

**ATTORNEY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 8, 2021 - VIDEOCONFERENCE**

The fourth annual full Attorney Advisory Committee meeting was held on November 8, 2021, via videoconference.

Chief Judge Hoffman provided opening remarks.

Chapter 11 subcommittee Co-Chairs, Robert Berner and Tiffany Strelow Cobb, introduced the members of the subcommittee. Updates to the Complex Chapter 11 Procedures were discussed including the recent election of Judge Preston as the Designated Judge for the Eastern Division, upon the expiration of Chief Judge Hoffman's term as Designated Judge. The subcommittee continues to monitor complex case procedures in other jurisdictions, including the Southern District of Texas. The subcommittee provided a report on the successes and shortcomings of virtual hearings during the pandemic.

The Consumer/Small Business Subcommittee Chair, Erin Renneker introduced the subcommittee members. Ms. Renneker provided an update to the committee on the status of bankruptcy case filings, which continue to trend downward. Ms. Renneker and committee member Jim Coutinho provided an update on the website improvement project. One subgroup is working on content for the updated website while another subgroup is creating an updated FAQ section.

Committee members Ed Boll and Wayne Novick led a discussion of the results of a post-pandemic technology survey. The group discussed whether virtual hearings should continue after the pandemic and agreed that evidentiary hearings should take place in person. While most agreed that virtual hearings save time and money, it is possible that virtual hearings will not continue after the COVID-19 pandemic ends.

Richard Jones, Clerk of Court, provided updates on district programs, including the appointment of Judge Hoffman as Chief Judge, the appointment of Judge Nami Khorrami, the implementation of NextGen CM/ECF, and upcoming programs such as Electronic Self Representation, GovDelivery, and electronic payments for debtors.

Finally, Richard Nelson, President of the Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference of the Southern District of Ohio provided an update to the group. The Bench-Bar Board is considering holding the next conference in October 2022 at the same venue as the last conference: Hope Hotel & Richard C. Holbrooke Conference Center, in Dayton, Ohio

The meeting was adjourned.