

## Circle meeting

- Welcome and introductions
- Kirsten providing an update from the clerks office:

End of fiscal year. Last year anticipating a government shut down, this year we are not hearing anything about that potential. 2025 is looking pretty good and filings are up. Staffing salary amounts are coming up and we hope to add 1 or maybe 2 more people. Hope to focus on Eugene location.

Retirement coming up: Ben. Wealth of knowledge from years of experience

2 new term law clerks. Tom rats and nutta. Both will be at Salishan.

Proposed rules and form changes will be coming shortly for December first. Fewer than last year but would appreciate any comments.

Telephone hearing numbers are changing as we switch to Webex platform.

- Judge Pearson: term law clerk after Reece. Grace. Will be at annual meeting.
- Judge Renn: rules and forms – specifically ch 13 plan forms. We really appreciate comments during the comment period – NOT AFTER

Nada introduced herself as judge Renn new law clerk.

Circuit approval to get a new judge in Eugene. At the beginning of the process. Contingent on not filling his position when he retires. Term ends October 2025. Posting won't happen immediately but think about it if you are interested.

- Jonas: US trustee: recently updated safeguards for banking funds. Program wide initiative.

Locally = anticipate posting a vacancy Ch 5 trustee

Changed Ch 11 operating guidelines locally. Subchapter 5 and non subchapter 5. Coming out by the end of the month

Want feedback on zoom 341 meetings. Universally positive on their end but would like to hear if others feel differently.

No anticipated changed to Ch 7 panel trustees.

Series of retirements in Oregon the past few months. In a hiring phase right now. Some Seattle practitioners are helping out

- Jordan: Ch 13 motion to dismiss procedures filed by trustee – changes will happen October 1<sup>st</sup>. 28 day notice. No response means case can be dismissed. McKittrick initiated the change. If you want to be heard you need to respond. Does it apply to motions filed by creditors? Pearson isn't sure – we don't get very many by creditors. The court will take a look at it. The universal response form will be revised.

- Mike – pro bono program. Wants to know how many applications for pro bono are being accepted/being successfully assigned to attorneys. Also – there are situations where there are cash poor/asset rich debtors that are asking for and getting assistance. Should be focused on cash poor/asset poor debtors.

Kirsten will get stats for the Salishan meeting as there will be a session on it.

Pearson says it is for discrete tasks. She tries not to appoint it in cases where there are assets. Sees it more as someone who needs an hour or two to get on the right track, rather than a case where it will take a lot of time and involvement all the way through

Renn: it was a spinoff of district court and the discrete task purpose is the initial purpose. Also helpful at settlement conferences. Should be a limited basis-isn't designed for the situation where they need counsel throughout. If it takes more than an hour or so, there may be a way to structure it to include attorney fees in the plan. Judge renn is willing to work with that to create something that will work. He notes that often he signs an order and we still can't find a lawyer.

- Laura reached out to odr representatives john butler. John is also on debtor/creditor but will send Reece his email
- Reminder to register for Salishan if you haven't done so.
- Reece asked for any other updates from anyone present. No updates
- Next meeting date: November 13, 4:30. Reece will cover food for the next meeting
- Thanks to Kirsten for bringing food
- adjourn