

**United States Bankruptcy Court
Southern District of Florida
Access and Engagement Committee
Friday, March 27, 2026
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (via Zoom)**

Members Present:

Hon. Laurel M. Isicoff
Jeffery Fraser (Non-judicial Co-chair)
Maite Diaz (Secretary)
Tara Trevorow (Vice-Chair)
Alexis Garcia
Joanna Tempone
Nicole McLemore

Members Not Present:

Hon. Erik P. Kimball (Judicial Co-chair)
Carlos Sardi
Raychelle Tasher
Michael Bakst
Julianne Frank

1. Call to Order

Mr. Fraser called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was present with 7 members in attendance.

3. Minutes

a. January 16, 2026 meeting

The minutes from the prior meeting were circulated before the meeting. Comments were solicited, and none were received. Motion to adopt minutes (McLemore) and seconded (Trevorow). The motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

4. Continuing Business

a. Law Student Meeting / Clerkships Outreach Program

*Updates from Fraser regarding potential timing and law school(s).
Planning discussion.*

Fraser recounted details of the 2026 Clerkship event held at the University of Miami on 3/24/26, aimed at increasing the diversity of the applicant pool by educating local students on the application process.

The event had approximately 30 attendees. Garcia and McLemore commented that the students were curious and excited and that the QA

format was helpful and engaging. Ways to increase attendance at future events were discussed. Judge Isicoff suggested coordinating with the Career Services Office as to the timing of the event, as a similar event had been recently held. Fraser suggested reaching out to affinity groups on campus.

Fraser spoke to ongoing conversations with Zach Danney at FIU Law for a similar event there. Danney suggested combining the program with another similar clerking event scheduled for the Fall. He also spoke about continuing efforts to schedule an event at Nova Law School in the Fall. Judge Isicoff suggested we should expand outreach to undergrads to encourage law school attendance at other South Florida schools.

B. Language and Accessibility Subcommittee:

Judge Isicoff suggested we review the Spanish/Haitian Creole translations of bankruptcy terms prepared by volunteer practitioners. Diaz volunteered to invite Sardi to review the terms.

5. New Business

a. Potential CLE - Open Discussion

A discussion was held about a potential CLE on the topic of disparate treatment in bankruptcy based upon several groups of researchers' investigation and analysis of collected data. Fraser advised that he had been in contact with the presenters of the ABI panel on "*Racial Disparities in Consumer Cases*," who suggested that a summer presentation is best, when their respective colleges are out of session. Judge Isicoff mentioned that as an alternative, the authors of *Debt's Grip* might make for a good CLE presentation. Fraser volunteered to reach out to the authors to inquire about their availability.

b. New Ideas

Trevorrow discussed making sure the annual Lighthouse for the Blind event where students tour a courtroom, continues in light of Judge Isicoff's upcoming retirement. Judge Isicoff promised to speak to her colleagues on the bench to see who would take it over.

6. Next Meeting

Next meeting: June 26, 2026, at noon.

7. Adjourn

The meeting concluded at 1:01 p.m.

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