

Web-site and Technology Committee Meeting

May 1, 2008, 11:00 a.m.
Jones Hirsch Connors & Bull P.C.,
One Battery Park Plaza, 28th Floor.

The Web-site and Technology Committee meeting will take place at 11 a.m. on May 1, 2008. Please note that the meeting will again be at Jones Hirsch Connors & Bull P.C., One Battery Park Plaza, 28th Floor.

I propose the following as topics for discussion, but would welcome any additional topics you might wish to raise.

1. Website – The Board of Directors has requested that our Committee come up with information either from their home ports, or from other locations frequented by maritime lawyers, which would be useful for other MLA members. This would include information concerning local restaurants or hotels, as well as service providers such as court reporters, translators/interpreters, and marine surveyors. We can all think of a situation where we had to go out of town but did not know a good hotel close to the court-house, or the name of a good Greek interpreter. The thought is that the web-site would be a good central source for such information, and this committee has been requested to start the list. Therefore, I would ask that each of you who will attend the meeting should bring with you a list of hotels, restaurants, court reporters etc. that we could use as a starting point. If you will not be able to attend in person, please send me a list before the meeting and we can add it to the information collected at the meeting.
2. Technology –VOIP (voice over internet protocol): Has anyone had experience replacing a traditional phone system with VOIP and could discuss potential advantages, how it works, potential downsides, etc.
3. Update on the scanning/imaging of the MLA documents, and development of an indexing system so that the documents can be searched.
4. Technology: - Social networking sites such as Facebook, My Space and Linked-In. Do people use these sites; can they provide information useful to our cases e.g. photographs of a plaintiff in a personal injury case; do firms limit access to these sites because of potential violations of confidentiality; can they be used for advertising?

I look forward to seeing you all in New York.

Best regards,

Kevin G. O'Donovan
Chair