

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE APPELLATE COURTS SECTION
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Court of Appeal

Second Appellate District

Employee Lounge on Third Floor

300 S. Spring Street

Los Angeles, California 90013

“Making, Changing and Researching Legislation”

Moderator: Sarvenaz Bahar, Bahar Law Office

Panelists: Larry Doyle, Legislative Representative, Conference of California Bar Associations
Carol Ebbinghouse, Library Director, California Court of Appeal (2nd District) Law Library
Ralph Stahlberg, Director of Reference & Research, Los Angeles Law Library

Co-Sponsor: LACBA Delegation to the Conference of California Bar Associations

Attendees: George Abele
Rashida Adams
Bruce Adelstein
Elizabeth Anthony
Daniel Barer
Lisa Berger
Holly Boyer
David Canas
Curtis Cole
Dawn Cushman
Thomas Dunlap
Stuart Esner
Dennis Fischer
Harmony Gbe
Joseph Goldstein
Cassandra Goodman
Jo-Ann Grace

Roger Grace
Zeynep Graves
Jonathan Eisenberg
Ann Haberfelde
Christine Hoeffner
Maureen Home
Edward Horowitz
Lisa Jaskol
Laurence Jay
Terri Kelville
Natasha Khamashta
Jeanmarie Klingenbeck
Jens Koepke
Jonathan Kroncke
Matthew Levinson
James Link
Robert Little
David Luboff
Joy Morgen
Richard Nakamura
Linda Nakamura
Bradley Pauley
Julia Shear Kushner
Brian Sperber
Christopher Sutton
Pamela Villanueva
J. Alan Warfield
H. Thomas Watson
Roy Weatherup

Larry Doyle

Mr. Doyle described the process of developing and submitting resolutions through the Conference of California Bar Association. He also laid out the journey of a bill through the Legislature, which lasts from January through August/September. Two interesting points: 80% of bills are introduced in February, and the Legislative Counsel at the Legislature has the final word on the language of the draft bills.

Ralph Stahlberg

Mr. Stahlberg described various sources that exist for researching legislative intent, particularly reference books available at the L.A. County Law Library. He noted that C.C.P. § 1859 and Gov't Code § 9080 expressly provide that legislative intent is important to statutory construction. Law Revision Commission reports are useful and are available online and at the Library. The Library also has a useful legislative history checklist on its website. Probably the best evidence of legislative intent are the bill analyses done by various legislative committees. The *Kaufmann* opinion from the Third District is one of the best discussing the value of and use of legislative history.

Carol Ebbinghouse

Ms. Ebbinghouse focused on what free materials are available online in researching legislative intent. She provided a spreadsheet with the various types of legislative history and links to sites where that history is available. She also noted that videos are now available of floor debates in the Legislature on specific bills. She also noted that there is a new protocol for appending a watermark certification to online versions of statutes to certify that they are current and accurate.

Approved on November 19, 2015



Jens B. Koepke
Secretary, Appellate Courts Section