

Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2018 Start Time: 10:00 AM

Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, 8 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD (AACCC)
Law Library Conference Room, Third Floor

Introductions

Steve Anderson (MSLL), Catherine McGuire (MSLL), James Durham (MSLL) Judy Lohman (Frederick Co.), Stephanie Levasseur (Baltimore Co.) , Kate Martin (Montgomery Co), Mary Jo Lazun (Charles Co.), Joan Bellistri (Anne Arundel Co.) Florence Barnes (Carroll Co.)

Guest: Siobhan Madison, Civil Justice

Welcome by the Director of Court Operations, AACCC

Nancy Faulkner, Director of Court Operations

Opportunity for Collaboration – Civil Justice, Inc.

Siobhan Madison, Civil Justice, Inc. Project attorney

Basics:

- 501(c)(3)
- Mission Economic Justice
- Grant Funded by Maryland Judiciary
- Target clients who do not qualify for legal aid
- Offers full scope representation in areas of consumer law, housing (landlord-tenant and foreclosure)
- Offers limited scope representation in areas of consumer law and family law

Limited Scope Representation

- The client pays for discrete services
 - Flat fee per service, no retainer
 - Detailed retainer agreement
 - Works best at the beginning of the legal process
 - The client remains “self-represented.”
- Civil Justice provides a network of attorneys who take limited scope cases
 - Set suggested fee per task, i.e., assistance with discovery, settlement agreement, drafting or answering a petition
 - Key: informed consent by the client
 - Limited scope representation does not mean inferior quality
 - No income verification but checks to see if there a means to pay
- Support for Attorneys

- Training on what to expect
- Referrals
- Detailed sample retainer agreements
- New rules enable limited appearance
- For Clients
 - Reduced cost
 - Great for DIYers
 - Clients know exactly what they are paying for and what the attorney does and what they are required to do
- For Courts
 - Higher quality of court filings
 - Self-represented understand the court process
- For Law Librarians
 - Important referral source
 - Know patrons will receive quick turnaround from intake to discussion with an attorney
 - Provide legal research assistance to both attorneys and clients
 - Librarians as the bridge between client and attorneys

Update on the Maryland Law Public Librarian Training Program

Catherine McGuire, Maryland State Law Library

- PowerPoint being updated for each class. Catherine keeping all versions
- Updated web site at MSLL for Public Librarians at <https://www.lawlib.state.md.us/audiences/publiclibrarytoolkit.html>
- Based on information from Siobhan Madison update class PowerPoint to expand limited scope representation
- Looking to expand modeling examples.

Greater eBook Availability

Steve Anderson, Maryland State Law Library

- West Academic online titles are now in the MSLL catalog

News of Committees and Groups

Mary Jo Lazun, Charles County Public Law Library, Director
Equity Committee not meeting until September

Joanie Bellistri, Anne Arundel County Public Law Library, Director
Court Access and Community Relations

- Committee working on update to Judiciary' strategic plan
- Working on getting courts ASL laptops
- Discussion on the upcoming, 2018 Self-Help Center Provider Conference. CCLLD eager to participate. Important to let people know what we can do and how we can help other providers

Round Robin: News of Conference Libraries

CMCLLD Members

Judy Lohman

Frederick County

- Library collection review and old materials removed with assistance from Kate Martin.
- New combined District and Circuit Court Self Help Center coming soon
- Staffed with Paralegal

Kate Martin

Montgomery County

- Gate with people counter
- Added microfilm digital printer
- 98% of renovation done

Joanie Bellistri

- Anne Arundel County
- New mdcourts.gov email address
- Canceled West LMA, huge increase in book costs, \$900 for one volume of the MLE
- Using LexisNexis books for training

Tonya Baroudi

Prince Georges County

- Everyday Law Series
- Programs on Estate Planning
- Doing Court House tours.

Florence Barnes

Carroll County

- MDEC training very helpful. Working with attorneys to get signed up
- MDEC kiosk access is very helpful

Steve Anderson

MSLL

- Replacing library admin position with a web services librarian
- HR audit of staff positions

Mary Jo Lazun

- Charles County
- Library cleanup coming soon along with new furniture

Upcoming speakers and initiatives

Kate Martin, CMCLLD Chair

Next speaker Dave Panzer of Md Pro Bono at Montgomery County