



## Gender and Justice Commission (GJCOM)

Friday, May 11, 2012 (8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)

AOC - SeaTac, 18800 International Blvd, Seattle, WA

### MEETING NOTES

#### Members Present

Chair, Chief Justice Barbara Madsen	Judge Joan DuBuque	Mr. Ron Miles
Vice-Chair, Judge Alicia Nakata	Honorable Ruth Gordon	Judge Ann Schindler
Judge Stephen E. Brown	Dr. Margaret Hobart	Justice Jane Smith
Ms. Barbara Carr	Judge Cynthia Jordan	Mr. David Ward
Judge Vickie Churchill	Professor Natasha Martin	Judge Chris Wickham
Ms. Laura Contreras	Ms. Emily McClory	

Myra Downing and  
Pam Dittman, staff

#### New Members as of July 1, 2012

Sara Ainsworth	Judge Judy Jasprica	Leslie Savina
Terri Cooper	Judge Rich Melnick	Gail Stone
Ms. Emily Henry	Judge Mark Pouley	

#### Guests

Pearl Gibson	Anita Granbois
Kathleen Hopkins	Jaime Hawk (via phone)

#### Members Absent

Ms. Judith Lonquist	Ms. Leslie Owen
---------------------	-----------------

The meeting was called to order and the March 9, 2012 meeting notes were approved with no changes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

The Commission invited and welcomed eight (8) new members who are filling upcoming vacant positions. Their terms will be July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015. The new members are:

- Sara Ainsworth, Attorney-at-law
- Ms. Terri Cooper, Cheney Municipal Court Administrator
- Judge Judy Jasprica, Pierce County District Court
- Judge Rich Melnick, Clark County Superior Court
- Judge Mark Pouley, Swinomish Tribal Court
- Ms. Leslie Savina, Northwest Justice Project
- Ms. Gail Stone, King County Law and Justice Policy Advisor

Committee Chairs provided brief backgrounds and the current projects being worked on by their Committee and invited new members to volunteer on their Committee. Most Committee meetings are conducted via conference call.

## **Committee Overviews**

- Domestic Violence (DV) Committee: Chair, Judge Chris Wickham

The purpose of this committee is to continually evaluate, recommend, and propose solutions to enhance the management of domestic violence and sexual assault cases within the court system. The outcome of this work is the enhanced safety of those who have been victims of domestic violence and sexual assault by ensuring a seamless response. The DV committee was instrumental in the writing of the domestic violence protocols and model policies on rescission and modification of domestic violence protection and no contact orders and protocols for reducing duplicative and conflicting no-contact and protection orders. They are currently researching sentencing options for those who batter and will be making recommendations to the courts.

- Incarcerated Women and Girls Committee: Chair, Judge Vickie Churchill

The purpose of this committee is to address gender needs and responses of incarcerated girls and women. The committee assisted in the work that led to passage of legislation preventing shackling of women/girls during child birth. The Committee is working on providing information to newly released offenders on how to gain back certain rights such as obtaining a driver's license, child visitation, and how to expunge records when applicable.

- Legislative Committee: Chair, David Ward

The purpose of this committee is to stay abreast of proposed legislation that may have an impact on areas of interest to the Commission and to work with others who may be crafting legislation to ensure it best meets the needs of the courts and court community. The Committee collaborates with law and justice partners in assessing the impact of proposed legislation on the courts and the people served by the courts.

- Gender Equality: Chair, Judith Lonquist

The purpose of this committee is to strive to ensure gender equality in the legal profession and leverage effective responses intended to address any inequities. Some of their activities include working with law students on gender specific research projects, responding to GLBT issues that arise in courts, and examining gender and justice implications of family law reform in general. Two ongoing projects are the annual judge and law student reception and participating in the Initiative for Diversity Governing Council (IDGC).

- Publications/Outreach: Chair, Ruth Gordon

The purpose of this committee is to be the voice to our partners and other interested parties regarding gender issues in the law and justice community. The Committee is currently working on updating the Gender & Justice Commission website and will begin working on the annual report.

- Immigration: Chair, Judge Ann Schindler

The purpose of the Immigration Committee is to explore and establish protocols to address the nexus of immigration, culture, and domestic violence. This Committee has provided educational sessions at judicial conferences. Presently, the Committee is overseeing a State Justice Institute (SJI) grant which is funding the development and distribution of a civil and a criminal bench guide on immigration, the offering of two (2) webinars, and another educational session at the fall judicial conference.

New Members – if you are interested in volunteering for any of the Committees, please contact Myra Downing at [myra.downing@courts.wa.gov](mailto:myra.downing@courts.wa.gov) and indicate which Committee.

**Ad-Hoc Committee Overviews** (Ad-hoc committees are convened for specific and usually short-term projects.)

- Nomination Committee:  
This Committee is comprised of the Chairs of the Standing Committees and provides input when new members are needed. They suggest, contact, and screen applications and select the individuals that will be presented to the Chief Justice for appointment.
- Mission Statement Committee: Chair, Ron Miles  
The mission statement is being updated to be compelling and inspiring.

## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

### **STAFF REPORT – Myra Downing**

- Stop Grant Awards  
The DV Committee reviewed the thirteen (13) proposals that were submitted and selected six (6) for funding.
- DV Manual Update  
The Commission has entered into a contract with the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence to update the Domestic Violence Bench Guide. Grace Huang is the lead on the project.
- In Her Shoes  
The Commission conducted six (6) educational programs focusing on domestic violence and using the simulated exercises “In Her Shoes” for the District and Municipal Court Managers Association. Commission members Judge Joan DuBuque, Dr. Margaret Hobart, Mr. Ron Miles, and Justice Jane Smith either taught, facilitated or assisted in the exercise along with staff Myra Downing, Pam Dittman, and Monto Morton.
- Tribal/State Consortium

A Washington Tribal-State Judicial Consortium is being developed under the auspices of the Gender and Justice Commission, the Commission on Children in Foster Care, and the Minority & Justice Commission. Judge Patricia Clark and Judge Theresa Pouley will be the Co-Chairs for the Consortium. The consortium will seek to involve the 29 recognized Tribes in Washington State. A mission statement, goals, values, and scope of work has been drafted. A short survey was also sent out to various judicial and Commission listservs and responses are being collected which will assist the Consortium in identifying the issues, prioritizing the issues, and identifying other partners.

- Sexual Assault Bench Guide – Judge Carol Schapira, Chair  
The Commission is developing a Sexual Assault Bench Guide. Law students are working on drafts outlines for review by the committee and other judicial officers. The law students will begin drafting the content for each chapter after the review of outlines has been completed. The draft of the bench guide is expected to be completed by September 2012.

#### **CHAIR REPORT – Chief Justice Madsen**

- Initiative for Diversity (IDGC)  
PLEASE NOTE: The date for the Managing Partner CLE has been changed to October 15.
- ABA DV Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence Reception and Presentation  
The Commission and NAWJ co-sponsored a reception for the ABA Domestic and Sexual Violence Commission on Thursday, May 3. Approximately 60 people were in attendance. We were fortunate that the law firm of Graham and Dunn hosted the event. Chief Justice Madsen welcomed the Commission and thanked them for their contribution to enhancing the safety of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

On Friday, May 4, Judge James Riehl and Myra Downing made a presentation to the Commission highlighting our work and describing upcoming activities and projects.

- AOC Changes  
Jeff Hall, State Court Administrator will be leaving the agency at the end of June.

#### **GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

Kathleen Hopkins and Jaime Hawk approached the Commission about working with the ABA Commission on Human Trafficking and the Pro Bono and Public Service Committee in presenting a Human Trafficking program scheduled for Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Hotel in Seattle. There are three primary topic areas:

1. A 2-hour presentation on the Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) project which represents unaccompanied children in immigration proceedings. Training manuals and information on KIND are available at [www.americanbar.org/groups/gpsolo/initiatives/kind.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/gpsolo/initiatives/kind.html)
2. A 2-3 hour training for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement and volunteers on issues relating to Human Trafficking (not limited to child victims)
3. A 3-hour “summit” which would include break out groups of judges, government officials, academics, project coordinators, volunteers, law enforcement. Each group would have a law student act as a reporter.

Gail Stone, Judge Schindler, Judge Wu and Judge Kondo will be working with the committee.

Department of Commerce Office of Crime Victim Advocates State STOP Grant Managers - Pearl Gipson-Collier, and Anita Granbois

Pearl and Anita provided updates to the STOP Grant funds received by AOC. They expressed how having AOC distribute the funds provides our state with opportunities that other states miss such as a coordination of efforts, state-wide training and facilitating state-wide practices. They also mentioned that finding ways to partner with others such as Sheriff's and Prosecuting Attorney Offices to leverage funds is an excellent idea and they are willing to assist staff in identifying funding resources and assisting with project scopes to ensure they meet the STOP Grant guidelines.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Publications – Website - Chair, Ruth Gordon  
This Committee has been working on updating the GJCOM website. Ruth presented the updated GJCOM website and navigated through the various pages and explained the ideas and rationales behind the various pages. Thanks to the Committee members: Dr. Margaret Hobart, Ms. Emily McClory, Mr. Ron Miles, Justice Jane Smith and AOC staff: Paula Odegaard staff to the committee and Beth McGrath (design).

Comments from members were:

- Love the new design
  - Add pictures to break up content
  - Add member names to photo galleries
  - Promote site and keep information relevant and updated
  - Data can be collected on site/page hits
  - Provide a protocol/process on how to request something to be added to the site
  - Provide a search function just for the GJCOM site
  - Provide something on the DV page on if you are a victim click here and also on how abusers can monitor your computer usage and how to erase your tracks
  - When does it go live and how can we let people know
- Legislative Update – Chair, David Ward  
A summary of the 2012 Legislation of Interest to the Courts was provided as a handout. David stated that the Attorney General's Office will be introducing the failed stalking protection order bill from last session.

## OUTGOING MEMBERS

Eight members are leaving the Commission after their terms are up on June 30<sup>th</sup>. They were recognized for the service over the past few years. Members leaving are:

- Barbara Carr, Jefferson County Juvenile Court
- Judge Joan DuBuque, King County Superior Court
- Professor Natasha Martin, Seattle University School of Law

- Judge Craig Matheson, Benton/Franklin Counties Superior Court
- Ms. Emily McClory, Law Student Liaison
- Ms. Leslie Owen, Northwest Justice Project
- Mr. Bernie Ryan, Citizen
- Justice Jane Smith, Colville Tribal Court

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Judge DuBuque provided a flyer on the Upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Annual DV Symposium being held in Seattle on September 6 & 7. King County was awarded STOP Grant funds to assist with this symposium; specifically, to provide funds for registration fees for judicial officers from outside King County to attend. This year, the symposium will feature specific topics relevant to judicial officers.
- Gail Stone mentioned that the Seattle Attorney's Office will be providing Trauma Stewardship training on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting concluded at 12:45pm.**