



**Washington State Minority and Justice Commission (WSMJC)**  
**Friday, April 1, 2016**  
**11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Gonzaga University School of Law**  
**Spokane, Washington**



**MEETING NOTES**

**Commission Members Present**

Justice Mary Yu, Co-Chair  
 Justice Charles Johnson, Co-Chair  
 Judge Veronica Alicea-Galvan  
 Judge Lisa Atkinson  
 Prof. Lori Bannai  
 Ms. Anne Benson  
 Judge Linda Coburn  
 Sgt. Adrian Diaz  
 Mr. Mike Diaz  
 Judge Lisa Dickinson  
 Prof. Jason Gillmer  
 Ms. Bonnie Glenn  
 Ms. Anne Lee  
 Commissioner Joyce McCown, Ret.  
 Ms. Karen Murray  
 Ms. P. Diane Schneider  
 Judge Kimberly Walden  
 Judge Dennis Yule, Ret.

**Student Liaisons Present**

Mr. Jamie Cuevas Jr.  
 Ms. Sarah Erickson  
 Mr. Frank Ovono  
 Ms. Harkiran Sekhon  
 Mr. Joshua Treybig

**Members Not Present**

Justice Debra Stephens  
 Mr. Jeffrey Beaver  
 Prof. Robert Boruchowitz  
 Mr. Steve Clem  
 Prof. William Covington  
 Judge Theresa Doyle  
 Ms. Marie Eggart  
 Mr. Russell Hauge  
 Mr. Uriel Iñiguez  
 Ms. Yemi Fleming-Jackson  
 Ms. Carla Lee  
 Judge LeRoy McCullough  
 Judge Lori Smith  
 Mr. Travis Stearns  
 Judge Gregory Sypolt  
 Mr. John Yasutake

**AOC Staff Present**

Ms. Stacy Smith

**Guests**

Ms. Kate Sanburn

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The meeting minutes from the February 5, 2016, meeting were approved.

**CO-CHAIRS REPORT**

**Legislative Priorities from the Board for Judicial Administration (BJA)**

BJA asked for the Commission’s input on legislation for the 2017 Legislative Session. A Commission ad hoc sub-committee will vet legislation and raise issues with BJA. Justice Yu will communicate the Commission’s issues with BJA; these issues will correspond with and be fielded through existing MJC committees. The following members volunteered to serve on the sub-committee: Judge Galvan, Karen Murray, and Annie Lee (specifically for juvenile justice issues). Proposals and comments must be submitted by June 1, 2016.

### **2016 Supreme Court Symposium – May 25, Temple of Justice**

Planning is continuing for the Symposium. The 2016 Symposium will be held at the Temple of Justice on Wednesday, May 25, 2016. The theme is “Pre-Trial Justice: Reducing the Rate of Incarceration.” Professor Cynthia Jones has accepted the invitation to be the keynote speaker and will participate by Skype.

### **Vancouver Ron Davis Community Forum – April 17, Clark College**

Planning is ramped up for the Community Forum and film viewing of “3 ½ minutes 10 bullets”. A number of sponsors are supporting the event.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations at this meeting.

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Staff Report – Stacy Smith**

The Commission is working on a number of events. A calendar of events is included in the meeting packet.

The Commission supported House Bill 2076 regarding racial and ethnic impact statements. The bill did not pass but was attached as a budget proviso. More details to follow.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Law Student Liaisons**

#### **Gonzaga**

The Gonzaga Law Student Liaisons’ Culture & Ethics Symposium was in progress and scheduled to run from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the law school.

#### **Seattle University & University of Washington**

The SU and UW Student Liaisons are continuing to plan a racial justice training with the City of Seattle Office of Civil Rights. The training may not happen spring semester due to time constraints from the City department and school schedules.

There was unanimous agreement to continue having law student liaisons for another year. The law schools will handle the process of selecting new students to replace those who are graduating.

#### **Juvenile Justice Committee**

“Opportunity Gap” legislation passed; new exclusions in suspension are capped at the academic term; schools are required to provide support to children during times of exclusion

The letter regarding juvenile incarceration was sent to Commission members for review. The Access to Justice Board signed off on the letter as a statement of agreement with the issues. The letter identifies systemic issues that affect minority youth. Members discussed to whom the letter should be addressed and released so as to have the greatest impact statewide for all children of color. The Commission can develop a revised letter, an op-ed piece, a report, or other statement that can timely respond to this issue and that takes into consideration the

Commission's status as a Supreme Court Commission. The Juvenile Justice Committee will decide on next steps.

### **Education Committee**

- **Appellate Judges' Spring Conference**
  - Topic: Mass Incarceration – Justice Stephens
    - Tuesday, April 5, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
    - Presenters: Prof. Dave Boerner, Judge Becker, Judge McCullough, Ms. Bonnie Glenn, Dr. Amanda Gilman
    - Overview: The program will begin with a historical overview of the goals and philosophy of the Sentencing Reform Act. Prof. Boerner will give an overview of the trends since the Act, looking at where WA is and how it got here. Ms. Glenn and Dr. Gilman will speak on trends on the juvenile side. The program will conclude with a panel discussion from Judge McCullough, Judge Becker, Prof. Boerner, Ms. Glenn, and Dr. Gilman.
- **SCJA Spring Conference**
  - Topic: Bail – Judge Doyle
    - Monday, April 18, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
    - Presenters: Mr. Cliff Keenan, Judge Bartheld, Professor van Wormer, Judge Kessler, Judge Doyle
    - Overview: Presentation will address the problems with money bail and look at alternative methods. Also to be addressed are CR 3.2 and the projects currently underway in Yakima and Spokane. Judge Bartheld will review the Yakima Project. Professor van Wormer will address the Spokane project, which will look at data, alternatives to money bail, and examine the character of those currently being held in jail. Cliff Keenan will provide the keynote portion of the presentation. The program will conclude with Judge Kessler examining Washington laws and bail alternatives.
- **DMCJA Spring Conference**
  - Topic: Relicensing – Judge Coburn & Judge Walden
    - June 6, 9:30-11:20 a.m.
    - Overview: The purpose of the session is to give judges ideas of options, alternatives, and a model program on relicensing and things judges can do post-judgment on traffic fines and fees. Key issues that will be presented include the disproportional impact of traffic fines and fees on communities of color and individuals living in poverty; successful programs that courts across the state are implementing in order to address problem of unpaid/outstanding traffic fine debts and defendants that lack the ability to pay; and an in-depth look at a new relicensing program and the success that it is bringing to Spokane County.
- **Fall Annual Conference**
  - Topic: Perceptions of Justice Part II: Working Towards Proactive Leadership – Reducing the Harmful Effects of Implicit Bias – Justice Stephens
    - Monday, September 12, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
    - Presenters: Dr. Tony Greenwald, Greg Taylor, Panel (TBD)
    - Overview: In 2015, the Minority and Justice Commission presented the training “Perceptions of Justice: The Separate Realities of the Justice System” at all of the spring judicial conferences (Appellate Judges, SCJA,

and DMCJA). This session will be a follow-up presentation that will build off of the trainings from last year. The key issues to be presented include an update on implicit bias data; a review and analysis of local issues; and concrete recommendations on reducing the harmful effects of implicit bias.

- Topic: Jury Diversity and Implicit Bias, What Should Courts Do? – Judge Doyle
  - Monday, September 12, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
  - Presenters: Judge Bill Bowman, Mr. Sal Mungia, Judge Steve Rosen
  - Overview: Judge Bowman will present practical tips and techniques for dealing with Batson challenges today. Judge Rosen will discuss the statewide Jury Pool Diversity project currently underway. Mr. Mungia will discuss the proposed rule regarding Batson challenges.

### **Workforce Diversity Committee**

- The Judges of Color Directory is currently being updated. Requests for updated information has been sent to the minority bar associations. A Judges of Color Reception will be held during Fall Conference in Spokane.
- A webpage will be added and dedicated to the Youth and Law forums (YALF) as a place where stakeholders can go for resources as they plan forums in their areas. It was suggested that a YALF Facebook page be created to connect forum graduates and students; a hashtag can be created for each forum to further engage communities; a live feed on the webpage can be considered as well. Judge Galvan offered to help with the social media presence; student liaisons may also be a resource.
- The Committee is exploring how best to participate in the WSBA Pro Tem training Aug. 19-20 at the WSBA Training Center.
- The Committee updated its goals for 2016.

### **Outreach Committee**

#### **Website:**

The following updates have been made: list of members updated; committee member lists updated; home page is consistently updated with Commission news; revised bylaws and Commission renewal order added; member bios/pics currently being updated.

#### **Artwork:**

Committee will be working with Ashby Reed, Board Member and Artist with ONYX Fine Arts. Mr. Reed painted the 2015 featured artwork, “Urban Despair.” He has a large network of artists and organizations throughout the state that the Committee will connect with for soliciting artwork.

#### **Youth & Law Forums:**

April 23 (Seattle); October 6 (Tri-Cities); December 9 (Spokane)

### **Other Business**

#### **National Consortium on Race and Ethnic Fairness**

The Commission will be sending Judge Veronica Alicea-Galvan and Judge Lori-Kay Smith to the Conference that will be held May 25-27 in Williamsburg, VA. The theme is “Engaging Communities: Building Trust and Increasing Confidence.”

### **NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:**

Wednesday, May 25, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Temple of Justice, Olympia, WA