

A Senior Moment

Welcome to the initial edition of the newsletter for the Senior Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Arizona. We are the newest and largest division of the State Bar. We hope to send you this newsletter on a bi-monthly basis,

We had our initial meeting of the Executive Council of the Division under the leadership of Walter Nash, the president of the Council, in September. Shortly after that, we sent out a survey to all members of the division who we could identify. We have used your answers to the survey to choose the first four areas on which we intend to concentrate. Here's what these areas are and what's going on in each area.

Pro Bono Services: Many of you indicated that you'd like to continue practicing at least on a limited basis even though you may be inactive or retired. The good news is that you can do this. Under Rule 38, Arizona Rules of the Supreme Court, retired and inactive members are allowed to practice with legal service providers such as Community Legal Services, Step Up to Justice or other groups which provide legal services for free to otherwise underserved populations. Under the leadership of Commissioner Dean Christoffel, an Executive Council member of this Division, this committee will provide you with information on how you can be connected to a legal service provider and what you can do as a lawyer for these people who need your help. You can reach Commissioner Christoffel at dchristoffel@sc.pima.gov

Mentoring: Many of you indicated also that you were interested in mentoring younger lawyers, in response to the survey to all Division members. The State Bar is in the process of creating several different mentoring programs that are not yet in final form. There is also the opportunity to serve as a mentor in a less structured fashion. In addition, the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar wants to have a group of

experienced lawyers to call upon to serve as speakers and panel members for students at the law schools,

Please let us know if you would be willing to serve as a mentor or speaker/panel member. If so, please indicate the subject area you prefer (for example, a specific area of practice such as bankruptcy, personal injury, criminal defense or prosecution, etc; large or small firm practice; how to enter private practice; how to open an office; practicing in a small community and/or anything else.)

Your responses should be sent to the SLD State Bar liaison, Stephanie Austin at Stephanie.Austin@staff.azbar.org. Please include your phone number (your email address will be in your response).

Transition: Judge (ret.) Louis Araneta heads this committee. Those who responded to our survey indicated that they'd like to retire or were thinking of retiring but had questions on how to do so ethically and what to do after they successfully retired or reduced their practice load. This committee will help provide advice through articles, connections to other lawyers and future CLEs or programs in this arena. Expect to get a separate email from Judge (ret.) Araneta and his working group soon.

Keeping you engaged: The committee responsible for this newsletter is charged with keeping you interested and involved with the State Bar. *A Senior Moment* will be a primary vehicle to achieve this goal. To accomplish this goal, we need your help. We need to know what you are doing and what you want to hear about.

What do we want to include in each edition of *A Senior Moment*? First, we want to include your news. Did you (or some other senior lawyer you know) just receive special recognition from the Mayor or from the organization for which you volunteer or from the State Bar? Let us know so we can highlight it. What are you doing as part of your practice or as part of your retirement? What do you want to know more about - technology, history, new books? It's what you are interested in doing or

reading about that we want to cover. Please send any news or ideas you have to sallybob75@comcast.net

Here's an example of the news we'd like to share with you. Denise Blommel served for 20 years on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts - Arizona Cactus-Pine Council. In November, she was honored with the first ever Impact Award, the highest volunteer award of the Council. The award recognizes a volunteer "whose leadership and enthusiasm for Girl Scouts has ignited a flame of excellence passed to all members of the Council, as well as the community outside of Girl Scouts." Congratulations to Denise!

We, as a section, also hope to present CLEs on subjects of interest to you. These may include specific CLEs on pro bono work or transition or they could cover how to be a mentor. They also could cover topics such as technology or anything else that you might suggest,

This is your newsletter and your section. It will only be of benefit if you all tell us what you want to know about or what you are doing. You can send your comments to sallybob75@comcast.net or to walternashlaw@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you all.