



**Coastal Inn of Court  
Board Meeting 12/4/2020**

Board Member Attendance: Abby Saunders; Honorable Blake Hewitt; Dominic Starr; Ian Maguire; Natasha Hanna; Melissa Frazier; Karolan Ohanesian; Mark Napier

**I. Call to Order & Welcome by President Abby Saunders**

**II. Nominating Committee**

Dominic Starr indicated our membership is generally comprised of Horry County litigation attorneys. Since we are a relatively new Inn, a majority of the members are Masters. Discussion of potential new members consisting of Reese Boyd; George Bryan; Seth Frederick; and Ron Hazzard. The Board decided to extend invitations to George Bryan, former student member and Ron Hazzard, as new Chief Public Defender.

**III. Platinum Status Update**

Melissa Frazier and Karolan Ohanesian provided an update on Achieving Excellence Platinum status. We have currently met all deadlines for Platinum status. There are several items that we will check with National Inn of Court Chapter Relations Director, Michelle Runge, to confirm what has previously been submitted when we obtained our charter. Next week Melissa Frazier will be meeting with our new website coordinator, Hunter Holland, on uploading the required items to the Inn Management System.

Platinum requires four submissions to the national program library, which will be challenging during this pandemic. We will try to utilize the September 24, 2020 program on Fast Track Jury Trials and Focus Groups as well as something from the January 2021 Legislative Update and February Health/Wellness programs. We will also look into possibly recording the History of the American Inns Statewide meeting presented by Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals James Lockemy.

Abby Saunders will look into submitting an outline of our mentoring efforts and Judge Hewitt and Mark Napier will draft a description of our community outreach program for submission to National.

**IV. Financial Update**

Melissa Frazier provided a financial update of our current status. She has submitted the annual operating budget and paid our national dues in full. A majority of the fee for our banquet honoring the South Carolina Court of Appeals scheduled for April 22, 2021 was previously paid.

Due to being unable to hold in person meetings due to COVID-19, the Board voted to decrease membership dues this year. New dues will be \$300.00 for private attorneys and \$150.00 for Judiciary and Public Sector employees. We will re-evaluate these dues next year.

**V. Statewide Inn of Court Meeting**

Abby Saunders has spoken with Judge Lockemy about possibly rescheduling the Statewide meeting to February 2021. She will confirm with him and let us know.

**VI. Public Service Committee**

Judge Blake Hewitt and Mark Nappier discussed possible outreach programs of the Special Olympics (fall) and Alzheimers Walk (Spring). They will also look into formulating a description of our community outreach program for submission to the National Office as part of our Platinum status requirement.

In the next membership email ask that any members that are interested in serving on this committee to please contact Mark Nappier. If any board member learns of a good outreach opportunity please let him know.

**VII. Professionalism Award**

The American Inn of Court Professionalism Award is for a lawyer or judge whose life and practice display sterling character and unquestioned integrity, coupled with ongoing dedication to the highest standards of the legal profession and the rule of law.

A committee consisting of Judge Hewitt; Abby Saunders; Ian Maguire; and Melissa Frazier was formed to nominate Judge Lockemy for this award.

**VIII. Upcoming Inn Meeting**

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2021 and is being led by Group Leaders Judge Blake Hewitt and Christopher Kinon. This will be a virtual meeting in light of pandemic concerns. It is hoped to be a Legislative Update provided by many of our current members.

**IX. Bylaws Committee**

Ian Maguire and Natasha Hanna are chairing this endeavor to update and refine our current bylaws. Some areas to be considered include Nominations as well as Officer and Committee Descriptions.

**Adjourned**