

SEAN D. WALLACE
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHAIR
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**CONFERENCE OF CIRCUIT JUDGES
COMMITTEE ON COMPLEX LITIGATION**

**JUNE 16, 2022
4:30- 6:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual (Zoom)**

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

In attendance:

Judge Wallace, Chair

Judge Beckstead

Judge Ensor

Judge Fletcher-Hill

Judge Kehoe

Judge Rubin

Staff: Cynthia Jurrius, Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office

Welcome and Introductions

Judge Wallace was detained on the bench; committee members and staff each introduced themselves. Judge Wallace joined the meeting, welcomed the group, and began the agenda.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of the March 10, 2022 meeting were approved, with edits suggested via email to Committee members by Judge Ensor.

Mediator Approvals

The Committee reviewed the application of Suraj Vyas to be listed for designation as a Business and Technology mediator. Cynthia Jurrius reported that the Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office had provided a preliminary review to determine whether the applicant met the minimum requirements set forth in Rule 17-205. MACRO determined that the applicant met the threshold requirements and forwarded the application to the Committee for approval.

Committee members expressed concern about the applicant's depth of experience and noted the applicant's number of years at the Maryland Bar (admitted in 2017). Others noted that he appears to have a background in engineering and technology, and he states that he has been admitted as a U.S. Patent Attorney. Committee members also noted the value of diversity in mediator backgrounds. Committee members discussed whether the Title 17 Rules are intended to allow for discretion by the Committee, and determined that they would like to seek clarification on that question from Judge Wilner, Chair of the Rules Committee. Additionally, the Committee would like to seek more information from the applicant on the nature of the cases set forth in the application, specifically to determine whether they are the types of conflicts assigned to the Business and Technology Case Management Program, pursuant to Rule 16-308.

Cynthia Jurrius will draft two letters for the Committee's review; one addressed to Judge Wilner, seeking clarification on the discretion intended by the Rules, and a second to the applicant, seeking additional information regarding the types of conflicts he has mediated.

Business and Technology Work Group

Business and Technology Bootcamp (April 20-21, 2022): Judge Rubin reported that forty judges attended the program, and that the feedback from both the attendees and the speakers was very positive. There will be additional B & T related programs offered through the Judicial College; a course on October 18, 2022, and a webinar on August 18, 2023. Judge Rubin shared that discussions are underway regarding planning another bootcamp and noted that the program takes at least one year to plan.

Committee members discussed whether two or three days would be the optimal length of the program. Some noted the challenges of the time commitment of three days, others noted the depth and breadth of the material to be conveyed.

Judge Rubin will write an article on the Bootcamp for the MSBA Bar Journal.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for **September 21, 2022, 4:30 p.m., by Zoom.**