

**ATTORNEY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2022 – DAYTON, OHIO**

The annual Attorney Advisory Committee meeting was held on November 18, 2022, at the Dayton Courthouse.

Chief Judge Hoffman provided opening remarks.

Chapter 11 Subcommittee Update (Committee Chair/Subcommittee Co-Chair Tiffany Strelow Cobb)

After introducing the subcommittee members, Ms. Cobb provided an update on recent commercial bankruptcy trends. The subcommittee continues to monitor the progress of complex Chapter 11 procedures both locally and nationally. During the next term, the subcommittee will review procedures for cases filed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 and whether the Local Bankruptcy Rules, Forms, and Procedures should be updated accordingly.

Consumer/Small Business Subcommittee Update (Committee Vice Chair/Subcommittee Co-Chair, Sondra Bryson, and Subcommittee Co-Chair Ed Boll)

Ms. Bryson introduced the subcommittee members. Mr. Boll provided an update on recent consumer bankruptcy case filing trends. Ms. Bryson and Immediate Past Committee Chair, Erin Renneker, provided an update on the website improvement project. The committee proposed new menu headings, with a more user-friendly design. Additionally, the committee drafted updated content for the website and an extensive bank of frequently asked questions. The committee has finished its work on the project, and the Court will now review the proposal and incorporate changes to the website.

Committee member Nannette Dean presented a signature retention recommendation to the Judges. The committee recommends that the Court update the ECF Administrative Procedures to provide that a scan of an original signature has the same force and effect as a wet signature, thus removing the requirement that attorneys keep wet signatures on file. The subcommittee also explored a policy that would allow electronic signatures in lieu of physical signatures; however, this topic requires additional research before the subcommittee can make a formal recommendation to the Court.

Clerk of Court Report (Richard Jones)

Mr. Jones reviewed several new programs the Clerk's Office has initiated over the past year including acceptance of electronic payments from debtors through Pay.gov, the adoption of omnibus redaction procedures, the implementation of the GovDelivery notification system, the reorganization of General Orders on the Court's website, and the transition to housing opinions on the GovInfo website. In the upcoming months, the Clerk's Office will expand its use of virtual orders.

Bench-Bar Conference Update (President of the Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference of the Southern District of Ohio, Erin Renneker)

The next conference will be held on October 20, 2023, at the Hope Hotel & Richard C. Holbrooke Conference Center, in Dayton, Ohio. Ms. Renneker asked for volunteers from the committee to assist the board in planning the conference.

The meeting was adjourned.