



GENDER AND JUSTICE COMMISSION

AOC SEATAC CONFERENCE ROOM
 18000 INTERNATIONAL BLVD, SUITE 1106
 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2015 (8:45 A.M. – NOON)
 CHIEF JUSTICE BARBARA MADSEN, CHAIR
 JUSTICE SHERYL GORDON MCCLOUD, VICE CHAIR

Agenda

Page

8:45–8:55 AM CALL TO ORDER

- Introductions
- Approval of July 10, 2015, Meeting Notes **1**

8:55–9:45 AM COMMISSION BUSINESS

Objective: Chair and staff report on past and upcoming activities and interactions that affect the Commission.

- Chair Report Chief Justice Madsen
 - Conference of Chief Justices
 - ABA Initiative
- Staff Report Pam Dittman and Cynthia Delostrinos
 - Activities, Updates, Collaborative Efforts
 - SA Workshop – August 21-22 in Walla Walla. **7**
 - Staffing Updates
 - Budgets: GJCOM and Grants

9:30-10:45 AM GUEST SPEAKER(S) & EXPLORATORY PROJECTS

Objective: Forum for members to discuss items of interest they are involved in or would like the Commission to explore.

- **9:30-10:00 AM** Gender Responsive Initiative Belinda Stewart, DOC
- **10:00-10:15 AM Break**
- **10:15-10:45 AM** Justice for Girls Coalition Barbara Carr and Ann Muno **13**
- Proposed Future Guest Speakers/Topics
 - Judge Elizabeth Berns, Child Maltreatment Manual Update (Confirmed November)
 - Joy Williams, WSBA, Latest on diversity of the bar survey results (Possible November)

10:45-Noon COMMITTEE REPORTS

Objective: Committee chairs will report on progress of work plans, discuss new areas of interest, problems that have arisen, ask for feedback, ask for assistance.

- Communications Judge Paja
- Domestic Violence Judge Jasprica **15**
- Education Judge Melnick & Staff
 - Evaluation – Strangulation Session, DMCJA Spring Conference **17**
 - SCJA 2016 Conference Proposal(s)..... **21**
 - DMCJA 2016 Conference Proposal(s)



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Page

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

➤ Incarcerated Women & Girls	Cynthia Delostrinos.....	25
➤ Mission Creek	Judge Paja	
➤ Membership Committee	Staff	33
➤ Tribal State Court Consortium	Judge Pouley and Judge Tremaine	
➤ September 21 Regional Mtg hosted by Swinomish Tribe		35
➤ October 4 Annual Mtg at Fall Conference		37
➤ Women in the Profession		

Miscellaneous

➤ Proposed 2016 GJCOM Meeting Dates		39
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12:00-12:15 **ADJOURNMENT**



GENDER AND JUSTICE COMMISSION (GJCOM)

AOC SEATAC OFFICE
18000 INTERNATIONAL BLVD, SUITE 1106
SEATAC, WASHINGTON
FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2015 (8:45 A.M. – NOON)

MEETING NOTES

Present: Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen, Chair; Ms. CaroLea Casas, Ms. Josie Delvin, Ms. Grace Huang, Judge Judy Jasprica, Judge Richard Melnick, Judge Marilyn Paja, Ms. Leslie Savina, Ms. Gail Stone, Judge Tom Tremaine, Mr. David Ward, Ms. Cynthia Delostrinos, Ms. Kathy Bradley, and Ms. Pam Dittman

Excused: Ms. Sara Ainsworth, Judge Michael Evans, Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud

Guests: Ms. Jamie Yoder, Ms. Judith Lonquist

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:45 AM.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Chair Report

- May 8, 2015 Meeting Notes
The May 8, 2015 meeting notes were approved and adopted.
- ATJ Conference / LLLT Program / Roundtable / Executive's Summit
The Access to Justice Conference was held in Wenatchee on June 12. The GJCOM did not sponsor any sessions during the conference, but commission member, David Ward was recognized at the conference for his work with Legal Voice. The Supreme Court held a roundtable in which they addressed issues that members of the access to justice community were interested in.

The Chief also co-presented on the Limited Licensed Legal Technician (LLLT) program and was able to introduce the first graduating class. As you may know, the LLLT program allows for a person to practice law in a limited scope, one being domestic relations.

- 4th Annual Legal Executives Diversity Summit
The Washington Initiative for Diversity held its 4th Annual Legal Executives Diversity Summit, *The Invisible Power of Bias: Leading with Awareness and Action*, on May 11th and the Commission was one of the co-sponsors. Dr. Jerry Kang presented on implicit bias. It was very well received and the group discussion was lively and engaging. WID is planning on following up with ways to continue the discussions.

Staff Report – Pam Dittman and Cynthia Delostrinos

- Budgets

The Commission has several budgets that staff manage: (1) GJCOM budget which supports Commission-related activities and portion of staff salaries and benefits; (2) STOP grant which supports activities related to domestic violence and/or sexual abuse and a portion of staff salaries and benefits; (3) GTEA grant which supports Tribal State Court Consortium activities; and (4) LSAC grant which supports a small project on diversifying the bar and the bench. The fiscal years of each of these budgets are different, and staff manage, monitor, report, and ensure the monies are spent appropriately.

- Diverse Bar and Bench Project

The Minority & Justice Commission (MJCOM) and GJCOM have been working together on increasing diversity on the bar and bench. One effort we have joined together in was in submitting a joint grant proposal to the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) to support a project on this issue. Each Commission has supported several different programs encouraging students from middle school all the way through college to take an interest in the law. While working on these programs, it was determined that there are many others in the state also focusing on putting on these types of programs. We submitted the grant proposal in an effort to bring together the different stakeholders of these of programs throughout the state. We were awarded a \$7,500 grant, from LSAC and each Commission agreed to contribute \$5,000 to support a stakeholder meeting. We have identified two members of this Commission to work with the planning committee and attend the stakeholders meeting: Judge Marilyn Paja and Gail Stone.

Update: The Stakeholders meeting has been scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2015, at the AOC SeaTac office.

- Re-entry Project/Incarcerated Women & Girls

At the last Commission meeting and at the MJCOM's re-entry symposium, Elizabeth Hendren presented on incarcerated women and the many obstacles they faced. After speaking with Cynthia Delostrinos, the Chief, and a few others, it was decided that this is an area ripe for collaboration with the MJCOM on some projects regarding re-entry and incarcerated women and girls. With that in mind, Cynthia is going to take the lead in staffing the committee to ensure both Commissions' objectives are being met and heard.

This Commission agreed to write a letter of support for a grant proposal Elizabeth Hendren is submitting to the Legal Foundation of Washington. The grant proposal is asking for monies to: 1) install kiosks in four (4) prisons that would allow access to the Washington courts and legislative (RCWs) websites; 2) once kiosks are installed, train Department of Corrections staff in how to use the legal resources provided; and 3) to provide judicial training on issues surrounding incarcerated parents and/or develop a bench guide or bench card that provides tips on what to look for when one party is incarcerated.

Update: The Commission agreed to write a letter of support and Cynthia will draft it and submit it to Elizabeth.

GUEST SPEAKERS & EXPLORATORY PROJECTS

- SAVIN Link – Ms. Jamie Yoder

Ms. Jamie Yoder spoke with the Commission on the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) system, which is a free and confidential telephone and/or web service that allows victims and other concerned citizens to track the custody status of offenders in county and city jails and the Department of Corrections. It is also known as VINELink.

Additionally, there is a sub-system that allows for victims to register for free to be notified when their protective orders have been served, also known as the protective order system. The PO system lets those who register know when someone has been served. Both systems are managed through the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC).

Update: The Commission agreed to work with Jamie to distribute a message from WASPC to the judicial officers, Clerks, and Court Managers and Administrators, providing them information about this system.

- Judicial Evaluations – Judith Lonquist

This was a small project through the work of the Women in the Profession Committee and is in follow-up to several conversations and work that started in 1996 around judicial evaluations. The Committee was interested in this from the perspective of how underlying bias, in regards to minority and female judicial candidates, continues to plague judicial elections. There is not only a need to educate non-lawyer, non-judge populations in who is a viable judicial candidate and why, but how do you develop a mechanism to do this and by whom should it be distributed or managed.

General Rule 35 is a proposed rule that would set up an independent body under the auspices of AOC that would develop, distribute, and educate the general population and others on judicial elections. At this time, the BJA has chosen not to adopt this rule as there are concerns with anonymity, how to distribute and to whom, and what would be the benefits, etc.

The Commission did reflect upon the need to continue educating the general public on choosing judicial candidates and also to continue working with the various county bar associations on underlying implicit bias issues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Communications - Judge Marilyn Paja, Chair

Judge Paja indicated the Committee has not met recently and does not have anything new to report. She and Pam will get together to discuss the projects on this Committee's work plan and move forward on scheduling a conference call.

- DV Committee – Judge Judy Jasprica, Chair

- CCI Report

The report was reviewed by Committee members and we are drafting a reply to CCI. The Committee expressed that the report did not provide definitive answers to some of our questions and are writing a response to CCI indicating that we are asking not to release the report. However, several recommendations identified in the report are already being acted on in various ways.

- Modifications/Rescissions

We are waiting for a link on the GJCOM website that will take persons to the Modification/Rescission forms. Once that is completed, Judge Melnick inquired into whether the Commission, under the Chief's signature, could send a letter to all the courts with a copy of the model policy, forms, and links, and let them know the Commission (members/staff) is available to provide technical assistance.

Update: The GJCOM website has been updated to provide persons separate links to different forms pages:

http://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/gjc/?fa=gjc.Resources&parent=res .

Judge Melnick will draft a letter to judicial officers providing information on the guidelines developed for modification and rescission process.

- Judicial Roundtable

The Judicial Roundtable on Domestic Violence Interventions in Washington State was held Friday, June 26. Twenty-six judicial officers from across the state were able to attend this roundtable. Faculty included Judge Katherine Tennyson, Multnomah County Circuit Court; Dr. Etiony Aldarondo, Albizu University; Scott Miller, Domestic Abuse Intervention Project; and two local domestic violence treatment providers, Steven Pepping and Mark Adams.

The roundtable was well received and there are several areas that are now needing follow-up, including holding a program at various judicial conferences to have better research on this topic. Attendees also left with the understanding that Washington's "one-size" treatment programs can hinder the process as much as help it.

Update: The DV Committee will be meeting in the future and plans to bring in Maureen Kelly, DSHS to discuss her role as the person who certifies these programs.

- Education – Judge Rich Melnick, Chair

There was a discussion that our education efforts needed to reach out to others such as prosecutors and defense attorneys on areas of intersect; such as sentencing to domestic violence treatment programs.

- DMCJA Spring Conference

Gael Strack presented at the DMCJA conference on Strangulation. Gael is the CEO for the National Family Justice Center Alliance, which provides technical assistance to over 100 existing and pending Family Justice Centers across the

world. Gael is also the foremost expert on strangulation and co-authored several articles on this topic.

- Appellate Conference

The Conference is April 3-6, 2015, and the agenda is wide open. If you have any ideas please let Judge Melnick know. Maybe something on same sex marriage, the ruling from the federal Supreme Court, and the interplay with state, federal, and family law, de facto parenting, or community property.

- Proposals

Proposals for DMCJA Spring Conference are due October 4, 2015. SCJA Spring Conference proposals will most likely be due sometime in October also.

Members indicated we should look at previous proposals that were not accepted to see if we should revive them if they are still relevant. Also, we should submit proposals on firearms.

- Incarcerated Women & Girls – Sara Ainsworth, Chair

We are working with Mission Creek on their yearly re-entry symposium for women. The symposium is on October 22-23, 2015. There will be several judicial officers participating and members of the National Association of Women Judges.

- Membership

This Committee is comprised of the Chairs of the Committees and the Commission's Chair and Vice Chair. We have five vacancies that need to be filled.

Update: A conference call has been scheduled for September 15, 2015.

- Tribal State Court Consortium – Judge Tom Tremaine

Judge Tremaine indicated the annual TSCC meeting will be Sunday, October 4, 2015, and we will also be having a regional meeting on September 21, 2015, hosted by the Swinomish Tribe.

- Women in the Profession

We need to schedule the judicial and law student reception in November. Pam will work with Gonzaga and also with Judge Paja.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately noon.

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ENHANCING COURTS' RESPONSE TO ADULT VICTIM SEXUAL VIOLENCE WORKSHOP

August 21-22, 2015

Courtyard by Marriott Walla Walla

Room: The Blues 1 & 2

AGENDA

Approved 9.5 CJs (1.5 Ethics) / Pending 9.5 CLEs (1.5 Ethics)

The *Enhancing Courts' Response to Adult Victim Sexual Violence* workshop is the result of a partnership among the Washington State Supreme Court Gender & Justice Commission, the National Judicial Education Program of Legal Momentum, and the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) and is funded by a grant through the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. This one and a half day workshop will be led by a faculty team of experienced Washington State judges and national experts who have pioneered work on sexual violence issues in the courtroom and beyond.

This interactive workshop will provide new and experienced judicial officers with the tools they need to develop or enhance their ability to handle these complex and challenging cases. Judicial officers will return to their communities with a greater understanding of: victim and offender behaviors and the implications for the courts; vicarious trauma for judicial officers, court staff, and jurors; the role of language in shaping perceptions of sexual violence; the challenges of evidentiary rulings respecting the rape shield law, privilege, and the Washington Sexual Assault Protective Order; and how, within the Washington Code of Judicial Conduct, judicial officers can take a leadership role in the community response to sexual violence.

Day 1 – August 21

8:00-8:15 AM

Welcome & Introductory Remarks

Judge Elizabeth Berns, King County Superior Court

8:15-9:15 AM

Raped or “Seduced”? How Language Impacts Perceptions of Sexual Assault

Lynn Hecht Schafran, JD, National Judicial Education Program, Legal Momentum

When we discuss sexual assault, we constantly use the language of consensual sex to describe assaultive acts. In addition, we describe

violence against women in passive terms, and use language that objectifies or blames victims, which allows the perpetrators of this violence to remain invisible and unaccountable. This session explores the language of violence against women and how we talk and write about these crimes.

As a result of this segment, you will be able to:

- Identify consensual language, the “invisible perpetrator,” and victim-blaming language in writing and speech concerning violence against women
- Understand the importance of using accurate language in court and in written judicial opinions
- Write and speak accurately about sexual violence and violence against women

9:15-10:00 AM

Perpetrators of Sexual Violence Against Adults: A Brief Overview

Dr. Christmas Covell, PhD, Licensed Psychologist, Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider, Private Practice

This segment will assist participants in developing their knowledge and understanding of persons who sexually victimize adults. We will review common characteristics of, as well as the diversity within this group of perpetrators and their offense behaviors/dynamics. Participants will learn to identify empirically-based risk factors for re-offense, and become informed about interventions used to manage this population and reduce risk to the community.

As a result of this segment, you will be better able to:

- Understand the data on sexual victimization of adults
- Identify characteristics of known perpetrators of adults and their offense patterns
- Identify risk factors for re-offense
- Understand management strategies

10:00-10:10 AM

Evaluation and Break

10:10-10:55 AM

Perpetrators of Sexual Violence Against Adults: Sex Offense Management and Case Scenario

Dr. Christmas Covell

Participants will apply what they learned to a case scenario.

10:55-11:00 AM **Evaluation and Stretch Break**

11:00-11:45 AM **The Neurobiology of Trauma: Implications for Sexual Assault Cases, Part One**

Dr. Christopher Wilson, PsyD, Licensed Psychologist, Private Practice

Research on the brain and specifically on understanding the neurobiology of trauma has increased exponentially in the last several years. This session will provide participants with a basic overview of the neurobiology of trauma with special attention paid to the practical application of this knowledge. Specifically, participants will gain an understanding of the possible scientific explanation for seemingly counterintuitive victim behavior. Participants will be encouraged to discuss the application and utility of the science of judicial decision making. This session will also form the scientific knowledge base for an examination of what it means to have a trauma-informed courtroom.

As a result of this segment, you will:

- Gain an understanding of the basic neurobiology of trauma that often can explain seemingly counterintuitive victim behavior including changing accounts/memories of traumatic events and seemingly irrational responses to threat or various judicial processes
- Gain an appreciation for the complexity of the neurobiology of trauma and the value of allowing expert testimony to illuminate nuance and context in individual cases
- Gain a foundation from which to make trauma-informed decisions in the courtroom

11:45-1:00 PM **Break for Lunch**

Lunch on your own.

1:00-2:00 PM **The Neurobiology of Trauma: Implications for Sexual Assault Cases, Part Two**

Dr. Christopher Wilson

2:00-2:10 PM **Break**

2:10-3:00 PM **The Neurobiology of Trauma: Implications for Sexual Assault Cases, Part Three**

Dr. Christopher Wilson

3:00-3:10 PM **Evaluation and Break**

3:10-3:50 PM **Vicarious Trauma and Self-Care: The Flaw in the Scarecrow's Reasoning**

Dr. Christopher Wilson

"If I only had a brain," said the Scarecrow, "I would not be a nuffin', my head a full of stuffin', my heart all full of pain, I would dance and be merry, life would be a ding-a-derry, if I only had a brain."

Unfortunately, the flaw in the Scarecrow's reasoning is based on what we know about the science of the brain and the way in which we fundamentally understand the experiences of others. This session will examine the neuroscience behind vicarious trauma; provide participants with a delineation between burnout, compassion fatigue, and vicarious trauma; and discuss research-based practical methods for reducing risk.

As a result of this segment, you will be able to:

- Define the differences between burnout, compassion fatigue, and vicarious trauma
- Understand the role of mirror neurons in the process of understanding the experience of others
- Understand the research related to the impact of exposure to traumatic cases on attorneys and judicial officers

3:50-3:55 PM **Evaluation and Stretch Break**

3:55-4:25 PM **Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: The Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Cases**

Lynn Hecht Schafran

Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse (IPSA) is an aspect of domestic violence that is not often discussed. Research with battered women reveals that IPSA ranging from verbal degradation to rape is a frequent aspect, with significant implications, particularly with respect to risk assessment.

As a result of this segment, you will be able to:

- Identify aspects of sexual assault specific to ISPA cases
- Understand prevalence of IPSA as it relates to DV cases
- Identify IPSA for risk assessment
- Discuss recommendations for addressing IPSA

4:25-4:30 PM **Evaluation and Closing Remarks**

Judge Elizabeth Berns

Day 2 – August 22

8:00-8:15 AM **Welcome Back**

Judge Elizabeth Berns

8:15-10:00 AM **Evidentiary Issues: Washington Law Case Studies**

Judge Elizabeth Berns

Judge Patti Connolly Walker, Spokane County District Court

This segment presents three case studies focused on Washington law respecting the rape shield law, privilege, and the Washington Sexual Assault Protective Order (SAPO). Participants will explore the issues each case study presents in interactive exercises.

As a result of this segment, you will be better able to:

- Identify the steps necessary to analyze and rule in cases presenting rape shield law and privilege issues
- Conduct and rule in SAPO petition hearings
- Address jurisdictional issues when a SAPO involves both tribal and state courts

10:00-10:15 AM **Evaluation and Break**

10:15-11:15 AM **Judicial Leadership: Role of the Judicial Officer in Court and Community**

Judge Elizabeth Berns, Judge Patti Connolly Walker

This segment focuses on the role of the judicial officer in advancing access to justice in the court and community. Participants will problem-solve by applying the ethics code provisions to specific extrajudicial activities in which a judicial officer might become involved.

As a result of this segment, you will be better able to:

- Recognize the impact of your role as a judicial officer on court system players
- Apply ethics rules that govern judicial officers' participation in activities such as court and community councils, legislative proposals, and education programs by and for non-judicial officer providers

11:15-11:45 AM **Trauma Informed Court**

Judge Elizabeth Berns, Judge Patti Connolly Walker

Through a small-group exercise, participants will identify specific leadership activities in which they can engage in to create a trauma-informed judicial response to sexual violence.

As a result of this segment, you will be better able to:

- List specific actions judicial officers can take in the court and community to enhance access and improve the administration of justice in cases involving sexual violence

11:45-12:00 p.m. **Evaluation and Training Wrap-Up**

Judge Elizabeth Berns

This project was supported by Grant No. 2013-FL-AX-0008 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/ program/ exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



July 30, 2015

Pam Dittman
Administrative Office of the Courts
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Pam:

Per our conversation regarding available funds through OCV, I am following up on my promise to forward you more information regarding the G-SAT pilot project and the Beyond Pink conference, both projects currently undertaken by the Justice for Girls Coalition of Washington State.

- ❖ G-SAT Pilot Project: The Justice for Girls Coalition is currently collaborating with the Oregon Coalition of Advocates for Equal Access and the Crittenton Foundation to develop a quality assurance tool for probation services focusing on the needs of vulnerable girls (Probation Gender Services Assessment Tool – PGSAT). The PGSAT fills a critical need in juvenile justice by simultaneously educating and supporting courts to adopt more gender-sensitive policies and practices.**

While courts are, for the most part aware that justice-involved girls are the most vulnerable population in the country, there is uncertainty about how to integrate more trauma and developmentally sensitive reforms into practice. The PGSAT covers domains related to probation staff hiring, training, ongoing education and support as well as program quality, appropriateness for girls and cross-system collaboration. The adaptation is expected to pilot this fall in two courts in Washington State; however additional support is needed to move the tool into additional sites and develop an evaluation plan for documenting systemic change and outcomes.

The Justice for Girls Coalition of Washington State is currently developing a vision for dissemination and training and how the tool can be best integrated into court operations. This will include finalizing the tool and collaborating with state partners to identify the most strategic way to achieve widespread uptake (e.g. integrating into existing state audits, incentivizing through recognition or funding, offering free training as part of site implementation). The Coalition will build upon the pilot testing supported in this funding award to secure additional research funds to test the impact of site assessment of the G-SAT on changes in practice as well as improvements in the experience of girls entering the system, reduced deep end involvement and reduced arrests.

- ❖ ***Beyond Pink 3: The next Beyond Pink conference will be focused on issues of diversity and culture. The conference is expected to draw around 200 practitioners, administrators and policymakers from across the state. The conference is expected to be held in the spring of 2016. The JGC is currently identifying the venue, dates/times and conference schedule in collaboration with the Coalition members. The tentative focus of the next Beyond Pink is racial diversity and its intersection with gender issues, including breakouts on commercial sexual exploitation, efforts to develop gender adaptations to existing programs and the handling of status offenses through a diversion-type lens. This is a wonderful, community building event that strengthens the passion of the Coalition as well as the entire state for gender-focused work. The conference also provides an opportunity for the Coalition to get feedback from state partners about local needs; how the Coalition can provide support to individuals in the court system seeking to institute reforms. The success of the last two Beyond Pink conferences establishes this event as one of only two repeating statewide conferences (Beyond Pink and the Becca Conference) on juvenile justice practices in Washington State.***

- ❖ ***AJFO Conference – Justice Involved Women & Girls: New Paths to Resiliency: I forwarded you the link to this conference that I think would be a terrific opportunity for system participants to experience. I know there are several court professionals on the JGC and others that work directly with the courts with regard to programming and other levels of involvement. Additionally, I am sure there are others within the state commissions and related committees that could benefit from this training experience.***

Thank you for contacting me when considering the current availability of funds and perhaps future opportunities for the juvenile courts in the area of improved experiences for girls within our system. Let me know if there is any other information I can provide that would be helpful to you!

Sincerely,

***Barbara Carr, Administrator
Jefferson County Juvenile Court and
Justice for Girls Coalition Member***



Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission

August 18, 2015

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Honorable Barbara A. Madsen, Chair
Washington State Supreme Court

**Honorable Sheryl Gordon McCloud,
Vice-Chair**
Washington State Supreme Court

Honorable Josie Delvin
Benton County Clerk

Honorable Michael H. Evans
Cowlitz County Superior Court

Ms. Grace Huang
Washington State Coalition Against DV

Honorable Judy Rae Jasprica
Pierce County District Court

Ms. LaTricia Kinlow
Tukwila Municipal Court

Honorable Eric Z. Lucas
Snohomish County Superior Court

Honorable Rich Melnick
Court of Appeals, Division II

Honorable Marilyn G. Paja
Kitsap County District Court

Honorable Mark W. Pouley
Swinomish Tribal Court

Ms. Leslie J. Savina
Northwest Justice Project

Ms. Gail Stone
King County Executive's Office

Honorable Tom Tremaine
Kalispel Tribal Court

Mr. David Ward
Legal Voice

Dear CCI Team:

Thank you for providing the Gender & Justice Commission's DV Committee with the draft *Sentencing in Domestic Violence Cases, An Analysis of Policies and Practices in Washington State*. The DV Committee met on several occasions to go over and discuss the draft report. At the conclusion of our last meeting, the Committee made the decision to not publically release the report for the reasons outlined below.

We recognize that there were many challenges in collecting data from the outset of this project, which we now can see limited the accuracy of the findings in the draft. Based on the limitations of the data, we do not believe the report provides an accurate insight into what is happening in the actual sentencing and monitoring practices of our courts. For example, our courts are very different as to whether and how they provide probation services, judicial monitoring, specialized calendars/dockets, etc. That coupled with the various ways the courts enter that information into Judicial Information System (JIS) obfuscates the data of this study and distorts the findings.

From the outset of the project, it was the intention that several members of the DV Committee were going to attend the on-site visits to serve as a conduit between CCI staff and court staff, the purpose being that judicial officers and staff are uniquely able to understand the nuances of the courts' JIS system. While we understand CCI's position of believing this interaction would reflect upon the integrity of the process, thereby influencing the outcome, we believe that not having this interaction greatly limited the accuracy of the study's findings.

It was our hope that the study would provide guidance and be a tool for the Commission/Committee to distribute as a way to improve courts' responses to domestic violence interventions, and provide a roadmap of next steps. Furthermore, that the study could become the start to the conversation of "what does success mean" in the context of a domestic violence treatment.

Although we have decided to not publically release or distribute the report, we have found value in several recommendations, as we can use them as broad guidance to continue the work of the Commission's DV Committee.

- The Committee is currently collaborating with others to help facilitate conversations in the state around DV interventions in Washington.
- With regards to improving data management, the AOC is in the process of deploying a new case management system in Superior Courts and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.
- The Commission continues to dedicate funding and staffing to collaborate with the varying associations and groups that can help provide training on DV issues.
- As a non-unified court system, the Commission can at best, provide written protocols and guidelines that courts can adopt in regards to court processes such as no contact orders, addressing noncompliance, and using judicial monitoring.

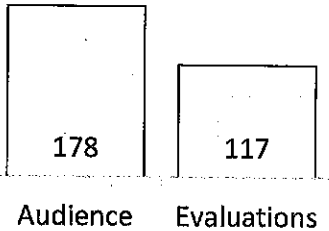
Thank you for your time and efforts. What we have learned is that there is a need, both locally and nationally, to look closer at batterer intervention programs and other sentencing options. Advocates and other criminal justice partners continue to express that batterer interventions are just one way to hold an offender accountable, but as a nation, we have not yet addressed questions of what does accountability look like and how should success be measured. We will continue to look at and address these issues.

Sincerely,

Pam Dittman
Program Coordinator

District and Municipal Court Judges' Program

June 7 - 10, 2015



SESSION EVALUATION

Session:	Strangulation: All Things Medical and All Things Legal for Judges
Faculty:	Ms. Gael Strack

Please include narrative comments, as well as numeric rating on a **5-point scale**.
 (5 = Excellent; 4 = Good; 3 = Average; 2 = Below Average; 1 = Poor; N/A = Not Applicable)

EFFECTIVENESS	5	4	3	2	1
1. The objectives of the course were clear.	92	14	5	2	0
2. The objectives of the course were achieved.	88	18	5	2	0
3. The faculty engaged me in meaningful activities.	80	22	9	1	1
4. I gained important information or skills.	81	18	10	3	1
5. The faculty made a clear connection between the course and the work place.	84	13	11	3	2

Average: 4.5

COMMENTS:

- This was a very biased pro-prosecution presentation. It should have had a defense component - - someone to present the other side. i.e. when is strangulation mistakenly alleged? Is there another opinion as to how serious it is? Etc.
- Would be nice to have transcript of 911 calls. Very hard to understand.
- Needed more time.
- I heard a judge say this was a presentation for law enforcement, not judges. But I disagree. Very important information for making sentencing decisions and setting pretrial conditions → maybe this connection could have been drawn more clearly.
- Saw Ms. Strack when I was a prosecutor in San Diego and another state for a domestic violence conference – wonderful presentation.
- Good objective intro although I think there was cross over between objective and subject information.
- Wish it were longer!
- Transcript of 911 calls would be helpful. Know your audience – we are charged with remaining neutral = I felt the speaker was advocating.
- Best presenter so far.
- Very informative about the type!

- I found it helpful to see the small (looking) injuries.
- I didn't think this would necessarily apply to our level of court, it not only did, but was independently interesting.
- Very effective and comprehensive presentation.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

	5	4	3	2	1
1. The faculty was well prepared.	7	7	1	0	0
2. The presentation was organized.	9	9	3	0	0
3. Written materials enhanced the presentation.	14	14	8	2	0
4. Audiovisual aids were used effectively.	21	21	4	1	0
5. The presentation kept my interest throughout.	14	14	8	2	0

Average: 4.6

COMMENTS:

- Not really sure this will ever be relevant to my court. But she did a good job!
- Good presentation with limited usefulness.
- Although from other states, I would like to have had hard copies of some of the risk-assessment and bench cards mentioned in the slides. Great speaker!
- Love the energy
- Excellent. She is really an expert! Great materials. Presentations this year have had great written materials.
- In the "medical" part, at times the "gruesome-ness" outweighed the relevance for me as a judge. I would have preferred more time on the "legal" part.
- Important topic and expert presentation. I would have preferred a broader approach. Discussing DV/Assault injuries in addition to strangulation. Another constructive critique – I would have liked to have known/read all hypos and not just one of several. Still excellent presentation. Thanks!
- Exceptional presentation. Thorough, interesting, informative, and very necessary!
- So informative. Another great speaker.
- Outstanding amazing documentation.
- Good presentation by a knowledgeable presenter. This seems more geared to a WAPA conference.
- New and shocking information. Next year need to talk about DV Tx in Washington.
- Very interesting, lots of information covered quickly but still fully. Thank you!
- Basic.
- Communications skill. Great for law enforcement and prosecutors.
- This would be a great presentation to have again. Written materials are really good but the print on some is so small I can't read it.
- Great important topic. A little more time for materials.
- Excellent!
- Would have liked more time on ID of primary aggressor, reluctant victims, treatment where and why, how to assess threat, victim not wanting an NCD.
- Fantastic presenter – very knowledgeable but also able to convey information about medical, psychological and legal DV considerations and impacts. Next need information on why victims do/don't do what they do as a refresher for experienced judges.
- Very knowledgeable – great materials.

- Not particularly relevant for a judge. Very relevant to prosecutor to prepare case. I can NOT investigate.
- Better to present at WAPA. Learned a lot on what to look for regarding no-contact.
- Very informative and helpful.
- Need to alter the focus for Judge audience: talk at experts in court/victim treatment in court.
- Great presenter and kept my interest for the entire time.
- Thank you so much, amazing presentation, very informative.
- Very rushed but great information.
- Somewhat helpful as judges. Really good for prosecutor.
- Excellent speaker!
- Very good-thanks!
- Excellent presentation.
- Not enough time.
- Great presenter. Thank you!
- Not enough time.
- Need more of this!
- DV TX issue won't just fade away. Need to address it directly.
- Excellent presentation.
- Repeat questions posed because most could not be heard by us only Ms. Strack's responses.
- Very good presentation.
- Very good speaker – need more time.
- One of the best presentations I have seen at a judicial conference. Extremely informative.
- Use the response!
- Very good exposure to a subject that had little discussion in the past.
- This seemed more geared toward prosecutors.
- Once again – too rushed.
- Wonderful and surprisingly relevant.

SCJA Education Committee Session Proposal Form

Superior Court Judges' Spring Program

April 26 – 30, 2015

Skamania Lodge

Stevenson, Washington

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 3 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov

Proposed Session Title: Children of Incarcerated Parents: Keeping Families Connected	
Proposed By: Gender and Justice Commission Contact Name: Cynthia Delostrinos, Pam Dittman Contact Phone: x5327/x4031 Contact Email: cynthia.delostrinos/pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov	Is there a limit to the number of participants? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Proposed Duration: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 90 Minutes <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Plenary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Choice
Target Audience: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experienced Judges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Judges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experienced Commissioners <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Commissioners	Identified Educational Need: Family law and dependency cases are difficult for the parties and for judicial officers when a parent is incarcerated. Incarcerated parents face many barriers to maintaining a relationship with their children and in accessing courts, particularly if they are pro se. The Legislature passed a law in 2013 (SHB 1284) to address these barriers in dependency cases, but the requirements of the new law are not well understood and sometimes are not followed. Additionally, pro se incarcerated parents in family law proceedings face barriers accessing legal resources, such as mandatory family law forms, and appearing for their family law hearings from jail or prison.
Program topic or area of law: Dependency, family law	
Recommended Faculty: Commissioner Meg Sassaman, King County Superior Court Kimberly Mays, Social Worker, WA State Office of Public Defense Parent Representation Program Carrie Kendig, Department of Corrections Elizabeth Hendren, Northwest Justice Project, Moderator	

Proposals due by October 3, 2014 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov

SCJA Education Committee Session Proposal Form

Superior Court Judges' Spring Program

April 26 – 30, 2015

Skamania Lodge

Stevenson, Washington

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 3 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov

Describe the purpose of the session and key issues to be presented. Explain what judicial officers will learn in the course.

The purpose of this session is to educate judicial officers about best practices and legal requirements in family law and dependency cases when a parent is incarcerated. Judicial officers will learn:

1. provisions of SHB1284 and how to apply the law in their court
2. how to address barriers for incarcerated parents to participate in court proceedings and to maintain relationships with their children
3. importance to children in maintaining a relationship with an incarcerated parent
4. importance for incarcerated parents in maintaining a relationship with their children (reduced recidivism)
5. availability of child-centered visitation experiences in many WA prisons

Generally, describe the knowledge and skills that judicial officers will gain from this session and how they may apply these to their work in the courts.

1. Judicial officers will learn about SHB 1284 and how to apply in dependency proceedings
2. Judicial officers will learn about barriers incarcerated parents face in fully participating in family law and dependency cases and how to address these barriers
3. Judicial officers will learn about positive and effective ways to provide visitation between incarcerated parents and their children.

Describe the case law, best practices, or nuts and bolts issues that will be addressed.

1. SHB 1284 and RCW 13.34
2. Best practices in dependency cases when one parent is incarcerated
3. Practical tools and best practices to support participation by an incarcerated parent in all court proceedings involving their child. For example, telephonic hearings, accepting pleadings not on court forms, not signing default orders without careful examination of the facts, continuances freely given, extension of time due to slow prison mail, not requiring extra copies.
4. Ways to order safe and appropriate visitation between children and incarcerated parents.

Proposals due by October 3, 2014 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov

SCJA Education Committee Session Proposal Form

Superior Court Judges' Spring Program

April 26 – 30, 2015

Skamania Lodge

Stevenson, Washington

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 3 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov

Describe how the session will actively engage the audience in adult learning/ interactive instructional methods.

panel

case study

buzz-group

Anticipated Cost:

Funding Resources:

Proposals due by October 3, 2014 to jesse.walker@courts.wa.gov



Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Honorable Barbara A. Madsen, Chair
Washington State Supreme Court

**Honorable Sheryl Gordon McCloud,
Vice-Chair**
Washington State Supreme Court

Ms. Sara L. Ainsworth
National Advocates for Pregnant Women

Honorable Josie Delvin
Benton County Clerk

Honorable Michael H. Evans
Cowlitz County Superior Court

Ms. Grace Huang
Washington State Coalition Against DV

Honorable Judy Rae Jasprica
Pierce County District Court

Ms. LaTricia Kinlow
Tukwila Municipal Court

Honorable Eric Z. Lucas
Snohomish County Superior Court

Honorable Rich Melnick
Court of Appeals, Division II

Honorable Marilyn G. Paja
Kitsap County District Court

Honorable Mark W. Pouley
Swinomish Tribal Court

Ms. Leslie J. Savina
Northwest Justice Project

Ms. Gail Stone
King County Executive's Office

Honorable Tom Tremaine
Kalispel Tribal Court

Mr. David Ward
Legal Voice

July 14, 2015

Ms. Sara Brumfield
Legal Foundation of Washington
1325 4th Ave, Suite 1335
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Ms. Brumfield:

RE: Letter of Support for Elizabeth Hendren's Grant Submission

The Washington State Gender and Justice Commission would like to express its support of the grant application submitted to you by Ms. Elizabeth Hendren of Northwest Justice Project. We support Ms. Hendren in her proposed project because we believe that is a very important step in ensuring access to the courts for women who are currently incarcerated at the Mission Creek Corrections Center.

The Gender and Justice Commission is a commission of the Washington State Supreme Court. Our mission is to provide a leadership role in eliminating gender discrimination and bias in our system of law and justice through effective communication, goal-centered activities, educational programs, and research projects. Ms. Hendren serves as a member of our Incarcerated Women and Girls Subcommittee. We support each of the components of her proposed project: (1) to install kiosks that will provide access to, at a minimum, the Washington Courts' website, Washington Legislature's website, and any other necessary legal resource; (2) to provide training to Department of Corrections employees and counselors who will be helping women access the kiosks and legal resources; and (3) we will be working with Ms. Hendren in the development of a judicial resource guide and/or training on best practices when hearing cases with parties who are incarcerated during family law proceedings.

We appreciate your consideration of Ms. Hendren's application. We look forward to working with her on this very important project. Should you have any questions please contact commission staff, Ms. Pam Dittman at Pam.Dittman@courts.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Madsen".

Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen
Washington State Supreme Court



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

P. O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101 • Tel (360) 725-8810

July 14, 2015

Ms. Caitlin Davis Carlson, Executive Director
Legal Foundation of Washington
1325 4th Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

RE: Northwest Justice Project Prison & Reentry Fund Proposal

Dear Ms. Davis Carlson:

The Washington State Department of Corrections (Department) supports the Prison & Reentry Fund proposal submitted by the Northwest Justice Project, in partnership with the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission, for the installation of legal kiosks in Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women and Cedar Creek Corrections Center. Contingent upon the costs related to the legal kiosks, funds may be used for additional kiosk installation in Larch Corrections Center and Olympic Corrections Center. Each of these stand-alone minimum security prisons currently lacks a law library and the availability of legal kiosks would significantly increase access to court-based information.

To the greatest degree feasible within the parameters of agency policy, budget and infrastructural capacity, the Department agrees to work in collaboration with the Northwest Justice Project on its proposal to install kiosks that will provide access to, at a minimum, the Washington State Courts' website and the Washington State Legislature's website. The Department also agrees to facilitate the access of key employees and corrections counselors to prison-based training by Northwest Justice Project in order to best support incarcerated individual's use of the legal kiosks and related resources.

I appreciate your consideration of the Northwest Justice Project's proposal. We look forward to working with the Northwest Justice Project and the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission on this very important project. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bernard Warner
Secretary

Northwest Justice Project's Legal Kiosk Funding Proposal

7/16/2015

Northwest Justice Project, in partnership with the Washington State Department of Corrections and the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission, requests \$25,000 for legal kiosks at minimum security state prisons, which will be accompanied by training for Department of Corrections personnel and judicial officers. The installation of kiosks in minimum security prisons, combined with a better understanding of legal resources for Department of Corrections staff and a better understanding by court personnel of the barriers faced by pro se incarcerated litigants, would increase access to the courts and fairness in legal proceedings for parents incarcerated at minimum security facilities. The result for incarcerated parents would be better access to the mandatory forms and legal resources necessary for full participation in their family law cases, resulting in more just outcomes for families impacted by incarceration.

Background

Washington has four state prisons which are stand-alone, minimum-security facilities that do not have law libraries. Parents incarcerated in facilities without law libraries have no legal right to be transported to facilities with law libraries for work on civil cases that do not relate to their confinement. They have no internet access, and few, if any, legal resources. As a result, when parents in these facilities are served with private family law actions, they have no way to access mandatory family law forms or free online legal resources. It is difficult, and sometimes impossible, for them to participate in their cases. This barrier, coupled with the fact that many family law actions require a response on mandatory family law forms within a short time, results in default orders entered against many incarcerated parents at minimum security facilities. These

default orders often contain provisions that severely restrict or completely limit the parent’s contact with their child, causing serious damage to the parent-child relationship.

In the Civil Legal Needs Study Update, 52.1% of respondents who had been confined in a juvenile or adult correctional or immigration detention facility in the prior 12 months reported “problems with visitation or communicating with family members or friends,” and 50% reported “problems getting legal help, legal materials and resources or were not allowed to present information to the court.” *See* Washington State Supreme Court Civil Legal Needs Study Update, June 2015, page 40. These responses demonstrate that maintaining a parent-child relationship while incarcerated and accessing needed legal resources are a dire challenge for incarcerated parents across our state. The challenges faced by parents in minimum-security facilities with no law library are particularly serious, as parents are frequently served with family law actions they do not understand and cannot respond to without mandatory forms. While parents at maximum-security facilities have a law library where they can research the meaning of the papers they were served with and access the forms needed to respond, parents in minimum-security facilities do not have this option at all. As a result, many parents have default orders entered against them which result in the loss of contact with their children. Others commit infractions out of desperation, which will delay their release from prison, just so that they can be transferred back to a maximum-security prison with law library access to participate in their family law cases and maintain hope of staying in their children’s lives.

Legal Kiosks

Prisons in Washington and across the country have recently begun to use kiosks to address a range of services for people in prison. Kiosks vary greatly depending on need, but are essentially a computer surrounded by a protective casing and bolted to the ground which

provides access to email, software, or specified websites. Currently, Washington prisons contain kiosks which allow incarcerated persons to purchase the ability to send emails to family members or download music. This same technology can be utilized to create access to free, online legal resources for people incarcerated at minimum-security prisons.

Installing legal kiosks in Washington minimum-security prisons is a simple, cost-effective solution to the devastating lack of access to legal resources currently faced by incarcerated parents in these facilities. Having an on-site mechanism to access mandatory family law forms and WashingtonLawHelp.org can mean the difference between losing all contact and visitation to a parent's child and preserving the sacred parent-child relationship during incarceration.

The Department of Corrections has agreed that the proposed legal kiosks would be situated in public spaces and would provide incarcerated persons with free access to, at a minimum, the courts' website, which contains the mandatory family law forms, as well as the legislature's website, which contains the relevant statutes. Northwest Justice Project and the Department of Corrections are also in the process of negotiating a way to allow access to WashingtonLawHelp.org for incarcerated persons without inadvertently creating access to unapproved, non-legal resources through external links.

Under the current proposal, legal kiosks would first be installed at Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women and Cedar Creek Corrections Center in the fall of 2015. If funding permits, legal kiosks would then also be installed at Larch Corrections Center and Olympic Corrections Center. All four of these facilities are minimum-security facilities that do not have law libraries. It is the belief of the Department of Corrections, based on the costs associated with installing email kiosks previously across the state, that \$25,000 would cover the

installation costs for at least two facilities, and hopefully all four. Installation in two or more facilities would open the door to the concept of free legal kiosks in state prisons, and the success of this program could lead to funding from the Department of Corrections operating budget or other sources in the future for more legal kiosks across the state.

Training

The installation of the legal kiosks will be accompanied by training for Department of Corrections staff at the facilities where kiosks are installed. Training on civil legal resources would be presented Northwest Justice Project attorneys in early 2016 after the kiosk installation is complete. This training will include an overview of how to use the free legal websites accessible through the legal kiosks so that staff members can assist incarcerated individuals in navigating the free online legal resources if needed. Additionally, the training will cover common civil legal issues faced by incarcerated individuals, and the long-term consequences that an inability to participate in civil legal cases can have on their lives. After these trainings, Department of Corrections staff will have a better idea of the importance to incarcerated individuals of participating in their civil legal cases, and how to assist them.

Additionally, Northwest Justice Project will partner with the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission to provide training to judicial officers on the unique barriers faced by pro se incarcerated litigants. This training will take place in the Spring of 2016 and will be conducted by judges who have been identified by formerly incarcerated individuals as helpful and cognizant of the barriers faced by pro se incarcerated litigants. The training is intended to raise awareness for the judiciary about both the barriers to justice faced by incarcerated individuals as well as what judicial officers can do to work with litigants and Department of Corrections staff to overcome those barriers. A bench book or similar written

material for judges which will cover best practices in civil cases involving a pro se, incarcerated individual will be compiled by Northwest Justice Project prior to the judicial trainings and be distributed during the trainings.

Conclusion

Northwest Justice Project respectfully requests \$25,000 to cover the installation costs of legal kiosks. Installing legal kiosks at minimum security prisons is a simple and cost-effective way to increase access to the courts for incarcerated parents. By providing access to the mandatory family law forms and other legal resources, incarcerated parents will be able to quickly and more fully participate in their family law cases. This will lead to more just family law proceedings and better outcomes for Washington families impacted by incarceration.

GJCOM Membership, Vacancies, and Proposed Positions

Pos.	Area	Terms: (Years: 1 st /2 nd)
Supreme Court		
1	Chief Justice Barbara Madsen, Chair	On-going
2	Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud, Vice Chair	14-17 (1st)
Court of Appeals		
3	Hon. Rich Melnick	12-15 (1st); 15-18 (2nd)
Trial Court Judges		
4	Hon. Michael Evans	13-16 (1st)
5	Hon. Judy Rae Jasprica	12-15 (1st); 15-18 (2nd)
6	Hon. Eric Lucas	13-16 (1st)
7	Hon. Marilyn Paja	13-16 (1st)
Tribal Court		
8	Hon. Mark Pouley	12-15 (1st); 15-18 (2nd)
9	Hon. Tom Tremaine	13-16 (1st)
Bar Associations/Attorneys		
10	Ms. Leslie Savina	12-15 (1st); 15-18 (2nd)
11	Mr. David Ward	11-14 (1st); 14-17 (2nd)
Clerk of the Courts		
12	Josie Delvin	14-17 (1 st)
Trial Court Administrator		
13	Ms. LaTricia (Trish) Kinlow (Disrict/Muni)	14-17 (1st)
College or University Professor		
Citizen/State Coalitions		
14	Ms. Grace Huang	14-17 (1st)
15	Ms. Gail Stone	12-15 (1st); 15-18 (2nd)
Student Representative (not counted in membership)		
na	Carolea Casas (UW)	14-
Na	Mayra A. Rangel (SU)	15-

Trial Court Judges

- Proposed Muni Court Judge – Announcement for vacancy was posted by staff and President of DMCJA in late 2014 asking for letters of interest from judicial officer in Eastern WA, smaller court. No responses.

Trial Court Administrators

- Superior Court Administrator – Announcement for vacancy was posted by staff and President of Superior Court Admins (AWSCA) in May/June 2015 asking for letters of interest. No responses.

Bar Associations/Lawyers

- Sonia True (Yakima)
- Vicky Vreeland (Seattle)
- Rita Bender (Seattle)

College or University Professor

- Professor Gail Hammer, Gonzaga University (Spokane)
- Professor Dana Raigrodski, UW, School of Law (Seattle)

Citizen/State Coalitions

- Kelley Amburgey-Richardson, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (state-wide)
- Jim Bamberger, OCLA (state-wide)
- Emily Cordo, Sexual Violence Legal Services, YWCA (Seattle)



August 24, 2015

Dear Tribal Judge:

We would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in our regional meeting of the Tribal State Court Consortium (TSCC) hosted by the Swinomish Tribe and the Washington Supreme Court Commissions on Monday, September 21, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Swinomish Casino and Lodge, 12885 Casino Dr., Anacortes, WA 98221. The meeting will be in the Event Center Room 2. The TSCC was launched in 2012 to encourage and promote communication and collaboration between tribal and state court judges throughout Washington.

To date, there have been two TSCC meetings held in conjunction with the Fall Judicial Conference and a regional meeting at the Suquamish Tribe. The purpose of the Swinomish regional meeting is to bring together municipal, district, and superior court judges with tribal court judges from the upper western region of Washington (Whatcom, Snohomish, King, Island, Skagit, and San Juan counties) to discuss culture, tribal code, and cross-jurisdictional issues impacting domestic violence and sexual assault cases. We will also invite tribal judges from the tribes that are also located in this region – Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Upper Skagit, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Tulalip, Snoqualmie, and Muckleshoot. Our goal is to create and/or build on existing practical strategies that will help foster and sustain dialogue and collaboration between the state and tribal courts.

We hope you can participate in this important meeting. Please RSVP by September 11, to Ms. Pam Dittman, Administrative Office of the Courts at pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov or (360) 704-4031.

If you have any substantive questions about the meeting or the TSCC, please contact Ms. Danielle Pugh-Markie at danielle.pugh-markie@courts.wa.gov or (360) 705-5290.

Sincerely,

Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen
WA State Supreme Court

Chief Judge Mark Pouley
Swinomish Tribal Court

Presiding Judge Tom Tremaine
Kalispel Tribal Court
President, NW Tribal Court
Judges' Association



August 24, 2015

Dear Presiding Judge:

We invite your court to send a team of two to three judicial officers to participate in our regional meeting of the Tribal State Court Consortium (TSCC) hosted by the Swinomish Tribe and the Washington Supreme Court Commissions. The TSCC was launched in 2012 to encourage and promote communication and collaboration between tribal and state court judges throughout Washington. To date, there have been two TSCC meetings held in conjunction with the Fall Judicial Conference and a regional meeting hosted by the Suquamish Tribe.

We encourage you or others from your court to attend this important meeting on Monday, September 21, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Swinomish Casino and Lodge, 12885 Casino Dr., Anacortes, WA 98221. The meeting will be in the Event Center Room 2.

The purpose of the Swinomish regional meeting is to bring together municipal, district, and superior court judicial officers with tribal court judicial officers from the upper western region of Washington (Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Island, and San Juan counties) to discuss culture, tribal code, and cross-jurisdictional issues impacting domestic violence and sexual assault cases. We are also inviting tribal judicial officers from tribes located in this region – Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Upper Skagit, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Tulalip, Snoqualmie, and Muckleshoot. Our goal is to create and/or build on existing practical strategies that will help foster and sustain dialogue and collaboration between the state and tribal courts. Furthermore, we want to identify and acknowledge those instances where state and tribal courts have already taken up the challenges of jurisdiction, mutual enforcement of orders, and transfer of cases, and to see how we might build on those successes.

Where such efforts have not yet been undertaken, or where they have been unsuccessful, we hope to set in place a plan for success.

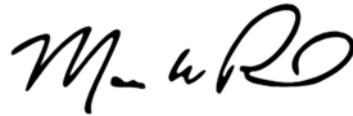
Please RSVP by September 11, to Ms. Pam Dittman, Administrative Office of the Courts at pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov or (360) 704-4031.

If you have any substantive questions about the meeting or the TSCC, please contact Ms. Danielle Pugh-Markie at danielle.pugh-markie@courts.wa.gov or (360) 705-5290.

Sincerely,



Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen
WA State Supreme Court



Chief Judge Mark Pouley
Swinomish Tribal Court



Presiding Judge Tom Tremaine
Kalispel Tribal Court
President, NW Tribal Court
Judges' Association

Gender and Justice Commission

Proposed Meeting Schedule

2016 and 2017

**Meetings are held at
AOC SeaTac Office
18000 International Blvd
11th Floor, Suite, 1106**

Meeting Time: 8:45 AM to Noon

2016

- January 8 - Confirmed
- March: Proposed dates Friday, March 4 or Thursday, March 24
 - Tentatively scheduled for 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM at the Temple of Justice, Olympia
- May 13 - Confirmed
- July 8 – Confirmed
- September 2 - Confirmed
 - Please note, this is the Friday preceding Labor Day weekend
 - Location to be determined
- November 4 - Confirmed

2017 (Tentative)

- January 13
- March 10
 - Tentatively scheduled for 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM at the Temple of Justice, Olympia
- May 12
- July 14
- September 8
- November 3

AOC Staff: Vacant, Supreme Court Commissions Manager

Pam Dittman, Program Coordinator
Pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov; 360.704.4031

Revised 9.2.2015

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