



Gender and Justice Commission (GJCOM)

Friday, January 10, 2014, (8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)

AOC SeaTac Office
SeaTac, Washington

MEETING NOTES

Members Present: Chief Justice Barbara Madsen, Chair; Ms. Ruth Gordon, Vice-Chair; Ms. Laura Contreras (via phone), Judge Michael Evans, Judge Judy Jasprica, Judge Richard Melnick, Mr. Ron Miles, Judge Marilyn Paja, Judge Mark Pouley, Ms. Leslie Savina, Judge Tom Tremaine, Mr. David Ward, Ms. Danielle Pugh-Markie (AOC staff), and Ms. Pam Dittman (AOC staff)

Guests: None

Members Absent: Ms. Sara Ainsworth, Dr. Margaret Hobart, Professor Taryn Lindhorst, Ms. Judith A. Lonquist, Judge Eric Lucas, Judge Ann Schindler, Ms. Gail Stone

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:55 a.m. Introductions were made.

Review of December 6, 2013 meeting notes

Meeting notes were unable to be distributed prior to the meeting. Members were asked to provide any changes to Pam Dittman by January 17, 2014, and agreed to conditionally approve the notes "as is" and with any changes that were to come in.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

CHAIR REPORT

Supreme Court Commission Coordinator

Danielle Pugh-Markie started with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) on January 2, 2014. Danielle will be supporting the Gender & Justice, Minority & Justice, and Interpreter Commissions. Danielle has worked on the national and international level and comes to AOC from the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges.

Luncheon for Women Legislators

The March 14, 2014, Commission meeting will be held in Olympia. We will follow the meeting with a luncheon for women legislators in conjunction with Women's History Month and International Women's Day. An invite will be extended to the First Lady, Trudi Inslee. The luncheon discussion has not yet been decided. The Chief and Commission staff will work together to determine the luncheon agenda, draft a *Save the Date* letter, etc.

Ruth Gordon and Judge Marilyn Paja agreed to assist on this event.

Please mark your calendars for:

Friday, March 14, 2014

Temple of Justice – Chief's Reception Room, Olympia

Commission Meeting 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Luncheon 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Funding Requests

- Civil Legal Aid Needs Study: Follow-up from the December 6, 2013, Commission Meeting
In December, Jim Bamberger and Liz Thomas reported on the Civil Legal Aid Needs Study project and timeline and the request to the Commission for \$25,000. The Commission chose to table the discussion until the January meeting when we had a better understanding of the budget.

Members were provided an updated budget and discussed whether any work can be completed within this fiscal year. They also inquired as to whether the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association (DMCJA) and the Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA) had been asked to contribute funds. Judge Jasprica and Judge Melnick checked with the association presidents and were told that they had not been approached.

Commission staff will contact Jim Bamberger to discuss whether any work can be done by the completion of this fiscal year (June 30, 2014) and if so the pertinent deliverables and the cost for them.

- Professor Mary Anne Franks
The Commission agreed to sponsor a plenary session, "Domestic Violence & the Internet" at the SCJA Spring Conference. Additionally, as Professor Franks is a national expert on the subject of "revenge porn" we have asked if she is willing to work with us on holding trainings for others outside of the SCJA conference.

Judge Melnick, David Ward, and Sara Ainsworth have agreed to work as a subcommittee to address hosting other venues or sessions capitalizing on Professor Franks' expertise and willingness to conduct other trainings while in the area.

- Judicial Officer Enhanced Domestic Violence Training
The Commission has historically provided scholarships to judicial officers to attend Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases presented by the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence. These scholarships are paid through STOP Grant funds.

Commission members agreed to fund ten applicants to attend the February and/or April training sessions.

Commission staff will work with applicants on registration, reimbursement of travel-related expenses, and how to best report back to the Commission.

STAFF REPORT

- Budget
Commission staff prepared and presented on the current Commission budget. The Commission is allotted \$150,000 per fiscal year (July 1 thru June 30) to pay for salaries of Commission staff, projects, training, travel, etc., related to Commission business.

Members discussed the budget and ideas on how to best proceed in spending the allotted amount on worthy projects that were in line with the Commission's mission. Commission staff will continue to provide budget updates and work with the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Chairs to identify areas where funding may be needed to accomplish a project.

Commission members were asked to submit proposals to Commission staff on where/what they would like to see monies spent on. Please submit by February 29, 2014.

- **Membership Openings**
Presently, there are two vacancies: court administrator and a municipal court judicial officer. Commission members discussed who should be approached and whether there is a list of past applicants. Members agreed to approach LaTricia Kinlow, Tukwila Municipal Court, for the open administrator position and that we should focus our search for a municipal court judicial officer from Eastern Washington to ensure the Commission is being represented from all parts of the state.

Commission staff will contact LaTricia Kinlow to find out her interest and discuss the Commission's goals and objectives. Staff will also locate the past applicants' list and send to the Committee Chairs.

- **Letter of Interest for Judges' Participation in Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases Workshop.** Members discussed the ongoing need for judicial officers to attend the Enhancing Judicial Skills and Continuing Skills in domestic violence workshops. Members suggested staff solicit letters of interest each year enabling us to have prioritized candidates and offering scholarships when funds become available.

Commission staff will solicit letters of interest and work with Committee Chairs to prioritize.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Communications – Ruth Gordon, Chair**

We are continuing our work on updating the website.

Ruth will be contacting Committee Chairs to address how to update various pages of the website.

- **Domestic Violence – Judge Judy Jasprica, Chair**

- **ESHB1383 – Stalking Protection Orders**

The Stakeholders meeting convened and out of that recommendations were developed. Recommendations were to clean up language in various statutes, develop a self-help tool or modify one already in existence, create a poster-sized decision tree for the public to refer to that could assist in identifying which type of order to request.

Commission staff will send a copy of the Legislative report to members. Staff will develop a large scale decision tree and solicit quotes for printing.

- **Sentencing & Monitoring Project**
The first phase of this project is surveying judicial officers from courts of limited jurisdiction (CLJ) asking about their courts' practices around sentencing and monitoring in domestic violence cases. The survey was released to all the CLJ presiding judges and the court administrators. Survey results will be analyzed by the contractors and will help inform us on where to go for site visits.
- **Training with Interpreters**
The Committee was able to partner with the Interpreter Commission and attend a conference on domestic violence issues and how interpreters can be best used. We will be looking at how to continue that partnership and develop some training for interpreters and court staff.

- **Education – Judge Rich Melnick, Chair**

Members discussed how to continue working on education proposals. It was suggested that we develop proposals on topics of interest and then depending on the theme of the conference or the needs that are being seen, we submit them as needed. Having a catalog of proposals already fleshed out with costs, identified presenters, learning objectives, etc., would be the ideal way to respond quickly to requests.

- Fall Conference

Proposals for 2014 Fall Conference are due January 10, 2014.

- DMCMA Conference – Former Commission member, Terri Cooper asked that the Commission put on the “How Far Should We Go” session. The District and Municipal Court Management Association (DMCMA) approved this session and we will begin working with them.
- DMCJA Conference – The theme of this conference will be DUIs. The Commission did not submit any proposals for this conference.
- SCJA Conference – The Commission will be sponsoring the session on domestic violence and the Internet with Professor Franks.

- **Incarcerated Women & Girls – Sara Ainsworth, Chair**

No report.

- **Tribal State Court Consortium – Judge Tremaine and Judge Pouley**

The Consortium has not met since the Fall Conference meeting due to staffing shortages. We will regroup in February to ascertain next steps. As an aside, the Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association did put forth a proposal for Fall Conference on VAWA Reauthorization and Full Faith & Credit.

Members also discussed a possibility to develop a survey to send to clerks and tribal courts on full faith & credit and whether there is cross-collaboration on entering orders.

- **Women in the Profession – Judith Lonquist, Chair**

No report.

ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.