**Ethics Subcommittee Conference Call Minutes**

Thursday, February 25, 2021 12:00 p.m. EST

Subcommittee Chair Peter Kiefer convened the conference call:

On the Call:

Joe Tommasino

Karl Thoennes

Norman Meyer

* Approval of the January 28, 2021 Minutes

Minutes were approved.

* Update on Catalog of Ethics Codes, Survey, and Information

Thanks to Angie VanSchoick for posting court employee ethics codes from Arizona; New Jersey; Maryland; Washington State; King County, Washington; and the Hawai’i state employees’ code. By the latest count there are 51 different ethics codes posted on the ethics web page.

* Update on Depiction of Ethics Issues and Challenges

A discussion ensued regarding possible topics for future Question of Ethics video conversations. In that discussion Joe Tommasino suggested an episode on court employees who were faced with the challenge of a judge who might be acting inappropriately. This suggestion was also a timely addition to the *Depiction of Ethics Issues and Challenges* (added in the current revision).

* Ethics Column Moving Forward

Since the *Court Manager* is now completely electronic, the *Question of Ethics* column will convert to a video discussion format. The first video column is expected to appear in the spring edition.

Some topics for future *Question of Ethics* video conversations came up. Judicial behavior was already mentioned. (Norman Meyer suggested we contact Cynthia Gray as part of this upcoming episode.) Others:

* What have been court experiences with union representation? Are ethics canons negotiable items in union-management discussions?
* Are there differences between general government ethics codes (e.g., municipal employee codes) and court ethics codes?) When there are differences, which one do employees follow and what effect does that have?
* Next conference call.

Thursday, March 25, 2021, 2:00 p.m. EST