PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION
FAMILY LAW SECTION MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2017
Chair, Richard Bost, Esquire, presided.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: Richard called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. He welcomed everyone and acknowledged the presence of the Honorable Diane Thompson and Master Wayne Bennett.

II. CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO MINUTES: None

III. TREASURER’S REPORT: The financial information was not available as of the time of the meeting.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Anthony Vanore, former Equitable Distribution Master, passed away on September 16, 2017.

B. The Meeting Minutes from Family Law Section meetings on July 10, 2017 and September 11, 2017 were approved.

C. There is an opening for Secretary of the Section for next year’s Board and an opening on the Executive Committee.

V. PROGRAM: Implicit Bias – The Bias You Know You Have ... But Do – Presented by The Honorable Stella Tsai

A. What is “implicit bias” mean and how does it impact ever day life and decision-making. There are stereotypes based on the perception of physical features, appearance/dress and certain assumptions.

B. The definition of “bias” was provided.

C. An explanation of research in the area of bias was provided, including specifically The Implicit Association Test. Examples in everyday situations, personal and professional, was also discussed.

D. Implicit Bias exists in law, the judiciary and legislature. Recognition of disparate impact liability under the Fair Housing Act plays a role in discovering discriminatory intent and may prevent segregated housing patterns that can result from covert and illicit stereotypes.
E. Factors for De-biasing decision making was explained, including (i) think again; (2) using joint evaluations; (3) outline objectives; (4) then seek advice (5) think about options; (6) fight your ego.

F. Anticipate bias and be prepared.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Committee meeting times/dates and announcements are disseminated over the Family Law Section's listserv.

VII. GOOD & WELFARE: None.

NEXT SECTION MEETING: The Family Law Section's Holiday Party is December 7, 2017 at JAMES, 1835 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. There will be no monthly meeting in December.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting will be on December 16, 2017 on the 11th Floor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, Committee Room South at 1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

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Randi L. Rubin

Randi L. Rubin, Esquire
Secretary

ATTACHMENTS[0]: