A logo with a fist holding a scale

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PDAP Board Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2024

Members Present: Julie Burke (President, Blair County), Chris Welsh (VP, Delco), Michael Halkias (Treasurer, Cumberland), Nicole Sloane Kondrlik (Asst. Treasurer, Erie), Carrie Allman (Asst. Secretary, CHU in Philly), Phillip Clabaugh (McKean), Autumn Johnson (Mercer), Nathan Schenker (Chester), Chirstopher Tallarico (Lancaster)

1. We took role
2. Executive Director Report
   1. ED Sara Jacobson provided a report on the what PDAP has done this year in terms of training, work for/with the Social Work, Investigator, and Mitigator Community, and in Policy & Advocacy space.
   2. She also discussed technology related advances, including our listservs, new social media presences
      1. private Instagram =[https://www.instagram.com/papublicdefenders/](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.instagram.com%2Fpapublicdefenders%2F&data=05%7C02%7Csara.jacobson%40temple.edu%7Cd074efdbdfd840f7abbd08dcfd01af46%7C716e81efb52244738e3110bd02ccf6e5%7C0%7C0%7C638663430917844335%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Mg9z%2FAIn%2B%2FGC4M7Mnn2eJJvZeuy44tUfH%2BEuhTVWmGw%3D&reserved=0)
      2. LinkedIn = <https://www.linkedin.com/company/public-defender-association-of-pennsylvania-pdap/>
   3. We talked about the existing online course in Preliminary Hearings and the one in development on pretrial motions,[[1]](#footnote-1) the new logo, and the new website.
   4. We expect the website will launch on 11/11, and will hold an online open house to learn more about it on 11/19 at 3pm <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89522209214?pwd=xRwlLddRzPfJ9mXK0wAZZuLDa2HQZy.1#success>
   5. We talked about PDAP’s financial position for the coming year. We passed our single federal audit with flying colors. PDAP is looking for Board members to create a finance committee. If you’re interested, please email Sara.
   6. Attached to these minutes is the PPT Sara used, for additional details.
3. Items Needing a Vote
   1. Nathan and Chris agreed to continue to serve on the Board (thank you)
   2. **Autumn volunteered to fill the empty spot as Secretary, left when Dave Crowley resigned. Autumn was approved by acclimation, and we thank Dave for his many, many years of service to PDAP.**
   3. We discussed whether to create a 501(c)3 in addition to our existing (c)6. Doing this would give us access to private funders and make us not solely dependent on government grants. There are some differences between 501(c)3s and (c)6s (also see the PPT slides)
      1. (c)6s – what we are now
         1. Include business leagues, chambers of commerce, real estate boards, boards of trade and professional football leagues, which are not organized for profit and no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder
         2. Can lobby
         3. Can accept government grants and funding, but many private foundations can’t or won’t give to (c)6s
      2. (c)3s – what we discussed adding
         1. Are organized for charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, and preventing cruelty to children or animals.
         2. Can’t lobby
         3. Donations to (c)3s are exempt from taxation
         4. Private donors, including foundations will give to (c)3s
   4. We discussed the differences between a (c)3 and a (c)6, and what would be needed to create a (c)3, including
      1. Articles of incorporation and new bylaws
         1. Following discussion, **Chris Welsh moved and Nathan Schenker seconded creating these documents for review of the PDAP Board. This vote passed with unanimous support.**
      2. A Board separate from the existing (c)6 Board
         1. We talked about who might serve on that Board. While there would be some Defenders, it wouldn’t be all Defenders.
         2. That Board would include people who are able to fundraise through their connections and in their individual capacity
         3. We would still have some limits of people not invited to serve on the Board- for example law enforcement
         4. The balance would be sorted out in the bylaws
         5. Board service here would be more rigorous than traditional PDAP (c)6 Board service has been
      3. Once articles of incorporation and bylaws have been approved, our nonprofit accountant would submit these to the state for a determination of status. This typically takes 3-6 months. Adding a (c)3 would change our tax filings. The level of complication and cost of the additional filing would depend on how much $ it took in.
      4. Sara asked people to send her names of folks in their area who would be good at serving on a potential 501(c)3 Board, so we can make sure that voices from across the state are represented
      5. If we make this split, policy advocacy would remain under the (c)6, subject to the governance of the Board of the (c)6. It is likely that the training expenses would move to the (c)3.

1. To access these courses, contact Andrew Capone at [Andrew@papublicdefenders.com](mailto:Andrew@papublicdefenders.com) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)