

# **BOARD FOR JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION**



**WASHINGTON  
COURTS**

## **MEETING PACKET**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024  
9:00 A.M.**

**VIDEOCONFERENCE**

# Board for Judicial Administration Membership

## 2023–2024



### **VOTING MEMBERS:**

**Chief Justice Steven González**, Chair  
Washington State Supreme Court

**Judge Alicia Burton**, Member Chair  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
Pierce County Superior Court

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**Judge Tam T. Bui**  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
Snohomish County District Court

**Judge Samuel Chung**, President  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
King County Superior Court

**Judge Rebecca Glasgow**  
Court of Appeals, Division II

**Judge Marilyn Haan**  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
Cowlitz County Superior Court

**Judge John Hart**  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
Whitman County District Court

**Judge Mary Logan**  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
Spokane Municipal Court

**Judge David Mann**  
Court of Appeals, Division I

**Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis**  
Washington State Supreme Court

**Judge Rebecca Pennell**  
Court of Appeals, Division III

**Judge Rebecca Robertson**  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
King County District Court

**Judge Diana N. Ruff**  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
Benton/Franklin Superior Court

**Judge Michael Scott**  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
King County Superior Court

**Judge Jeffrey Smith, President**  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
Spokane County District Court

### **NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

**Judge Kristin Ferrera**, President-Elect  
Superior Court Judges' Association  
Chelan County Superior Court

**Hunter Abell**, President  
Washington State Bar Association

**Judge Karl Williams**, President-Elect  
District and Municipal Court Judges' Association  
Pierce County District Court

**Terra Nevitt**, Executive Director  
Washington State Bar Association

**Dawn Marie Rubio**  
State Court Administrator

The **Mission** of the Board for Judicial Administration is to provide leadership and develop policy to enhance the judiciary's ability to serve as an equal, independent, and responsible branch of government.

The **Vision** of the Board for Judicial Administration is to be the voice of the Washington State courts.



## Board for Judicial Administration (BJA)

March 15, 2024 (9 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.)

Zoom Meeting

### AGENDA

<b>1. Call to Order and Welcome</b>	Chief Justice Steven González Judge Alicia Burton	9:00 a.m.
<b>2. Biennium Budget Process and 2024 Legislative Budget Update</b> Motion: Approve the biennium budget process	Judge Mary Logan and Chris Stanley	9:10
<b>3. Presentation Panel: Courts of the Future</b> Information sharing	Judge Annette Plese and Ashley Callan, Spokane County  Kristen Jensen and Isaac Jarrett, Thurston County	9:35
<b>4. Courts of the Future: Large Group Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is one thing your court has or wants to implement in the near future?</li> <li>• How else can courts be responsive to changing needs and issues?</li> </ul>	Chief Justice Steven González	10:20
<b>Break</b>		10:45
<b>5. BJA Task Forces and Work Groups</b>  Alternatives to Incarceration  Remote Proceedings  Electronic Monitoring with Victim Notification Technology	Judge Mary Logan/Jeanne Englert  Judge Angelle Gerl/Penny Larsen  Commissioner Barb McInville/Joslyn Nelson	10:55 Tab 1
<b>6. Standing Committee Reports</b>  Budget and Funding Committee	Judge Mary Logan/Chris Stanley	11:15 Tab 2

Court Education Committee	Judge Rebecca Pennell/Scott Hillstrom	
Legislative Committee	Judge Michael Scott	
Policy and Action Committee	Judge Carolyn Jewett/ Penny Larsen	
<b>7. Information sharing</b>	Chief Justice Steven González	11:30
<b>8. Interbranch Advisory Committee</b> Information sharing  The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 10:00 – 1:00 at the Kitsap County Administrative Building. <a href="#">Here</a> is the TVW link to the April Meeting.	Chief Justice Steven González	11:50
<b>9. Motions</b> <b>Approve Febraury 16, 2024 Minutes</b>	Chief Justice Steven González	11:55 Tab 3
<b>10. Adjourn</b>		
Persons who require accommodations should notify Jeanne Englert at 360-705-5207 or <a href="mailto:jeanne.englert@courts.wa.gov">jeanne.englert@courts.wa.gov</a> to request or discuss accommodations. While notice five days prior to the event is preferred, every effort will be made to provide accommodations, when requested.		

**Next meetings: Location TBD if not listed**

**May 17, 2024 – 9:00 – 12:00 - Zoom**  
**June 21, 2024 – 9:00 – 12:00 - Zoom**





March 4, 2024

## **RE: Alternatives to Incarceration Task Force Report**

*The goal of this strategic initiative is for pre-trial and post-sentencing incarceration alternatives to be uniformly available to courts throughout the state regardless of the court's resources and the person's ability to pay.*

The Task Force meets March 27. All meetings are TVW livestreamed and recorded.

The Task Force workgroups identified possible policy and funding recommendations that will be further defined and then prioritized by the Task Force in March.

**Legal Authority** – identified judicial authority questions for alternative options/use. The work group is prioritizing final policy, education, and best practices recommendations.

**Community Mapping** – explored community-based tools/mapping to better help local jurisdictions/communities identify points of entry into the system, barriers and opportunities to alternatives, and community-based resources that can provide an alternative to incarceration. They will provide links to community mapping tools that can be used at the local level. This group is working on final funding recommendations to include a resource person to connect individuals to community resources at the start of the process, especially focused on pre-trial, to better identify supports and lead to successful alternatives.

**Assessment and Information** – They have identified several possible recommendations which may include funding or policy that would bridge the gap for those that are considered indigent pretrial and/or post-conviction and a general increase in overall funding for pretrial services. They are also collecting tools to help identify if someone is considered indigent for accessing alternatives.

The **Education Work Group** started in March to identify and possibly implement training opportunities to address some of the education needs and issues identified through Task Force efforts.



March 8, 2024

**RE: BJA Electronic Monitoring and Victim Notification Technology (EMVNT) Workgroup**

The EMVNT Workgroup organized two separate panel discussions; one involving representatives from law enforcement and one involving vendors and monitoring companies.

Furthermore, the Workgroup hosted two listening sessions with legal advocates and members of the Yakima Police Department.

A survey was also created to gather feedback from survivors regarding their interactions with EMVNT, their awareness of the program, and suggestions for improvement.

The Workgroup has made progress in developing protocols and training modules for EMVNT, along with a first draft of best practices guidelines.

If they have any questions or comments about the technology you can contact

[Joslyn.Nelson@courts.wa.gov](mailto:Joslyn.Nelson@courts.wa.gov)

**TAB 2**





March 6, 2024

### **Court Education Committee Report**

- Last CEC Meeting: February 14, 12:15pm-1:00pm
- Low attendance, no quorum available
- AOC and CEC Executive Committee continued updating the CEC policy document
  - Current draft to be presented to CEC in next meeting
- Appellate Spring Program is coming soon (March 24-27, Walla Walla)
- Discussed three allocation requests
  - Washington State Association of County Clerks (WSACC)
  - Superior Court Judges Association (SCJA)
  - Washington Courts' DS&AI Team
- Allocation requests sent to CEC members for online vote: Deadline 3/6/2024
- Next CEC Meeting: March 13, 12:15pm-1:00pm



March 15, 2024

**TO:** Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) Members  
**FROM:** Judge Michael Scott, BJA Legislative Committee Chair  
Brittany Gregory, AOC Associate Director, Judicial and Legislative Relations  
**RE:** BJA Legislative Committee Report

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### **2024 Legislative Session**

On March 7, 2024, gavels dropped in the House and the Senate signifying the end of the 2024 legislative session.

### **BJA Request Legislation This Session**

Five of the six BJA request legislation passed both chambers of the legislature. The most up-to-date information (as of March 7, 2024) is included in the meeting materials.

#### **HB 1992 Water Rights Adjudication Judicial Position**

Requests an additional superior court judge for Whatcom County to work on the water rights adjudication filed by the Department of Ecology.

- No amendments
- Last Action -- March 5, 2024 – Delivered to the Governor

#### **HB 2034 Notice of Court Reorganization**

Requires counties and cities to provide one-year written notice to the AOC with changes to court technology services and/or vendors. This notification is in addition to the notice that they provide to the party with which they are terminating service. Also requires cities to provide six months written notice to AOC for the establishment or termination of a municipal court.

- No amendments
- Last Action -- March 1, 2024 – Delivered to the Governor

#### **SHB 2056 Supreme Court Bailiff Information Sharing & Limited Investigative Authority**

Creates limited investigative authority for the Supreme Court Bailiffs so they can access criminal history and nonconviction data to properly assess security threats and communicate with law enforcement.

- Senate amendment clarifies that bailiffs of the supreme court are authorized to receive criminal history record information for purposes exclusively related to assessing threats against a Supreme Court Justice.
- Last Action – March 7, 2024 – President of the Senate signed

**SSB 5828 Water Rights Adjudication Commissioner Position**

Creates a superior court commissioner position in Whatcom County. This position was already funded in the 2023–2025 biennium budget and the commissioner will work on the water rights adjudication proceedings filed by the Department of Ecology. It would also authorize the court’s use of a referee in a water adjudication without party consent or application.

- Senate amendment clarifies the scope of water commissioner powers, how commissioner decisions may be challenged, and how challenges to appointments may be made.
- House amendment requires that the person appointed as a water commissioner receive training from the AOC as soon as reasonably practicable on specified topics, including water law, Indian law, water science, and cultural awareness. Authorizes the AOC to contract with one or more academic institutions in Washington to develop and deliver the required training.
- Last Action – March 6, 2024 – President of the Senate signed.

**SB 5836 Superior Court Judicial Position — Clark County**

Requests an additional superior court judicial position (12 total) in Clark County Superior Court.

- No amendments
- Last Action – March 6, 2024 – President of the Senate signed

The following BJA request legislation did not advance, however, the requested flexibility in local reimbursement rates is reflected in the 2024 budget bill, SB 5950.

**HB 2006 Court Interpreter Statutory Revisions (RCW 2.43)**

Changes Washington statute to be compliant with the Department of Justice policy interpretations of Title VI; updates statutory language to align with operations conducted by AOC’s Court Interpreter Credentialing program; updates the policy regarding the Language Access and Interpreter Reimbursement Program to allow more robust funding to courts resulting from the increased resources made available after the success of the BJA’s Interpreter Services Funding Taskforce.

- Did not advance
- Last Action – February 20, 2024 – House Rules “X” File
- Note -- The interpreter funding shift to authorize reimbursement up to 100% of costs was included in a proviso in the 2024 budget bill, SB 5950.

**BJA Bills of Interest This Session**

The bills that the BJA Legislative Committee has taken a public position that have advanced during session include:

**SB 5780 Participation in Public Defense and Prosecution Professions**

Requires OPD and WAPA to develop law student rural public defense/prosecution programs, respectively.

- Last Action – March 6, 2024 – President of the Senate signed

### **HB 1911 Activities of the Office of Public Defense**

Specifies the activities in which OPD may engage without violating the prohibition on the direct representation of clients.

- Last Action -- March 5, 2024 – Delivered to the Governor

### **SSB 6146 Tribal Warrants**

Creates a process for state law enforcement officers to enforce tribal arrest warrants.

- Last Action – March 6, 2024 – President of the Senate signed

### **BJA Legislative Committee Next Activities**

The BJA Legislative Committee will now direct its attention to the 2025 legislative session. The process and timeline for legislative proposals will be forthcoming shortly and will be shared throughout the Judicial Branch.



March 15, 2024

**TO:** Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) Members  
**FROM:** Judge Carolyn Jewett, Chair, Policy and Action Committee (PAC)  
**RE:** REPORT OF POLICY AND ACTION COMMITTEE

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The committee has not met since the last BJA report in February, but the committee is making progress on two projects.

### **Equity Analysis Challenges and Next Steps**

The PAC is evaluating a promising equity assessment tool and discussing the possibility of inviting the author to do a presentation and/or conduct a skill-building workshop to learn how to use the tool in BJA committee work.

### **Workplace Anti-Harassment Project**

See the attached project status update and one-page flyer.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BJA Policy and Action Committee (PAC)</b> <b>Anti-Workplace Harassment Project Update – March 15, 2024</b></p>
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## **Background**

The PAC partnered with the Gender and Justice Commission (GJC) to develop an implementation plan to address the four recommendations in the [Gender and Justice 2021 Workplace Harassment Survey](#)

The PAC portion of the action plan included the following tasks:

- ✓ Researched workplace harassment trainings provided by the city and county risk management pools in Washington.
- ✓ Created a one pager that highlights the survey findings, promoted the Model Policy, training options, and encourages employees to report and get help.
- ✓ Conducted survey of Court Administrators to learn whether courts' have adopted a policy, either the Model Policy or their executive branch policy, whether courts require trainings and get feedback from attendees, and how courts' handle workplace harassment claims.

## **Summary of Survey Report Recommendations & Findings:**

***Regular workplace harassment prevention trainings that focus on changing behavior will drive real changes to create diverse, inclusive, and respectful work environments.***

- Prevention trainings are based on DEI principles and concepts The GJC commissioned a literature review of evaluation research to identify effective DEI practices and trainings. Report will be released soon.

***Employees from court cultures that promoted awareness and understanding of an existing anti-harassment policy, and fostered confidence that reports would be responded to, were significantly less likely to experience harassment.***

- Promote awareness and ensure leadership have the training they need to address and prevent.

### **PAC Recommended Follow Up:**

1. Pursue the option of BJA and WCRP co-sponsoring a customized “*Leading a Workplace Free of Harassment and Discrimination*” online training specifically for all judges and court leadership. (BJA-PAC).
  - Draft a list of issues unique to the court environment for consideration by WCRP and contracted trainer (get input from CEC, CMC, SCJA, DMCJA).
  - Negotiate dates and costs – delivery by June 30.
  - Encourage court leaders that are risk pool members to take the general training available at no charge. Only 6 county court employees have taken this training from 2020 – present.
2. Partner with the BJA Court Education Committee to develop policy awareness and prevention training modules for the Institute for New Court Employees (INCE) in the Learning Management System.
  - Assist the CEC to develop or procure trainings using the GJC commissioned literature review of evaluation research on “what works” to create workplaces that are respectful, inclusive, and diverse.
3. Promote awareness of the report findings and recommendations
  - Encourage courts to post the flyer in breakrooms.
  - Encourage staff meeting discussions.
  - Submit flyer for publication in court newsletters (PAC/AOC Communications).
  - Conference talking points, mini-presentation.
  - Association meeting discussion topic.

### **How can BJA take a leadership role on Workplace Anti-Harassment?**

Fund training for leadership and staff with evaluation criteria and follow up actions to measure behavioral changes and progress toward welcoming and inclusive workplaces.

# Workplace Harassment

## Model Policy and Judicial Branch Survey Findings

### Why Do Courts Need an Anti-Harassment Policy?

The Gender and Justice Commission's [2021 Workplace Harassment Survey](#) found employees from court cultures that promoted awareness and understanding of an existing anti-harassment policy, and fostered confidence that reports would be responded to, were significantly less likely to experience harassment.

This highlights the crucial role of proactive communication and training on the anti-harassment policy, while fostering confidence in the reporting and response mechanisms.

Preventing and responding to all types of workplace harassment helps courts to cultivate respectful workplaces and promote fair and efficient administration of justice.

### Consider Adopting the Washington Courts Model Anti-Harassment Policy

In 2020, the Gender and Justice Commission developed and the BJA adopted, a statewide [Model Anti-Harassment Policy](#) for courts. The model policy can be tailored to local needs and be part of a healthy workplace program that promotes employee engagement and retention and fosters a culture of respect. Courts can adopt an Anti-Harassment Policy as an independent member of the judicial branch or in unification with local executive branches.

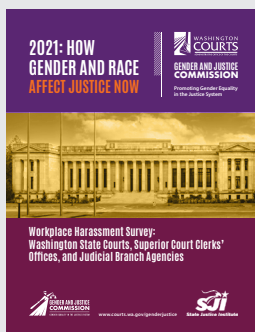
### What Can Courts and Individuals Do to Prevent and Respond to Workplace Harassment?

- Promote awareness of your court's policy during onboarding of new employees and in staff meetings
- Support transparency and accountability, and promote timely and fair resolution of harassment reports
- Take explicit steps to increase diversity, equity and inclusion
- Get free/low cost trainings through your risk management and human resources department when available. Members of [Washington Counties Risk Pool](#) and [Washington Cities Insurance Authority](#) can attend a variety of free trainings that support healthy workplaces, including anti-harassment trainings. These agencies will sometimes allow non-members to attend for a small fee.

### Report Harassment and Get Help

Ensure court staff have easily accessible information on how to report harassment, including contact information for Management, Human Resources, or the Employee Assistance Program.

## Key Highlights from the Workplace Harassment Survey



The survey asked participants about their encounters with various types of harassment, including sexual orientation-based, gender-based, race-based, and unwanted sexual attention and work-related harassment, such as unreasonable deadlines, unmanageable workloads, and limited promotion or training opportunities. By capturing these different dimensions of harassment, the survey provided a holistic view of the prevalence and nature of workplace harassment within the judicial branch.

- The highest rates of any workplace harassment were reported by employees who identified as Indigenous, (82%), bisexual (84%), gay or lesbian (73%), multiracial (66%), and women (62%), relative to all respondents (57%).
- Court clerks, as a group, experienced workplace harassment at a higher rate (65%) than respondents with any other appointment type. Judicial assistants experienced the second highest rate of harassment (61%).
- Superior Court Clerks (49%) and Judges or Commissioners (51%) experienced the lowest rates of harassment. These numbers, however, are still alarming. They mean that one out of every two Judges or Commissioners and one out of every two Superior Court Clerks experienced some type of workplace harassment at least once during the preceding 18 months.
- 89% of respondents reported that their workplace has a policy, but less than half of reported knowing how to report, get help or prevent harassment.



**TAB 3**



**Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) Meeting**  
**Friday, February 16, 2024, 9:00. – 11:00 a.m.**  
Videoconference

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**BJA Members Present:**

Chief Justice Steven González, Chair  
Judge Alicia Burton, Chair  
Judge Tam Bui  
Judge Sam Chung  
Judge Rebecca Glasgow  
Judge Marilyn Haan  
Judge Mary Logan  
Judge David Mann  
Raquel Montoya-Lewis  
Judge Rebecca Pennell  
Judge Rebecca Robertson  
Judge Diana Ruff  
Dawn Marie Rubio  
Judge Jeff Smith  
Judge Karl Williams

**Guests Present:**

Jim Bamberger  
Ashley Callan  
Elena Becker  
Melissa Beaton  
Judge Carolyn Jewett  
Annalise Martucci  
LaTricia Kinlow  
Sara Robbins  
Judge David Whedbee  
Judge G. Helen Whitener

**Administrative Office of the Courts  
(AOC) Staff Present:**

Nicole Ack  
Scott Ahlf  
Carolyn Cole  
Cynthia Delostrinos  
Jeanne Englert  
Heidi Green  
Scott Hillstrom  
Kyle Landry  
Penny Larsen  
Bob Lichtenberg  
Joslyn Nelson  
Stephanie Oyler  
Chris Stanley  
Caroline Tawes  
Andrea Valdez  
Jonathan Whitby

Call to Order

Judge Burton called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. She introduced Judge Glasgow, who will be replacing Judge Crusier on the BJA.

Small Group Discussions

**BJA Goal - Court Wellness:** The BJA will explore ways to support, partner, and coordinate opportunities to address court, judicial officers, and court personnel education and wellness needs.

BJA wants to discuss court wellness and hear ideas on how to address court wellness at BJA. How can BJA support a work/life balance, address burnout, and make court personnel feel valued? At an organizational level, do we have training and retention? At the community level,

do we have process in place for safety and do we create welcoming environment? Where can BJA fill in what is missing?

Participants were asked to discuss at least one of the following questions and report back to the meeting. Discussion notes may be e-mailed to Jeanne Englert.

1) *What are you currently seeing or experiencing that could negatively impact your court wellness at each of the following levels?*

- *Individual level*
  - *Court Level*
  - *Community level*
- Individuals coming in to court who are escalating, and this impacts staff as well as other agencies.
  - There is a societal acceptance of confrontation.
  - What constitutes harassment in the courtroom?
  - There is a shortage of judges, lack of breaks, self-care, and paid time off.
  - There is a lack of recognition of secondary trauma, and people are becoming more confrontational.
  - There is a high workload and too many meetings competing for time. The ease of zoom meetings makes it too easy to set up a meeting.
  - Themes are a shortage of judges, a societal movement towards more confrontation online and in person, and conflicting ideas on enforcement of laws (harassment, bombs, etc.)
  - Civility in courtrooms has decreased, not only between litigants but also civility towards the court. Is part of the problem that we have so many new judges? We need to set an example about how to disagree without personal attacks.
  - Some feel courts are being attacked; there is a lack of respect for courts and they lash out. We have noticed a lack of respect by legislators towards the bench.
  - We need to be clear what we are talking about in terms of civility.
  - Should we have a culture of allowing for vacations? Peter Jaffe works with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges on second-hand trauma and how to address it.
  - Dealing with second-hand trauma needs to be addressed.
  - Online learning has displaced people being together. What about in-person social opportunities?
  - There is a lack of support for trial courts on controlled substances. Many people who come into court struggle with shelter issues and the courts need support to help with that. The high volume is stressful for courts. There is frustration about the backup in state labs which interferes with intervention and testing.
  - There is not enough support from the cities to provide medically assisted treatments for fentanyl addiction.
  - The Judicial Assistance Services Program (JASP) is working well. JASP has a goal to become more proactive and talk about what we can do and how we can support each other. Judge Logan is developing a Take 10 program so that trainings can be short and not contribute to the problem of more screen time and less time for actual breaks and lunch.

- 2) *What educational opportunities and conversations around wellness during the past year have been most helpful? What areas do we need to focus more on or haven't addressed?*
- Court personnel don't have enough time to engage in wellness programs.
  - Sharing in the challenges of the job with peers, and the isolation judges can feel in work is aggravated by the move to remote work.
  - Having discussions around secondary trauma. Looking at how attorneys are affected by trauma.
  - Recognizing burnout and vicarious trauma, and knowing we need more, but not knowing what else is needed.
  - Is there enough security in courthouses? Security for judges, court staff, and the public needs to be addressed. There needs to be security in social media for court personnel and their families. We need to talk about this, educate staff, and help them deal with this. There is a federal judicial and security privacy act that we could work with.
- 3) *What practical tools and resources should we develop or offer that would be helpful for your court's wellness at each of the following levels?*
- *Individual level*
  - *Court Level*
  - *Community level*
- This is an access to justice question. If a judge isn't well, the public won't get the judge they deserve. Are there ways to promote these ideas?

Judge Burton said the BJA will continue these discussions and possibly come up with a plan to support the judiciary.

#### Standing Committee Reports

##### Budget and Funding Committee (BFC)

One of the Legislature's chambers is expected to publish its budget on Sunday night, and the other chamber will publish Monday morning. Both chambers are having public hearings at 4:00 p.m. on Monday.

Most of the judicial branch priorities are likely to be funded. Christopher Stanley thanked the BJA and the BFC for prioritizing our requests which helped the requests be successful. He is cautiously optimistic. The Legislative session ends on March 7, and we will likely see a final budget on March 5 or 6. Christopher Stanley will keep everyone informed via e-mail.

##### Court Education Committee (CEC)

The CEC met on February 14. An issue that continues to be discussed is how to include tribal judicial officers in education. There are questions about funding for tribal judicial officers. There have been a few Attorney General opinions that might be relevant to the question, and the DMCJA has explored this issue. Judge Smith will send Scott Ahlf that information to assist in his research. Stephanie Oyler may also have some documents.

Judge Pennell asked if there should be a budget request to fund tribal officers' attendance at education events.

The CEC report was included in the meeting materials.

Legislative Committee (LC)

All but one of the BJA bill proposals is advancing. HB 2006, concerning court interpreters, stalled in the House. Feedback on the bill indicated there were no concerns about policy, however, there were several questions about funding. This bill will be submitted again next year.

The LC report was included in the meeting materials

Policy and Action Committee (PAC)

Judge Carolyn Jewett is the new PAC chair, replacing Judge Rebecca Robertson. The PAC is discussing an equity analysis and creating an equity impact tool for the PAC to use. The next step will be to obtain more input from experts and feedback on how it would work. They also discussed the survey on workplace harassment policies and a possible partnership with the Washington Counties Risk Pool on training. Penny Larsen will be attending a few trainings and will report at the next meeting.

The PAC report was included in the meeting materials

Presentation: Court Equity & Access Program 5-Year Strategic Plan and Disability Justice Task Force

Equity & Access

Carolyn Cole, Equity Program lead at AOC, presented on the AOC Court Equity and Access Program. The program was established in 2021 to help courts serve the growing needs of self-represented persons (SRPs) in Washington and address the needs of court users from communities that have been historically marginalized and oppressed in the United States with the least access to justice. The program is in the process of creating a draft of a strategic plan and would like comments and feedback. A draft of the Strategic Plan will be circulated for external review in the next couple of weeks. Carolyn Cole reviewed the strategic priorities, mission, vision, and milestones.

Washington Supreme Court Disability Justice Task Force (DJTF)

Justice G. Helen Whitener is a co-chair of the Supreme Court DJTF. With BJA and stakeholder support, in 2023 the Legislature funded a two-year study of access to justice issues affecting individuals with disabilities. The DJTF will create a study steering committee. The study will include litigants, attorneys, staff, and all court users and will examine where there are gaps in GR 33 compliance. The study will provide data that will reflect uneven landscape of GR 33 compliance and help create ADA transition plans. Where and how courts are or are not complying with GR 33 will be determined through audits.

Judge Whedbee, co-chair of the Supreme Court DJTF, would like to report to the BJA in six months on preliminary findings and a pilot program. The next steps will be to transition from the steering committee to reorganize to the DJTF. Members will be recruited from all court levels.

Justice Whitener thanked Judge Whedbee, Carolyn Cole, and the BJA. Justice Whitener and Judge Whedbee will provide an update on the project in a few months

The presentation was included in the meeting materials.

BJA Task Forces and Work Groups

Alternatives to Incarceration Task Force

The Task Force report was included in the meeting materials. There will be a verbal report at the March BJA meeting.

Remote Proceedings Work Group

The Work Group report was included in the meeting materials.

Electronic Monitoring and Victim Notification Technology (EMVNT) Work Group

The Work Group report was included in the meeting materials.

BJA Mission and Principal Policy Goals Update

The group decided to develop a process to consider more strategically these two items and will share a brief update at the May BJA meeting. Workgroup members want to develop a process for seeking input, to be intentional and thoughtful, considering recent conversations and realities of the work, and most importantly centering equity in our work. The principal policy goals should be user-centered. We need to hear from people who are compelled to seek access to the courts and those most impacted by courts.

Interbranch Advisory Committee

The next Interbranch Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the Kitsap County Superior Court. Chief Justice González is interested in finding other places to meet and inviting the local community to the meeting. At the next meeting there will be a focus on court education, security, the lack of public defenders, and the view of the judicial branch by lawmakers.

Motions

**It was moved by Chief Justice González and seconded by Judge Robertson to approve the November 17, 2023, meeting minutes as written. The motion carried with three abstentions.**

**It was moved by Chief Justice González and seconded by Judge Bui to approve the Public Engagement and Education Committee (PEEC) members. The motion carried unanimously.**

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

**Recap of Motions from the February 16, 2024 Meeting**

<b>Motion Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>
Approve the November 17, 2023 meeting minutes.	passed
Approve the PEEC Members	passed

**Action Items from the February 16, 2024 Meeting**

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Status</b>
Penny Larsen will be attending a couple of trainings on workplace harassment policies and will report at the next meeting.	
Judge Whedbee would like to report to the BJA in six months on preliminary findings and a pilot program of the Disability and Justice Task Force study.	
There will be an update on the BJA Mission and Principal Policy Goals at the May BJA meeting.	
<u>November 17, 2023 BJA Meeting Minutes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post the minutes online</li> <li>• Send minutes to the Supreme Court for inclusion in the En Banc meeting materials.</li> </ul>	Done Done