

## **MAKE ME SMILE MOMENT**

Submitted by Judge McEwen

Actually there were 30 such moments. That's because some 30 business and consumer creditor lawyers attended Judge McEwen's Quarterly Mentoring Session on July 6th to learn how to staff the Tampa courthouse clinic operated by the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Bearing the title "No Excuses: Learn How to Staff Our Pro Bono Clinic, a Seminar for Business Lawyers," the program taught the attendees how to handle the legal services most frequently requested by pro se litigants who visit the clinic. Clinic pros Mike Barnett and Wendy DePaul taught the details, while big firm business lawyer Jeff Warren gave comfort about potential conflicts and ghost writing issues by discussing the new, relaxed Rule of Professional Conduct on conflicts and clinics and how to properly disclose the legal assistance to avoid a ghost writing violation.

If you missed the program, there are still "No Excuses" for not volunteering because the program was videotaped and is (or soon will be) available to CM/ECF users (and you get one hour of free CLE). An added bonus was Chief Judge Williamson's warm "thank you" to the attendees -- in his casual Friday running clothes. So that's really 31 moments!