

**FAMILY LAW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FAMILY LAW SECTION, OREGON STATE BAR MINUTES:
MARCH 5, 2026 AT NOON (VIA ZOOM)**

Chair: Alexander M. Jones
Chair Elect: Kayla Steindorf
Past Chair: Shallon Martin (absent)
Treasurer: Adam Shelton
Secretary: Patrick Melendy

Members at Large: Kristi Skalman, Katherine Denning, Stefanie Burke, John Michael Myers, Abby Cettel, Julia Newland, Catherine Gaskin, Lauren Barnhart, Brittney Sumner, Honorable Francis G. Troy, Honorable Jessica May (absent).

Oregon State Bar Liaison: Matthew Shields

Board of Governors Contact: John Marandas (absent)

A quorum was present.

AGENDA

Minutes: For February minutes, Kayla Steindorf made a motion to approve the February minutes and Lauren Barnhart second; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Adam Shelton presented the January financial report and upcoming budget issues including potential conference costs for 2026 and that the FLEC needs to decide what an increase in registration fees ought to be so we can cover conference costs this year. Current dues are \$35.00 with a total projection of \$26,000.00 in annual revenue from dues.

Continuing Business:

- 1. Conference Subcommittee Report:** Patrick Melendy and Kayla Steindorf reported. Conference committee has been meeting. All planning is well on its way. Speakers getting lined up. Discussion about making some cost cutting measures (from last year's conference), specifically limiting the budget for food on the Thursday and/or Friday night receptions that have been lightly attended in the past. Conference subcommittee meets next on March 31st.
- 2. Family Law Newsletter Report:** Stephanie Burke reported. Looking for input on how many articles should be in each newsletter. Continued work to get the newsletter back on track. Continued inquiry into who might take on the newsletter. Katherine Denning inquired about whether or not someone could get CLE credit for working on the newsletter. Matthew Shields will follow up on this and report back.
- 3. Website Report:** No report.
- 4. Legislative Subcommittee Report:** Abby Cettel reported. Tracking of four bills during the legislative short session including change to contempt statute; child abuse crime definition; John Myers reported that the child abuse bill was referred to the rules committee, and the proposed bill adds language broadening what constitutes child abuse as "threat of harm". Discussion by Judge Troy and Katherine Denning.
- 5. Awards Subcommittee Report:** Kristi Skalman reported. The subcommittee needs to meet. Looking for nominations in the Spring. Open to ideas on how to solicit more nominations this year as nominations in the past have been sparse. Discussion about placing an ad in the newsletter about the awards.

New Business:

Alexander Jones led discussion about RPC 1.14 being renamed “client with decision making limitations”. Kate Denning discussed the awards and proposed that the person who makes the nomination be the person to introduce the awards recipient. Discussion about letting the award winner choose who gets to introduce them.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2026, at Noon (Via Zoom)

Minutes prepared by Patrick Melendy, Secretary