

Ethics and Professionalism Committee
Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2020

- I. Call to Order and Welcome @ 1:35 pm
Participants: Judge Parent, Judge Welch, Mag. Cummins, Ms. Meiring, Judge Miller, Judge Siamas and Judge Williams

Staff: Diane Mains

- II. The September 18, 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

- III. 2020 Committee Activities – the Committee agreed to provide one or more education sessions to and/or create materials for judicial officers this year. Election topics were discussed:

- (1) what are permissible election activities;
- (2) what are staff of judges who are in their election cycle;
- (3) use of social media;
- (4) money collection;
- (5) PayPal donation button on campaign page is a gray area; and,
- (6) campaign messages – what is misleading?

Panel members for the education session on elections: Judge Miller, Judge Avery, Judge Miskimen (Judge Welch to contact her to ask)

Ideally the Committee would like to present at the 2020 Spring Judicial College as the Annual Meeting is so late in the year. Diane will talk with Vicki about agenda space for the Spring Judicial College and report back to the Committee.

Other education session topics discussed: ex parte communication; charitable donations particularly in problem-solving courts along with community activities; how to be a good supervisor, good management skills (delays, things fall through the cracks, gifts, etc)

Annual Meeting: social media (including ex parte communication) and good management for topics

Top 10 potential ethical pitfalls for new judges – perhaps as a handout for the new judge orientation

- IV. 2020 Meeting Schedule

- April 1, 2020 (Spring Judicial College in Indianapolis) (date subject to change based on space availability during the conference; time TBD)
- September 16, 2020 (Annual Meeting in South Bend) (date subject to change based on space availability during the conference; time TBD)

- V. Adjourn @ 2:04 pm