

**Common Pleas & Appellate Courts Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Present: Neil Agarwal, J. Dean Carro, Larry Scanlon (Chair), Ron Swedlow, Hon. Thomas Teodosio, Regina M. VanVorous, C. Michael Walsh,

Larry provided a review of the previous discussions regarding the lack of funding for appointed attorneys' fees. Judge Teodosio explained that the courts have come up with a temporary solution by not granting extraordinary attorney fees and tightening the belt wherever possible. Currently, budget reductions are predicted for each of the coming years. The judges will continue to discuss the situation to come up with a resolution.

Other issues brought up by the committee regarding the appointed counsel process included the impression of the same attorneys being appointed repeatedly, and clients who are able to pay attorney fees are still being assigned counsel. Although there are affidavits signed, there is no verification process.

Dean Carro reported that a recent rule change now allows legal interns to assist in felony cases, which could be helpful to appointed attorneys. In addition, the University is working with City Council to set up an expungement program with law students. The program may need some support from the bar and the committee.

Common Pleas & Appellate Courts Meeting Schedule:

March 24<sup>th</sup>  
April 28<sup>th</sup>  
May 26<sup>th</sup>  
June 23<sup>rd</sup>

All meetings will begin at 11:45 a.m. at the Akron Bar Association office.

The meeting was adjourned.