

# LAWYERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES – OCTOBER 7, 2019

The Lawyers Advisory Committee met at the Hilton East Brunswick. The meeting was convened by Chair Thomas R. Curtin at 6:45 p.m. and the following occurred:

1. The Chair invited a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2019 meeting. The motion was made, seconded and the minutes were approved.

2. Thomas Curtin congratulated Karol Corbin Walker for having received the Advocati Christi Award at the Red Mass. The Chair also congratulated Sharon King as the recipient of the John F. Gerry Award, given by the Camden County Bar Association.

The Chair requested that each member in attendance introduce him/herself to the committee and introduced new members.

3. Chief Judge Freda L. Wolfson delivered her first LAC Report:

The Chief Judge expressed her gratitude to the members of the Committee. She then introduced the Court's two new Magistrate Judges, Edward S. Kiel and Zahid N. Quraishi.

The Chief announced the dates of the memorials for Judges William Walls and Jerome Simandle.

She reported that the District Court's judicial vacancies currently number six, in the face of a significant spike in criminal and civil filings. The criminal and Hatch-Waxman patent matters will be prioritized.

The Chief announced that in the future, she intends to schedule LAC meetings more frequently.

The Chief announced that the 2020 Third Circuit Conference, scheduled for May 13-15 in Philadelphia, will be open to attorneys.

4. In his introduction of Craig Carpenito, U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, reported that the U.S. Attorney's Office now consists of 10 units and has grown to 170 Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs). Carpenito reported that the Office's white-collar crime unit has as many AUSAs as the other units.

Carpenito announced that on October 23, 2019, Attorney General William Barr will be recognized and presented the award for "Violent Crime" Initiative by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.

The number of criminal complaints (arrests), informations and indictments has increased significantly during the past 6-12 months, due to the newly created units.

5. Keith Miller, President of the Court's Historical Society, reported that a Judicial Reception will take place in Newark on November 21 at 5:00 pm.
6. Regarding Appendix S of our local rules ("Discovery Confidentiality Order"), Dennis Drasco and Magistrate Judge Wettre recommended, on behalf of the subcommittee, that no revisions be adopted but rather, that the text of the form of order be edited.
7. Steve Richman provided a status report on the Court's adoption of a local rule requiring disclosure to adversaries of third-party funding. After discussion, the subcommittee decided to continue studying the matter. Additional LAC members joined this subcommittee. The original members, Steve Richman (chair), Phil Sellinger, Lisa Rodriguez, Justin Quinn, Elizabeth Sher, Sharon King and Michael Furey, were joined by new members, Hon. John W. Bissell (RET), Peter Harvey, Jeffrey Greenbaum, Peter Pearlman and Dennis Drasco.
8. Edward Kole questioned whether our L. Civ. R. 33.1 (Interrogatories) should be amended to follow SDNY Local Rule 33.3, restricting interrogatories. Curtin recommended that a subcommittee be appointed to study this matter. The following members were selected: Edward Kole, (chair); Arnie Calmann; Michael Griffinger; Jeffrey Greenbaum; Elizabeth Sher; Karen Confoy; and Magistrate Judges Leda Wettre and Zahid Quaraishi.
9. On behalf of Judge Michael Chagares (Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Judicial Conference on Appellate Rules), Curtin presented the topic of placing a time limit for filing on ECF. Curtin reported that the District of Delaware has a 6:00 pm deadline and this item will be continued to next meeting.
10. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John O'Brien

