



GENDER AND JUSTICE COMMISSION (GJCOM)
AOC SEATAC OFFICE
18000 INTERNATIONAL BLVD, SUITE 1106
SEATAC, WASHINGTON
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015 (8:45 A.M. – NOON)

MEETING NOTES

Present: Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen, Chair; Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud, Vice-Chair; Ms. Kelley Amburgey-Richardson, Ms. Rita Bender, Ms. Emily Cordo, Judge Anita Crawford-Willis, Ms. Josie Delvin, Judge Michael Evans, Ms. Gail Hammer, Ms. Grace Huang, Judge Judy Jasprica, Ms. Trish Kinlow, Judge Eric Lucas, Judge Richard Melnick, Judge Marilyn Paja, Judge Mark Pouley, Dr. Dana Raigrodski, Ms. Leslie Savina, Ms. Gail Stone, Ms. Vicky Vreeland, Mr. David Ward

AOC Staff: Ms. Cynthia Delostrinos, Ms. Kathy Bradley, Ms. Pam Dittman, and Ms. Nichole Kloepper

Excused: Ms. Sonia M. Rodriguez True

Guests: Judge Elizabeth Berns, Ms. Deborah Greenleaf

CALL TO ORDER

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

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Chair Report

- September 4, 2015 Meeting Notes

The September 4, 2015 meeting notes were approved and adopted as presented.

- New Member Welcome

All Commission members were asked to introduce themselves and include what was their impetus in becoming part of the Commission, how does the work you do intersect with the work of the Commission; and for new members, what do you hope to contribute/bring to the Commission, are there other questions you have for members, are there Committees or projects you would like to be a part of, etc.

All Commission members were provided the newly revised Member Packet which includes general information, roles and responsibilities, member contact information, committee structure and descriptions, and other useful forms and information.

Members are encouraged to look through this packet and suggest additions and/or changes.

- Washington Initiative for Diversity Award (WID)
The WID received an award from the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) for their contribution and work on diversity issues and in particular, their Judicial Institute. The Judicial Institute's purpose is to "prepare qualified, diverse attorneys for judicial positions through the development of a comprehensive education and mentorship program." The Commission has supported this training since its inception.
- National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) 2016 Conference and Mission Creek Re-Entry Symposium - Judge Marilyn Paja
Judge Paja reported that the 2016 NAWJ conference will be held October 5-9, 2016 at the Seattle Sheraton. The yearly conference brings together judges and other associate members such as lawyers, legal experts, and others to provide a myriad of educational opportunities on emerging issues affecting judicial officers.

The Commission and the NAWJ worked with the Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women (MCCCW) for the second year in a row on a re-entry symposium. Judges Marilyn Paja, Jill Johanson, G. Helen Whitener, Janet Garrow, Karen Donohue, and Michelle Gehlsen were able to attend and participate in the event. Judge Johanson provided an inspirational opening presentation, which resonated with the inmates.

Staff Report – Pam Dittman and Cynthia Delostrinos

- Budgets GJCOM and Grants
Budgets have not been included in the meeting packet. Staff continue to work with AOC administration to establish a fair and equitable solution to the conundrum of which budget (or Commission) should pay for the Supreme Court Commissions Manager (SCCM) position.

The FFY14 STOP grant expires at the end of the calendar year. The FFY15 STOP Grant funds will be available on January 1, 2016 and it is anticipated there will be a \$5,000-\$10,000 decrease from FFY14. STOP funds address issues on domestic, sexual, and dating violence and stalking.

The GTEA grant expires September 30, 2016. GTEA funds are used to support the tribal state court consortium regional and annual meetings. Unfortunately, these funds are very limited to those functions and as such, we have only spent approximately \$6,000 of \$20,000. Staff have asked grant monitors for exceptions, but have been turned down because of the intricacy of modifying federal grants. We are planning several more meetings prior to the end of the grant cycle and do anticipate using more funds.

GUEST SPEAKERS & EXPLORATORY PROJECTS

- Child Maltreatment Manual Update and Q&A

Judge Elizabeth Berns and Ms. Deborah Greenleaf provided Commission members an opportunity to discuss the newly revised and distributed “Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment: Coordinated Response Guideline.” The guideline can be found at http://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/gjc/documents/Child%20Maltreatment%20Guidelines.pdf.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports were conducted a bit differently this meeting to ensure that new members were given an idea of each Committee’s purpose and provided an opportunity to volunteer and/or ask questions regarding the work of each Committee.

If you are interested in working on any of these Committees or individual projects within a Committee’s purview, please contact Pam Dittman at pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov.

- Communications - Judge Marilyn Paja, Chair

This Committee is responsible for helping produce the annual report, review the Commission’s website, and assist with ways to communicate to the judiciary and our partners and allies about the work of the Commission.

This Committee will begin working on the 2015 annual report and needs persons willing to review and edit. Additionally, the Committee will be working on a plan to best distribute and communicate the updates to the sexual offense bench guide and the revisions and additions to the domestic violence bench guide.

- DV Committee – Judge Judy Jasprica, Chair

This Committee works on issues involved gender-based violence. For 2016, this Committee will be rolling out a plan to conduct “roadshows” in six to ten places throughout the state. These roadshows incorporate stakeholder meetings to gather information on specific court-related issues, communicate the Commission’s perspective on issues, and develop protocols or guidelines for courts to address specific issues such as legislation on forfeiture of firearms as related to domestic violence protection orders. The Committee will also be sponsoring and working with staff on a judicial education session for DMCJA Spring Conference.

- Education – Judge Rich Melnick, Chair

The purpose of this Committee is to provide a conduit between Commission members, staff, associations, and other partners. There was discussion on the need to include judicial officers in the planning of workshops, conference presentations, and/or other trainings to ensure expectations are laid out and the judicial perspective is included.

Further discussion needed to be had in regards to speakers and content for the upcoming conference.

Slated for 2016:

- Judicial College – DV session
- Appellate Conference – Same sex marriage session
- SCJA Spring Conference (April) – Incarcerated Women & Girls Session (90 minutes)
- DMCJA Spring Conference (June) – The state of batterers’ intervention programs nationally and locally and other accountability options (Opening Plenary)
- Fall Conference (September) – Session proposals are being accepted
- NAWJ (October) – Not an AOC conference, but the Commission is providing input on specific sessions and may be providing monetary support through STOP grant funds on related sessions.

○ Equality in the Profession

This Committee looks at how to promote legal equality in the justice system. Areas of focus for this Committee has been planning the annual Judicial Officer and Law Student Reception, planning a Women’s History Month event; and providing oversight and input to the update to the 1989 Gender bias report.

This Committee presently does not have a Chair. If you are interested in being the Chair, please contact Pam.

○ Incarcerated Women & Girls – Gail Stone, Chair

Gail Stone has stepped into the chair position for this committee and Cynthia Delostrinos is providing staff support. This Committee focuses on issues that are unique to incarcerated women and girls. This group meets after the Commission meetings and by telephone.

○ Tribal State Court Consortium – Judge Mark Pouley

This is a collaborative effort amongst all the Commissions. The TSCC provide a forum for discussion on inter-jurisdictional issues between tribal and state courts.

September 21 Regional Meeting hosted by Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Judge Pouley indicated this meeting was well-attended. Judge Steven Aycock from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges facilitated sessions covering full faith and credit and comity and prioritizing areas of mutual concern and sustainability. The participants indicated they would like to see the TSCC assist with:

- 1) Communication. Foster and create relationships

- 2) Training. Have state and tribal judicial officers co-train/present/facilitate relevant training sessions. Ensure historical trauma issues are included. Develop tools for judicial officers (bench guides/cards, etc.)
- 3) Technology/Policy. Share court records/orders.
- 4) Facilitate regular meetings of the TSCC. To cover jurisdictional and historical trauma issues.
- 5) Joint Projects. To foster communication, relationships, training opportunities, etc.
- 6) Formalize protocols or procedures for filing protection orders. Possibly conduct a survey and implement a model MOU.
- 7) Share resources.

October 4 Annual Meeting at Fall Conference

The annual meeting was well received. Judge Lori K. Smith, King County Superior Court agreed to be the co-chair of the TSCC with Judge Pouley. The meeting included: a year in review of the work and regional meetings conducted by the TSCC; a presentation on the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System by Jamie Yoder from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs; and 3) a roll-out of the TSCC website (<http://www.courts.wa.gov/?fa=home.sub&org=tscc&layout=2>).

Participants discussed formalizing the TSCC structure to include:

- 1) Annual meetings at each Fall Conference
- 2) Hold two to three regional meetings each year. Possible timeframes are February, April, September (fall conference), and possibly November.
- 3) Include “learning/training” components in the meetings

Several participants indicated they would be available to assist with the next regional meeting slated for Eastern Washington and others indicated they would be able to assist with populating the TSCC website.

The next meeting is January 8, 2015 at the SeaTac Office from 8:45 AM – Noon.

The meeting Adjourned at approximately noon.