



**NACM Governance Committee  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes**

A conference call via telephone of the NACM Governance Committee was held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 4:00 PM (EST). The meeting was called to order at 4:01 PM (EST) by Greg Lambard, Chair. The meeting proceeded as follows:

**I. Roll Call and Introductions**

The following committee members and guests were present:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| - TJ BeMent         | - Peter Kiefer      |
| - Kevin Bowling     | - Greg Lambard      |
| - Vicky Carlson     | - Rick Pierce       |
| - Charleston Carter | - Janet Reid (NCSC) |
| - Mark Dalton       | - Will Simmons      |
| - Julie Dybas       | - Angie VanSchoick  |
| - Frank Hardester   | - Mark Weinberg     |

**II. Review of Minutes**

The minutes from the September 19, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

**III. Resolution Sub-Committee**

Rick Pierce reviewed the resolutions that his sub-committee is looking to have moved forward to the Board. All of the resolutions submitted were approved as follows:

- Supported Resolution 3-2108 – In Support of the Reauthorization of Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act – Approved as submitted
- Supported Resolution 4-2018 – In Support of the Revised Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children – Approved as submitted
- Resolution 2-2018 – In Support of Increased Federal Funding for the State Justice Institute – Approved with the last line changed to “NOW, THEREFORE ... Management requests that Congress increase funding for the State Justice Institute.”
- Supported Resolution 5-2018 – In Support of Rules Regarding Default Judgments in Debt Collection Cases – Approved as submitted
- Supported Resolution 6-2018 – In Support of Improving the Justice System Response to Mental Illness – Approved as submitted

- Supported Resolution 7-2018 – In Support of a Review of Courthouse Cell Phone Policies – Approved as submitted
- Supported Resolution 8-2018 – Urging Congress to Appropriate Funds for the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act – Approved as submitted

Although we must allow 30 days for comment by NACM members, Greg asked if we could run the resolutions by the Board at the upcoming November meeting and ask for a preliminary vote. This way should we get no comments on any or all of the resolutions we would not need another Board vote. TJ BeMent and Kevin Bowling thought that would be acceptable.

#### **IV. Ethics Sub-Committee Report**

Peter Kiefer presented the draft changes to the Ethics Canons. He noted that while they had considered adding a new canon regarding problem solving courts, ultimately they decided the current canons offer enough guidance. Karl Thomas had actually drawn up a potential canon for problem solving courts, and a lot of the language got incorporated into the existing canons. Peter also noted the efforts of Joe Tommasino who put in a good deal of work perfecting the grammar in the document. With one or two minor edits the document was approved for submittal to the Board, by the Governance Committee.

Peter noted that the sub-committee will next be working on: developing lists of ethical challenges, scenarios, and issues; a potential survey for courts and AOCs to see if they have ethics review boards; and a compilation of ethical opinions. Peter said the compilation of scenarios will help illustrate how the code is important in day to day court office functioning.

#### **V. Review of the draft results from the Voice of the Profession Survey**

Greg reviewed the first draft compilation of responses from the Voice of the Profession Survey. While there were a few respondents who expressed the opinion that NACM should not do any advocacy, the vast majority did not express that concern. Public confidence in the courts and use of IT in the courts scored as the two highest issues/trends to advocate on. From the responses it appears that some NACM members are unaware of the information currently available from NACM, and as such it may be good to address that through a Court Express article or some other communication vehicle. Greg will be doing additional analysis and sharing it with the committee and the Board.

#### **VI. New/Other Business**

Greg noted that Julie Dybas' operations manual sub-committee had a very productive meeting and should be through a review of the operations manual within two more calls.

#### **VII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:55 PM (EST). The next meeting of the committee will occur at 2pm on Wednesday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm EST.

#### **Respectfully Submitted:**

Greg Lambard

Governance Committee Chair