



Gender and Justice Commission (GJCOM)
SeaTac Office
18000 International Blvd
Friday, May 12, 2017 (8:45 AM – 12:00 PM)

MEETING NOTES

Present: Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud, Chair; Judge Marilyn Paja, Vice Chair; Ms. Grace Huang, Judge Richard Melnick, Dr. Dana Raigrodski, Judge Cindy K. Smith, Ms. Rita Bender, Judge Michael Evans, Ms. Leslie Savina, Ms. Emily Cordo, Ms. Vicky Vreeland, Ms. Gail Stone, Ms. Emily Miner, Ms. Anela Ramic, Judge Eric Lucas, Ms. Gail Hamer, Ms. Trish Kinlow, Ms. Josie Delvin

AOC Staff: Ms. Nichole Kloepfer, Ms. Kelley Amburgey-Richardson, Ms. Kathy Bradley

Excused: Judge Judy Jasprica, Judge Anita Crawford-Willis, Judge Mark Pouley, Ms. Sonia M. Rodriguez True, Mr. David Ward, Ms. Jennifer Ritchie

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:45am.

March 3, 2017 Meeting Notes

Minutes approved and passed unanimously as presented.

Education

General

- The Education Committee met March 27th and had a productive conversation about the goals of the Committee and planning for future and ongoing programs.
- Some issues discussed were: making sure we are vetting speakers properly, balanced programs, not advocating positions, allocating money appropriately among the programs, alternative training formats (e.g webinars), development of a Committee mission.
- The conference calendar is being revised so the Committee can use it throughout the year to plan ahead for submitting and developing session proposals.

DV Symposium

- September 7-8 at Seattle University School of Law. GJCOM provides funding for the Symposium that is used for (1) scholarships/travel reimbursement for judicial officers to attend and (2) faculty for judicial sessions.
- Grace Huang is presenting a session on “Enhanced Safety for Immigrant Survivors in Current Political Climate.” She is also writing an article for the WSBA newsletter on this issue, and will share with GJCOM.
- Justice Gordon McCloud shared that Chief Justice Fairhurst recently sent a letter to Homeland Security requesting arrests not be made the court house. Letter can be accessed [here](#).

Family Law Mid-Year Conference

- This is sponsored by the family law section of WSBA. Private family law attorneys statewide attend.
- David Ward is presenting a session on DV and other gender equity issues. The session is still in development with conference organizers.
- This is the first time GJCOM will present to this audience. GJCOM is reimbursing travel.

Judicial College

- A shadow faculty member needs to be selected for Judge Charles Short. The faculty member will shadow him this year, and then present with Judge Lori Kay Smith next year.
- After feedback from the Education Committee, Judge Melnick is working with the Judicial College Deans and staff to select the shadow faculty.

DMCMA Line Staff Trainings

- Seven Locations: Burlington, Lacey, Seatac, Gig Harbor, Cle Elum, Pasco, and Spokane.
- Participants were line staff in a variety of positions, who interact frequently with the public. Most participants were women.
- Trish Kinlow and Emily Cordo reported that the 7 programs were well received and thought provoking for front line staff when interacting with customers who may have experienced trauma.
- Evaluations will be summarized and distributed.

Appellate Judges' Conference

- GJCOM sponsored a 3 hour workshop on collegiality provided by 2 federal judges.
- This was well received. Evaluations are forthcoming and will be shared.

SCJA Spring Conference

- April 25th, 1:45 – 4pm in Spokane, WA. Judge Evans was the GJCOM liaison.
- This session focused on procedural fairness and cultural competence in protection order proceedings.
- There were some challenges with this session. Evaluations are forthcoming.

DMCJA Spring Conference

- The event is June 6th, 10:15 – 11:45am, Spokane, WA. Judge Jasprica is the GJCOM liaison.
- The focus is on Technology Misuse in Domestic Violence Cases (e.g. cyberstalking) and the presenter is Ian Harris from the SafetyNet Project of the National Network to End Domestic Violence.

Fall Conference

- Two proposals were accepted.
- Transgender People and the Courts: Ensuring Respect and Fairness (David Ward is the GJCOM liaison) – Sept 19th, 8:30 – 10am, Vancouver, WA. This is a four person panel discussion.
- DV and Children (Leslie Savina is the GJCOM liaison) – Sept 18th, 10:30 – 12, Vancouver, WA. Professor Jeff Edleson is the faculty for this session. He is also presenting a CLE to the Clark County Bar Association on Hague Convention issues with Sudha Shetty.

- It was suggested that the DV session include discussion of children's entry into the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Upcoming Meetings

- June 19th CEC (Court Education Committee) at SeaTac.
- June 21st – Joint Commissions Education Committee meeting with MJCOM and IC at the AOC Office in Olympia.

Miscellaneous

- Vicky Vreeland suggested the DV Leave Act as a future topic for an education session.

Gender Bias Study

Embedded librarian

- Laura Edmonston, Reference Librarian with the Washington State Law Library, explained her role as an embedded librarian with this project.
- She and Rob Mead, State Law Librarian, will be coordinating an effort with volunteers. They are developing a questionnaire to send to volunteers to determine the best fit for each person. Volunteer attorneys and law students will be revisiting the original topic areas of the 1989 report, including literature review and statutory updates.

Progress on scoping

- The committee is summarizing issues and conducting interviews with experts in the field.
- The committee would like input from the Commission about which topics should be prioritized.
- Justice Gordon McCloud distributed an outline of the potential study topics, and asked that Commission members send their feedback to her or Kelley Amburgey-Richardson.

ACTION: Please send your feedback to Kelley or Justice Gordon McCloud.

Funding update

- The Task Force is considering applying for an SJI grant that is due in October.
- Research is being conducted into the amount of funds needed and the type of staffing needed for this project (e.g. researcher, project coordinator, etc).

Tribal State Court Consortium

Update on regional meeting

- The event will be July 21, 9am-4pm, at the Colville Tribal Government Center. Save the Date will be disseminated soon.
- The Guest of Honor is Judge B.J. Jones. As more information becomes available it can be found [here](#).
- Inviting (29 tribes and state court) Also tribal court judges. 40-50 people usually attend.
- Lodging and travel reimbursement will be provided to those who attend.
- For more information on the event contact Cynthia Delostrinos.

Incarcerated Women and Girls Committee

“Court Access for Incarcerated Parents” Convening

- The committee report is attached to the packet on page 8.
- This event is planned for Monday, June 26th from 9am – 3pm at the AOC SeaTac facility.
- There will be a planning Committee with IWGC members and members of the Children of Incarcerated Parents Taskforce.

Kiosks and Legal Resource Availability

- Legal resource availability at Mission Creek is an issue. There is no law library, and currently no access to internet for forms. When attorneys come for clinic, they bring forms, but this is not often enough and if the form is incorrect there is no way to obtain the correct one until the next clinic.
- Rob Mead, State Law Librarian, is working on a related issue and would be a good contact.
- Kiosk update: the grant was secured, but there is an ongoing issue with DOC approval of the websites to be allowed which has stalled the installation. In contact with Secretary Sinclair.

Juvenile Defense Guidelines

- The committee is waiting to receive the latest draft. Once this is received, will revise its comments.

Law Student/Judicial Reception

Planning Update

- Scholarships to 2 students from NAWJ and WSAJ, traditionally given to women. Event rotates among the three law schools.
- Students from the UW Women’s Law Caucus, Vicky Vreeland (WSAJ, GJCOM), and Judge Donohue (NAWJ) are planning this event with GJCOM staff.
- The event is scheduled for November 1st. Input from the Commission was requested about the event location – law firm or UW. Commission members preferred the UW location for student participation.

Communications

Annual Report

- Biennial work rough draft, will have completed at the end of May.
- There is an interest in using artwork displayed in the Temple of Justice, and Kelley is reaching out to artist for permission.
- If you have GJCOM suggestions or things to submit send them to Kelley.

NAWJ

- Judge Paja coordinated with NAWJ to have a report about the new Gender Bias Study on their midyear meeting agenda. She will be present at the meeting. The goal is primarily to ask NAWJ to be a partner, including in requests for funding from outside agencies.

Women's History Month Reception

- The event was held on March 3rd at the Temple of Justice. Legislators RSVP'd but did not attend.
- Commission discussed whether the event format/date/location should be changed to make it easier or more attractive for legislators to attend or whether focus/audience/goal of event should change.
- Fridays are not going to work for the legislature. Middle of the week would be better, and need to consider the right time during session so there are less conflicts. Justice Owens suggests January.
- Legislative staff are also a good target audience if legislators themselves cannot attend.
- Another option would be to make this a community press event. Market GJCOM in Olympia, bring in state agencies in. Invite DOC, DSHS, showcase women's programs, where they intersect with GJCOM.

ACTION: The Communications Committee will consider options to present to GJCOM for next year's event.

Guest Speaker

Remote Access for DVPO hearings

- Materials are in the packet starting on page 9.
- The guest speaker, Brooke Hays, was unable to join the meeting via phone.
- Leslie Savina was familiar with the issue, and summarized the request for the Commission.
- Staff have conveyed that the current year's G&J STOP budget does not set aside funding for grants of this type to counties.
- The issue is likely happening in other rural counties, and it is beneficial for Commission members to be aware of it and consider what the Commission may be able to do to assist.
- There were concerns about the request for funding. There are other methods of remote access, such as skype, that are available free of cost.

ACTION: Judge Evans and Ms. Savina volunteered to continue work on this issue. Staff will provide support.

Chair Report

New Member Nominations

- The membership terms chart is in packet on page 15.
- There are 2 vacancies this summer and 5 more next year.
- The Nominations Committee will convene in the coming months, and are accepting resumes from interested individuals and recommendations from other GJCOM members.
- Submit your recommendations to Kelley Amburgey-Richardson and she will package this information and provide to the Committee.

Committee Memberships

- The committee chart is in the packet on page 16.
- GJCOM is a working Commission, and all members should participate on a Committee.
- If you would like to join a new Committee, or switch Committees, please let the Chairs and/or staff know.

- Committee Chairs should submit a short written report of current projects at least a week prior to GJCOM meetings for inclusion in the meeting packet and for task/record keeping.

HB 1163 Implementation

- Relevant sections of the bill are in the packet starting on page 17.
- This bill passed the legislature. It requires GJCOM to convene two workgroups on DV risk assessment and DV perpetrator treatment and write reports to the legislature.
- This is also an opportunity to connect with new partners for the Gender Bias Study work.
- The Chairs are working with staff on an implementation plan for the work required by the bill.
- A GJCOM appointed member will be needed to sit on the workgroups.

Miscellaneous

- The packet includes letters sent by GJCOM to the WA State Congressional delegation on VAWA funding, and the ATJ Board on the draft State Plan for the Delivery of Civil Legal Aid.
- Positive response has been received from the VAWA letter. The ATJ Board did not adopt GJCOM's comments in the draft plan.

Vice Chair Report

BJA Resolution - Language Access

- A copy of the letter sent by Chair on behalf of GJCOM is in the packet on page 20.
- GJCOM's letter supports the renewal of the resolution, and asks for language supporting translation of DV/SA forms. The Interpreter Commission is leading the request for this Resolution renewal.

Data Dissemination Committee - VAWA Workgroup

- VAWA workgroup is being convened by staff to this Committee at AOC.
- This group is being convened to determine whether AOC is in violation of VAWA by its publication of certain DV victim information online.
- GJCOM will monitor progress of this workgroup and report back.

Staff Report

Conference Scholarships

- Ms. Amburgey-Richardson asked the Commission's guidance on selecting recipients for scholarship awards to judicial officers and court staff to attend national trainings.
- General guidance discussed: (1) limit the amount to \$1500 or less depending on cost/location so more individuals may receive support, (2) provide conference support only to individuals who have not received funds for this in the past three years, (3) require the recipient to report back – write a short report for the meeting packet, and attend an Education Committee call to share any emerging issues or outstanding presenters.

GJCOM Funding Overview (tabled for next meeting)

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00pm.