

**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 11<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, Committee Room South at 1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

*Randi L. Rubin*

Randi L. Rubin, Esquire  
Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS(0):**