



**Gender and Justice Commission**  
**May 5, 2023**  
**9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Zoom Videoconference**



**MEETING NOTES**

**Members & Liaisons Present**

Justice Gordon McCloud  
Judge Jacqueline Shea-Brown  
Dua Abudiab  
Commissioner Jonathon Lack  
Riddhi Mukhopadhyay  
Dana Raigrodski  
Jennifer Ritchie  
Barbara Serrano  
Judge Cindy K Smith  
Lynn Daggett  
Victoria Blumhorst  
Shannon Kilpatrick  
Quinn Dalan  
Jane Smith  
Laura Edmonston  
Dr. Arina Gertseva  
Judge Bonnie Glenn  
Zoe Saccio  
Julia Davis  
Tyler Beckham

**AOC Staff**

Kelley Amburgey-Richardson  
Crissy Anderson  
Laura Jones  
Avery Miller  
Mishani Jack-Gonzalez  
Carolyn Cole  
Karl Jones  
Alex Donnici  
Haily Perkins

**Members & Liaisons Absent**

Dave Reynolds  
Judge Rebecca Glasgow  
Elizabeth Hendren  
Kelly Harris  
Lillian Hawkins  
Judge Anita Crawford-Willis

**Guests**

Bree Black Horse  
Gloria Guizar

**WELCOME AND INITIAL BUSINESS**

#### Chair Announcement

- Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud announced that Judge Jackie Shea-Brown is stepping down as chair due to personal reasons, and she will name a replacement.
- Judge Jackie-Shea Brown announces today is the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

#### Introductions

- The attendees introduced themselves.

#### Approval of March Minutes

- The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and approved. Dana Raigrodski motioned for approval, Quinn Dalan seconded, passed unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE AND PROJECT UPDATES**

#### Law Student Liaison Updates

- The law student liaison provided updates.

#### Incarceration Committee

- The committee is meeting monthly with Department of Corrections executives to assess their Gender Informed Practices Assessment (GIPA) and will be meeting with more programmatic people at DOC.
- The committee is focusing conversations on increasing access for incarcerated women regarding family and civil legal access.
- The committee is looking to re-engage with the Mission Creek Conference where service providers and legal aid organizations/judges go into the prison and meet with women.

#### B. Education Committee

- The committee's firearm relinquishment session for judicial conferences had to be postponed.
- The committee shifted focus to the Tiffany Hill Act, a bill passed in 2020 regarding GPS/electronic monitoring with victim notification technology used in domestic violence cases.
- The committee is still working on sessions for the fall conference, including an incarceration session and a session on substance abuse & mental health coercion in domestic violence cases.
- Judge Glasgow and the committee are working on getting a lunch and learn forum for judicial officers regarding the federal Dobbs decision, and will be inviting national speakers to give an overview of the implications of that decision.

- Commissioner Lack reported on a session sponsored by the GJC regarding gender nonconforming, trans nonbinary lawyers presenting on a recent rule change regarding pronouns. Commissioner Lack thanked the commission for their support of this session.
- Justice Gordon McCloud reported that the GJC also sponsored a session on Dobbs at the Appellate Spring Conference regarding the intersectional history of implications of bodily autonomy and abortion, including race, slavery, etc., and litigation that is likely to arise.

#### C. Domestic and Sexual Violence Committee

- Quinn Dalan provided the update on the committee's activities.
- The committee is surveying courts regarding their experiences with the implementation of the new domestic violence protection order law, with Commissioner Terri Farmer taking the lead.
- The committee is building off of the lunch and learn forums happening for the past several months for judicial officers to discuss domestic violence issues.
- The committee is creating a resource library for training materials on domestic and sexual violence, with Quinn Dalan taking the lead.
- The committee is continually updating the bench guides on domestic and sexual violence.

#### D. Tribal State Court Consortium

- Judge Cindy Smith provided the update on the Consortium's activities.
- The Consortium is preparing a tribal court panel for the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts conference.
- The Consortium's first in-person meeting will be in Squamish on June 2nd, and they are working on coordinating that.
- Mishani Jack-Gonzalez has sent out a survey to tribal courts across the state to figure out if they want access for domestic violence orders to be entered into the state database.
- Mishani Jack-Gonzalez sent out the newsletter on May 5 in honor of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

#### E. Legislative Committee

- The Legislative Committee is co-chaired by Justice Gordon McCloud and Judge Shea-Brown and is staffed by AOC and chairs of each committee. In the past, support for legislation was more ad hoc, but the committee was formed to make a more formal process to decide which bills to support. Staff read through weekly schedules for any bills that have gendered impacts and summarized the bills, then assigned a bill to each member of the committee to read, review, and recommend support or not. Justice Gordon McCloud thanked everyone involved in that committee.
  - Justice Gordon McCloud reported on a few key bills:
    - Jury diversity passed in somewhat modified form.

- A bill on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women passed.
- A bill on post-conviction access to counsel passed in a limited form.
- Self-help centers for unrepresented litigants passed.
- The courthouse security bill passed in modified form.
- The committee received a bill that they didn't expect: Bill 1715, which tasks the GJC for a workgroup to establish resources for crime victims of gender-based violence. The committee has a meeting scheduled with Rep. Davis next week to discuss this bill.

#### Implementation Committee

- Dana Raigrodski discussed the recent Data for Justice bill, which names UW the host for the statewide database and allocated \$2 million in funding. Hopefully, this will help push forward data recommendations from the 2021 Gender and Justice Study.
- The committee stepped in at the last minute to help put on a training regarding correctly filling out judgment and sentencing forms.
- The committee is working to put together a concrete plan to call on subject matter experts and stakeholders on implementing the recommendations from the study, especially concerning family law navigators, fee waivers for divorce cases, and more.
- Barbara Serrano added that HB 1715 had a lot of controversy, but an interesting aspect is that most women leave their abusers through family law court, not criminal court. She has been working on the Implementation Committee and sees a lot of overlap with the Legislative Committee as well.
- Justice Gordon McCloud explained the purpose and limits of a judicial branch agency commenting on legislation: to advance administration of justice and access to law, not set policy.
- Commissioner Lack added that he is on the new Supreme Court committee on Courthouse Security, representing GJC.

#### MJC Liaison Report

- Carolyn Cole reported on the upcoming National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (NCREC) conference, which is being hosted in Seattle in a few weeks. Washington is one of the founding states, and with over 200 registrants so far, the conference promises to be an incredible opportunity for learning and collaboration. The full schedule is available in the meeting packet, and the Gender and Justice Commission is proud to support and sponsor this important event.
- Chief Judge Cindy Smith is leading the Tribal State Consortium panel, which will be livestreamed by TVW. The Commission thanks her for her leadership in this critical work.

- Commissioner Lack is leading a panel on language access and trauma-informed practices in judicial environments, co-sponsored with the Interpreter and Language Access Commission and Trish Kinlow. The Commission is grateful for their dedication to this important issue.
- Finally, there will be a networking event at the WOW Gallery (Wonder of Women), and the Commission thanks everyone involved in organizing this exciting opportunity for networking and community-building.
- Further reporting from the MJC Liaisons is included as a written report in the meeting packet.

#### Liaison updates

- Dua Abudiab provides the link and updates to upcoming activities with the Washington Women's Lawyer events, including a Judicial Appreciation and Honors Luncheon

#### Brief Break 10:30-10:45

#### **Hailey Perkins' full report on the 2023 legislative session:**

- Lobby for budgets and policy for the judicial branch
- Quick update on Board of Judicial Administration (BJA) legislative updates:
  - 4 bills in session, all passed
  - HB 1023: Chief Justice required to authorize report for wiretap authorization, resulting report did not have substantive information
  - Increased daily pay rate for pro tem judges
  - SB 5003: added an additional judicial position in Snohomish County District Court consistent with judicial needs assessment
  - Jury diversity bill: larger omnibus bill, lost one provision on increasing juror pay, but got funding for a pilot project
  - Subsections of this bill include:
    - Collect jury demographics (continues current MJC study), secured ongoing funding
    - Requires AOC to run a childcare pilot project workgroup, will coordinate with GJC on this subject
    - Allows electronic jury summons via email
- Other bills discussed include:

- HB 1169: eliminates crime victim penalty assessment, eliminates DNA database fee, establishes alternate funding for juvenile Legal Financial Obligations (LFOs)
- HB 1715: comprehensive protections for victims of domestic violence, requires adoption of rules on electronic monitoring, makes changes to civil protection orders, addresses the confidentiality program, firearm surrender orders, pilot projects for high-risk teams, and requires expansion of training for law enforcement and judicial officers on domestic violence. Workgroup for monitoring provisions is with BJA.
- HB 1766: HOPE Card program, requires development and issuance of a laminated HOPE Card containing specific information for protection orders. Card provided for free to petitioners.
- Special session for the Blake fix regarding substance criminalizations
- Next session is a short session, so only technical bills with smaller or no fiscal impacts will be moving forward
- Forms to request a BJA legislative proposal have been distributed and are included in the meeting packet
- Committee will be analyzing data from the jury diversity bill in order to ask for an increase in juror pay
- Justice Gordon McCloud asks about public defender attrition and staffing crisis, but Hailey did not have any information to provide on that subject

The Committee thanks Hailey for her thorough update and her dedication to ensuring that the judicial branch is supported in the legislative process.

#### **Women of Color Legal Education Fund**

- Bree Black Horse and Gloria Guizar are recognized by Judge Shea-Brown
- Women of Color Legal Education Fund (WOCLEF) aims to diversify the legal profession for greater equity in the legal system
- Leadership program supports WOC ties to Yakima area, facilitating professional development, academic achievement, and financial support
- Founded in 2021 as a response to lack of racial/ethnic diversity at local, state, and national levels
- Programs include Law Scholar and Pre-Law Scholar:
  - Law Scholar program: 2 grants awarded totaling \$4,000, fees can be used for tuition, fees, courses, internships, and living expenses
  - Pre-Law Scholar program: grant funds awarded for LSAT prep and study materials, fees, applications, childcare, etc.; 17 grants awarded in 2022 totaling \$17,000
- PLUS program created at Heritage University to make law degree more accessible to students

- Partner organizations include Yakima Valley Community Foundation, KT Indigenous Native American Resource Group, and the Share Fund
- Next steps: WOCLEF thrilled to have 7 applicants for 2023 Law Scholar grant. They will continue to work on fundraising efforts and continuing to support our scholars.

## ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT