up to approximately 1900 members.

Consumer Bankruptcy: No report.

Web Page: John Dwyre reported that the section's web page is not posted yet. He has received the bylaws and has incorporated it into the design. It will also include a list of the officers, statements from the officers, a list of consumer lawyers, a list of board-certified attorneys, the Texas Journal of Consumer Law, and news about seminars. There may also be a revenue source for hyperlinks from different people. Manny Newburger congratulated John, but cautioned that advertising revenues may be in violation of State Bar rules.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mark McQuality commented that the name change proposal passed at the previous meeting could not be implemented due to notice provisions. Manuel Newburger reported on the Council of Sections. Vidal Martinez wants to reach out to the sections. He talked about increasing the representation of the sections on the State Bar Board.

Adjournment: Upon motion and second, the council meeting was adjourned.

Attendees:

- Tracy McCormack
- Mark Aschermann
- Cheryl Turner
- Eliot Shavin
- Charles Levy
- Skip McCormack
- Manuel Newburger
- John Dwyre
- Rick Schell
- Sealy Hutchins
- Joseph Callier
- Mark Kincaid
- Mark McQuality