

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS
Director and State Court
Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

Judicial Council of the State of Nevada

Date and Time of Meeting: December 1, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Place of Meeting: Remote Access via Zoom (zoom.com or zoom app, see “Notices” for access information)

In-person:

<i>Carson City</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
AOC Conference Room 287 Second Floor	Conference Room A & B First Floor

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Call of Roll
 - B. Determination of Quorum
 - C. Opening Remarks
- II. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Summary*
 - A. August 18, 2023 (*Tab 1, pages 3-7*)
- III. Reports of Standing Committees
 - A. Court Administration Committee – *nothing to report*
 - B. Court Improvement Program (*Tab 2, pages 8-9*)
 - C. Legislative Committee (*Tab 3, pages 10-13*)
 - D. Specialty Court Funding Committee (*Tab 4, pages 14-15*)
 - E. Technology Committee – *No meeting held within the reporting period*
- IV. Summaries of Regional Judicial Council Meetings
 - A. Clark Regional Judicial Council – *No meeting held within the reporting period*
 - B. North Central Judicial Council (*Tab 5, pages 16-19*)
 - C. Sierra Regional Judicial Council (*Tab 6, pages 20-23*)
 - D. South Central Regional Judicial Council – *No meeting held within the reporting period*
 - E. Washoe Regional Judicial Council (*Tab 7, pages 24-28*)
- V. Other Items/Discussion
 - A. AOC Projects
- VI. Future Meetings
 - 2024 TBD
- VII. Adjournment

Notices

- Action items are noted by * and typically include, approval, denial, and/or postponement of specific items. Certain items may be referred to a subcommittee for additional review and action.
- Agenda items may be taken out of order at the discretion of the Chair in order to accommodate persons appearing before the Commission and/or to aid in the time efficiency of the meeting.
- If members of the public participate in the meeting, they must identify themselves when requested. Public comment is welcomed by the Commission but may be limited at the discretion of the Chair.
- The Commission is pleased to provide reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If assistance is required, please notify Commission staff by phone or by email no later than two working days prior to the meeting, as follows:
Almeda Harper, (775) 687-9810 – email: aharper@nvcourts.nv.gov
- This meeting is exempt from the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.030)
- At the discretion of the Chair, topics related to the administration of justice, judicial personnel, and judicial matters that are of a confidential nature may be closed to the public.
- **Notice of this meeting was posted in the following locations:** Nevada Supreme Court website: www.nvcourts.gov; Carson City: Supreme Court Building, Administrative Office of the Courts, 201 South Carson Street; Las Vegas: Nevada Supreme Court, 408 East Clark Avenue.

Meeting ID: 847 3490 5003
Participant Passcode: 229826
Teleconference Dial-in: (669) 900-6833

TAB 1

Supreme Court of Nevada
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JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

Judicial Council of the State of Nevada

August 18, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Summary prepared by: Seth Easley

Members Present

Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich, Chair
Judge Steven Dobrescu
Judge Shirle Eiting
Chief Judge Michael Gibbons
Judge Kelley Giordani
Steven Grierson
Judge Eileen Herrington
Alicia Lerud
Judge Mike Montero
Judge Randall Soderquist
Judge Gloria Sturman
Judge Dawn Throne
Judge Ryan Toone
Chief Judge Jerry Wiese

AOC Staff

David Gordon
Stephanie Gouveia
Jamie Gradick
Almeda Harper
Shyle Irigoin
Brandi Jinkerson
John McCormick
Sheldon Steele

Absent

Associate Chief Justice Elissa Cadish, Vice Chair
Chief Judge Kevin Higgins
Judge Joanna Kishner
Judge Victor Miller
Judge John Schlegelmilch
Judge Gus Sullivan

Absent Excused

Chief Judge Lynne Simons
Katherine Stocks

- I. Call to Order
 - Chief Justice Stiglich called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
 - Ms. Harper called roll; a quorum was present.
- II. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Summary
 - The meeting summary from May 12, 2023, was unanimously approved.
- III. Business and Action Items
 - Specialty Court Funding & Policy Guidelines Handbook Update*
 - Ms. Gouveia updated the Council on the changes made to the Specialty Court Funding Guidelines and Criteria Handbook. She explained that there were three updates with the consolidation of funding and now a single application process.
 - Funding caps were doubled to ensure funding would be consistent with previous years.
 - The reference to NRS 176.059 was removed from the handbook, as it is no longer pertinent with the passage of SB448.
 - The handbook was updated to reflect a new accounting policy regarding unspent funding and carry-forward balances.
 - The Council was asked to approve the changes made to the Specialty Court Funding Guidelines and Criteria Handbook.
 - Judge Montero made a motion to approve; Judge Dobrescu seconded the motion. The updates were approved unanimously.
 - Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the 2019 NCJFCJ Family Court Study

- Mr. McCormick informed the council of an assessment of Nevada’s family courts completed by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) in 2019, which included recommendations.
- Mr. McCormick explained that the intent is to create an Ad Hoc subcommittee to review and prioritize the report’s recommendations, conduct a survey of judicial officers and court staff on their current business process needs, and develop/implement a plan to improve the delivery of family court services in Nevada.
- The Ad Hoc Subcommittee would have the ability to establish workgroups. Membership will be appointed by the Chief Justice as provided in the bylaws and will receive support from the AOC and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC).
- The initial iteration will be comprised of judges and administrators who deal with family law cases with the goal of having a report produced for the full council, advising on how to approach the recommendations in the NCJFCJ assessment. The subcommittee’s work will accompany the Family Court Triage tool we are creating.
 - Judge Throne expressed concern over the assessment being completed in 2019 and asked if the data may be out of date.
 - Mr. McCormick acknowledged the concern and believed there is an intent to conduct another survey of judicial officers and court administrators on the matter. He added that a benefit of creating the subcommittee is that it could re-examine the report to determine if it is still informative and if another course of action would need to be considered.
- Ms. Lerud asked if the Ad Hoc Subcommittee would be considering the possibility of resources being dispersed statewide in the context of family court services rather than in the urban areas exclusively.
 - Mr. McCormick stated that the intent is to include rural jurisdictions. He added that he believes a holistic approach is important.
- Chief Justice Stiglich asked if a membership list has been created.
 - Mr. McCormick will forward the list to the Chair.
- Chief Judge Wiese expressed concern over a potential conflict the Eighth Judicial District Court may have as they have positioned themselves to pursue new legislation using the NCJFCJ assessment.
- Judicial Perspectives on Civility
 - Judge Toone provided the council with an overview of the judicial perspectives on civility, stating that the Nevada State Bar has highlighted the need for improvement in this area and recently adopted a creed of professionalism and civility.
 - He added that his intention in recommending this as an agenda item is that it may lead to additional discussion with judges.
 - He shared that it may be tempting to get frustrated when attorneys and litigants become uncivil but has found in studying the issue, there are things one can do to better model civility.
 - He referred the council to the materials attached to the agenda to help better understand and anticipate stressors that lead to incivility. He recommended the council take this topic and materials back to their regions for discussion and training.
 - Chief Justice Stiglich thanked Judge Toone and acclaimed the materials on page 24 as being a good addition to a bench book.
- First Amendment Auditors
 - Chief Judge Wiese reported that the individual who prompted the discussion around First Amendment Auditors in the 8th Jurisdiction is in custody for another matter and is no longer causing issues.
 - He added that they prepared an Administrative Order that addresses First Amendment rights and recording in a courthouse. The order has been implemented in Clark County and signs have been posted in the building.
 - Judge Sturman shared a company called “Yondr” that is popular with performers. The company provides guests with cases that remain locked during an event, preventing them from accessing

the phone until the conclusion of the event when the case would be unlocked. She presented this as an option for courts dealing with First Amendment Auditors. Please contact her directly for additional information.

- Ms. Lerud informed the council that the Second Judicial District has a similar system in place for use during specific trials, such as when there are safety concerns for witnesses and jurors. She was confident the system is from Yondr. Please contact her directly for additional information.
- Chief Judge Wiese pointed out that this solution may be better tailored for specific trials as opposed to use throughout the whole courthouse.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

- Court Administration Committee
 - Mr. McCormick reported that the committee welcomed new court administrators. The Committee has been discussing ADA issues and accommodations. They are working on a draft ADA “cheat sheet” that is being vetted through the committee.
- Court Improvement Program
 - Mr. McCormick reported that [AB148](#) passed without the language change on the term “master” to “magistrate.” Going forward they would like to find a word that meets everyone’s needs and remove the term “master” from statute.
 - The program is embarking on the Judicial Court and Attorney Measures of Performance data project.
 - The program is continuing to work on spreading the message regarding the Juvenile Dependency Mediation program.
 - They are increasing the amount of collaboration work they are conducting with Nevada tribes.
 - The Community Improvement Council summit will be held in September.
 - The Judicial Roundtable will be held on September 27th. The full summit will be held on September 28th and 29th at the Atlantis in Reno.
- Specialty Court Funding Committee
 - Ms. Gouveia reported that the committee reviewed and approved their final budget allocations for the fiscal year 2024. Specialty Court Funding payments have been dispersed. Please contact Ms. Gouveia directly if payment has not been received.
 - The committee hosted its first Nevada Treatment Court Workers Social Hour. At this event, all people involved in specialty courts in Nevada were invited to network and interact. They hope to continue this event in the years to come.
 - She reported that the National Association of Drug Court Professionals will be known as “All Rise” moving forward.
 - The Las Vegas Justice Court began a new mental health specialty court, presided over by Judge Nadia Wood who assisted with [AB405](#) in providing statutory authority for limited jurisdiction courts to establish a mental health court.
 - The committee completed a full peer review process in the Sixth and Seventh Judicial Districts and are working on setting up the next round of peer reviews.
 - The Nevada Specialty Courts Conference will be held from October 16th to 18th, 2024 in Reno.
 - Chief Justice Stiglich asked if there are changes in enrollment numbers in specialty courts and if there are still those who hesitate to refer people to specialty courts.
 - Ms. Gouveia replied that there has been a sharp decline in participants but buy-in among judges is improving. She offered to share a full peer review report during the next JCSN meeting which will be useful in encouraging buy-in from those who are not familiar with specialty courts.

V. Report of Regional Council Meetings

- Clark Regional Judicial Council

- Chief Judge Weise stated the Council discussed First Amendment Auditor policies, legislative updates, and AOC updates.
- He informed the council that their Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program is quickly growing and that they will be using CASA funds to broadcast a commercial during the Super Bowl this year which is expected to reach a million residents of Clark County. They are hoping to recruit more CASA volunteers.
- North Central Judicial Council
 - Judge Soderquist stated that they also discussed First Amendment Auditors. He thanked Chief Judge Wiese for the Administrative Order. They are tailoring it for use in the Fourth Judicial District.
- South Central Regional Judicial Council
 - Judge Dobrescu reported that the meeting primarily focused on updates. Please refer to the meeting materials for more information.
- Washoe Regional Judicial Council
 - Ms. Lerud reported that they did not hold a meeting but took the opportunity to notify the council that Washoe County Courts have seen an increase in activity in criminal cases. She added that the Reno Justice Court changed some of their scheduling orders to move cases faster.
 - Chief Justice Stiglich asked if there was an increase in cases, trials, or both.
 - Ms. Lerud stated that they are researching what the cause may be. She acknowledged that some cases have been languishing over the last few years but stated that she believes many of them are the result of new filings. She added there is speculation that people are being encouraged to invoke their right to a speedy trial and may not be as likely to enter negotiations.
 - Chief Justice Stiglich stated that they are also seeing an increase in filings but that she is not certain what the driving factor is, or if these numbers will be the new standard.

VI. Other Items/Discussion

- Mr. McCormick to provide an overview of the AOC's current projects.
 - Legislative funding was granted to build a training facility in the Carson City Law Library which will increase the AOCs ability to deliver in-person and distance education.
 - The state-wide e-filing system, state-wide jury management system, and self-help portal are still in the works.
 - The Civil Traffic CMS is still being worked on as well as a new CMS option for courts.
 - Additional positions awarded during the Legislative Session will be utilized in the Audit Unit allowing them to update their auditing cycle. Additional positions were also added to the Judicial Education department to address the gap in front-line staff training.
- Mr. Grierson shared with the members that Tomilynn Clark will be running for Mrs. Nevada in the upcoming Mrs. America pageant. She is a CASA volunteer and will be promoting the program during her campaign.

VII. Future Meetings

- November 3, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

- There being no further discussion or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

TAB 2

Supreme Court of Nevada
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JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

“To unite and promote Nevada’s judiciary as an equal, independent and effective branch of government.”

COURT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members:

Justice Elissa Cadish, Chair
Judge Paige Dollinger
Judge Gary Fairman
Judge David Gibson
Crystal Hallock
Amber Howell
Wonswayla Mackey

Fran Maldonado
John McCormick
Jennifer Merideth
Judge Michael Montero
Magistrate Kimberly Okezie
Buffy Okuma
Karen Perez

Jennifer Rains
Kate Schmidt
Jennifer Spencer
Stacy Stahl
Magistrate Alison Testa
Janice Wolf

Committee Meeting of October 13, 2023

December 1, 2023, JCSN Prepared by: Zaide Martinez, CIP Coordinator

- The Annual Community Improvement Council (CIC) Summit was held September 27-29, 2023. CIC teams created their Action Plans for 2024.
- CIP established a statewide subcommittee of dependency judges and masters/magistrates. This subcommittee would function as an ad hoc subcommittee of the CIP Select Committee and would provide significant benefits by allowing enhanced cohesion between CICs and dependency judges.
 - The current focus of the Subcommittee is looking into guardianship and out-of-home placement practices occurring before the formal dependency process.
- CIP granted an extension to five awardees who applied for the 2022-2023 Timely Permanency and Termination of Parental Rights Subgrants. CIP awarded two new awards for the 2023-2024 funding opportunity.
- The Judicial, Court, and Attorney Measures of Performance (JCAMP) Leadership Team has been meeting regularly and has selected 53 of the 71 JCAMP measures. The JCAMP Leadership is working to reduce the measures and discuss sustainability for continuous quality improvement.
- CIP is working closely with the Children’s Bureau and Agency partners to prepare for Round 4 of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR).
- CIP collaborated with the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to provide domestic violence training for CICs. DCFS has been working with Health Management Associates (HMA) to assess Nevada’s domestic violence practices and child welfare outcomes. The goal is to share with the courts their findings and information that will help legal stakeholders align their practices with the agencies.
 - Five out of the 11 CICs registered for the training.
- The 2022-2023 Self-Assessment and Strategic Plan was submitted to the Children’s Bureau on June 28, 2023. CIP received notice of approval for Nevada’s FY 2024 CIP Grant.

TAB 3

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

Legislative Committee

November 13, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Summary Prepared by: Almeda Harper

Members Present

Judge Stephen Bishop
James Conway
Chief Judge Michael Gibbons
Steve Grierson
Jessica Gurley
Alicia Lerud
Judge Victor Miller
Chief Judge Lynne Jones
Judge Randall Soderquist

Advisory Members Present

Tom Clark
Jessica Ferrato
Mike Hillerby
Kieth Lee
John McCormick
Gabby McGregor
Andres Moses
Joe Tommasino

Guests

Justice Elissa Cadish
Paige Barnes
Andrea Blanco
Judge Kathleen Drakulich
Joe Naves
Erin Tellez

AOC Staff

Almeda Harper

- I. Call to Order
 - Justice Cadish called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. in the absence of Chair Stiglich.
 - Ms. Harper called roll; a quorum was not present, but the members agreed to continue the meeting as information only.
 - The meeting summary from June 12, 2023, was not approved.

- II. 2023 Legislation Implementation Issues and Corrections
 - Chief Judge Jones asked if the timeline for the COLAS could be accelerated. She felt the judges should be treated like all other state employees and she was not aware of any others that are required to wait for salary increases. This is a delicate political topic.
 - ♦ Judge Drakulich commented that the State's Constitution limits the intervals for salary increases, but not COLAS. She wondered if this borders on an equal protection issue. She felt it would be beneficial to meet with the Legislative Counsel Bureau before the next session to find out how they would respond to a change. There is also an equity issue in certain circumstances as city and county-paid judges and other staff are being paid more than district judges.
 - ♦ Justice Cadish suggested that bringing this topic back to the Legislature for additional changes may not be practical.
 - ♦ Mr. Hillerby agreed with Justice Cadish, that future discussions with Legislators will likely create issues as they were unhappy during initial negotiations.
 - ♦ Ms. Barnes added that the risk of returning to this topic in the next session could be much graver than the reward. The Legislative Branch may move backward on what was accomplished during the 2023 Session.
 - ♦ Judge Miller suggested a meeting with Chairman Yeager to get his opinion on this subject.

- III. Possible 2025 BDRs
 - AB116 Fixes

- ♦ Mr. McCormick asked the members if they felt there was a need to form a workgroup to attempt to correct the procedural issues with [AB116](#).
 - Mr. Clark commented that a BDR for corrections is not a bad idea and that legislators will come after the driver's license suspension issue again. Things could change drastically depending on the outcome of the 2024 elections. He will be working with NJLJ to develop the necessary language.
 - Judge Bishop felt judges need to submit a correction to ensure additional issues are not created.
 - Judge Miller suggested making changes to correct the juvenile jurisdiction question.
- Guardianship
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick commented that during the last session, the Committee submitted [SB15](#) which included several changes including a fee change which is where the bill got hung up. He would like to submit the changes again without the fee. He offered to get input from the Guardianship Commission.
- Driver's License Suspensions
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick commented that legislators have reached out to Chief Judge Higgins expressing concern for this topic. The fees and the process at the DMV become a barrier for people trying to regain their licenses. Child support driver's license suspensions are also an issue that may benefit from small adjustments, however, there is Federal Law on the issue.
 - ♦ Judge Miller suggested creating a way to track who has paid fees to get their license back.
- Fines and Fees
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick explained that Chief Judge Higgins asked to add this to the list. He attended a conference put on by the National Council of State Legislatures where fines and fees were discussed. This would be a broad discussion to see if the Commission members feel the need to address fines and fees.
 - ♦ Judge Bishop commented that the lower courts are still reliant on the fees.
- Small Claims and General Civil Monetary Limits
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick commented that currently the civil limit is \$15,000 at the justice court level, and anything over that is sent to district courts. Small claims are \$10,000. He asked the members if there was a need to change these limits. The topic will be tabled for discussion at future meetings.
- Misdemeanors charged in the same case are required to be sent to district courts with bound over gross misdemeanors or felonies.
 - ♦ Judge Miller commented that NRS 173.115 requires that if there is a felony or gross misdemeanor, all misdemeanors must be included in the same complaint.
 - ♦ Justice Cadish pointed out that they may not be resolved together.
 - ♦ Mr. Conway added that in Washoe County, they stay in justice courts which causes problems in trying to close out cases. There is a concern that district court judges may not have jurisdiction over the cases from lower-level courts.
 - ♦ Judge Miller added that Clark County binds them up to district court, and the district court resolves the charges along with the felonies and gross misdemeanors.
- Administrative Assessment Reform Bill
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick explained this is the only source of discretionary revenue for limited jurisdiction courts.

IV. Other Potential Bills

- Chief Judge Jones discussed multiple concerns.
 - ♦ The statute for technical and non-technical parole and probation violations could use clarification as to what constitutes a non-technical violation.
 - ♦ Honorable and dishonorable discharges need to be clarified. If money is owed, should an honorable discharge be granted? This also applies to record sealing. She disagrees with the calculation of good-time credits.

- ♦ The 48-hour bail hearing rule has been more difficult for the rural courts, and they should be canvassed to see what can be done to alleviate the difficulties.
 - Mr. Clark commented that a one-time general fund allocation was granted to pay for additional judges or overtime necessary to implement the 48-hour rule. He would like to see this one-time allocation become long-term funding. Townships within larger counties can also benefit from the additional funding.
 - Judge Bishop added that he is in favor of 48-hour hearings with the additional funding.
- Ms. Lerud commented that post-sentence, no-contact orders do not go anywhere concerning the state repository. If there is a post-sentence, no-contact order entered in a domestic battery case, the order is good, but law enforcement has no way to access it. They do not immediately arrest, leaving victims at risk.
 - ♦ Mr. McCormick offered to reach out to the District Attorney's Association for input.
 - ♦ Judge Bishop added that immediate arrest may not be permissible, and that specific statutory coverage should be considered.
- Mr. Grierson requested a bill be reserved for the 8th Judicial District for additional judges.
- Mr. McCormick added that the [SB418](#) questionnaire for anyone newly running for judicial office has been built and is available through the [Secretary of State website](#), and has been disseminated to all county election officials. He said that we are still working on the lay justice of the peace test required by [SB354](#).

V. Future Meetings

- The next meeting will be held in January after the Limited Jurisdiction Judges Winter Seminar.

VI. Adjournment

- There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

TAB 4

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JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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SPECIALTY COURT FUNDING AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members:

Justice Linda Bell, Co-Chair	Chief Judge Cynthia Cruz	Judge Thomas Stockard
Justice Lidia Stiglich, Co-Chair	Judge Steven Dobrescu	Judge Ryan Sullivan
Judge Michael Montero, Vice-Chair	Judge Jim Loveless	Judge Ryan Toone
Judge Tom Armstrong	Senior Judge Deborah Schumacher	Chief Judge Jerry Wiese
Judge Stephen Bishop	Chief Judge Lynne Simons	Judge Bitia Yeager

Committee Meeting of October 13, 2023

Prepared by: Stephanie Gouveia, Specialty Courts Statewide Coordinator

- The theme for the Nevada Specialty Court Conference was voted on and approved: Silver State, Gold Standard. The conference will be held in Reno, NV, October 16th-18th, 2024.
- The Committee voted to fund 10 slots for attendance at the national conference, All Rise, in May of 2024.
- The Committee distributed funding applications for fiscal year 2025.
- The Committee reviewed legislative updates pertaining to specialty courts.
- The next peer review is scheduled between the Western Regional Adult Drug Court and the 2nd Judicial District Adult Drug Court.
- The Committee began the election process for terms starting January 1, 2024.
- Courts shared successes including the first female graduate of HOPE program from the 8th Judicial District.
- The next Specialty Court Funding & Policy Committee meeting will be January 22, 2024, at 12p.m.

TAB 5

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JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, August 25, 2023

10:00 AM

Austin, NV

(Prepared by Jamie Gradick)

Members Present:

Judge Michael Montero, Chair
Judge Randall Soderquist (Vice-Chair)
Judge Kenneth Calton
Judge Bryan Drake (Remote)
Judge Denise Fortune
Judge Bill Gandolfo
Judge Kriston Hill (Remote)
Judge Al Kacin (Remote)
Judge Jim Loveless (Remote)
Judge Dee Primeaux
Judge Kenneth Quirk (remote)
Judge Mason Simons (Remote)
Judge Karen Stephens (Remote)

Guests Present:

Sr. Judge Teri Feasel
Sr. Judge Letty Norcutt (Remote)
Judge Dorothy Rowley (Remote)

AOC Staff Present

Jamie Gradick

Members Absent (Excused):

None

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Judge Rob Hoferer
Judge Jim Shirley

I. Call to Order

- Judge Soderquist, as Council vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

II. Determination of a Quorum

- A quorum was present.

III. Approval of Meeting Summaries

- The summary of the May 26, 2023 meeting was approved; Judges Montero and Loveless abstained from voting.

IV. Business, Action, and Discussion Items

- AOC Updates

- Ms. Gradick informed attendees that the Nevada Supreme Court Law Library has contracted with LexisNexis to offer Lexis+ access to Nevada’s courts. If interested, please let Ms. Gradick know.
- Ms. Gradick informed attendees of 2024 Judicial Education event dates; additional information will be made available closer to event dates.
- Ms. Gradick informed attendees that, with the approval of the Court’s budget requests during Legislative Session, the AOC anticipates the addition of several new positions over the next several months.
 - Additional positions are being added to the Audit team, the Court Services Unit, Judicial Education, and others.
 - Attendees briefly discussed how this increase in staff could benefit court programs such as CIP and the Court Interpreter program.
- Civil Infraction Citations
 - Attendees discussed juvenile civil traffic. The bill places jurisdiction with “justice court” instead of “juvenile” court. Different courts have been interpreting/applying the language differently.
 - Judge Soderquist informed attendees that Elko made the juvenile master a pro tem in the justice court as a “work-around” for this issue.
 - Attendees discussed the use of senior judges and judge pro tems; there’s a need to clarify and document roles for each case/citation.
 - Attendees discussed how to handle hearings when associated criminal allegations are denied. Some courts set the evidentiary hearing for a later date and send notice to the parties; the judge can consider whatever evidence is presented depending upon who shows up for the hearing.
 - Discussion was held regarding the role of the law enforcement officer; nothing in NV law allows the LEO to “stand in” for the prosecutor at the hearing.
 - Attendees discussed whether language in AB116 allows for “informal hearings”.
- Bail Schedules
 - Judge Soderquist informed attendees that the NJLJ voted to appoint a workgroup to develop a uniform bail schedule but not all limited jurisdiction judges are members of the NJLJ association so an “approved” schedule wouldn’t be completely “uniform” for all courts.
 - Judge Soderquist referenced the “rural” bail schedule proposed by Nevada State Police and asked attendees for input regarding developing and adopting a uniform bail schedule in the North Central Region.
 - Some courts are still using the schedule the group developed in 2013; Elko courts never officially adopted this schedule.
 - Elko County is, currently, using its own schedule that sets amounts by category instead of individually; it’s based on the recommended schedule developed by the Bail Schedule Subcommittee of the Committee to Study Best Practices for Evidence-Based Pretrial Release.

- Attendees agreed to hold a bail schedule workshop following the next North Central Regional Judicial Council meeting on November 17, 2023.
- Cloud Gavel Input Request
 - Judge Fortune asked attendees for input regarding Cloud Gavel.
 - Some judges have used it but expressed concerns regarding the use of “declaration” instead of “affidavit” in the templates; this causes confusion on law enforcement testimony.
 - Discussion was held regarding what authority would allow a warrant based on an unsworn declaration.
- Community Service Reports
 - Senior Judge Feasel participated in a community treasure hunt for the Carlin Historical Society.
 - Judge Calton hosted the local high school’s forensic science class at Well’s courthouse.
 - Judge Montero participated in a community Veterans’ breakfast and hosted elementary students at his ranch for “Farm Day.”
- Other Items and Discussion
 - Ms. Gradick provided attendees with a brief overview of the water law judges’ pilot program, training, and appointment processes as approved in the recent ADKT 0576 Order.
 - Judge Montero issued a blanket approval for senior judges within the region to attend these meetings without having to seek approval (via the JCSN Bylaws) each time.
- Informational Documents
 - Attendees reviewed the judicial security resources documents; a comment was made that people seem to be increasingly angry when they come to court.

V. Future Meetings

- The next North Central Regional Judicial Council meeting will be held November 17, 2023 at 10:00 am in Carlin.
- The next Judicial Council of the State of Nevada meeting will be December 1, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

VI. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

TAB 6

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS
Director and State Court
Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

SUMMARY

SIERRA REGIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, October 13, 2023
12:00 PM

<p><u>Members Present:</u> Judge John Schlegelmilch, Chair Judge Leon Aberasturi Judge Thomas Gregory Judge Eileen Herrington Judge Michael Johnson Judge Kristin Luis Judge Lori Matheus Judge James Russell Judge Camille Vecchiarelli Judge Nathan Tod Young</p> <p><u>Guests Present:</u> Ms. Bobbie Williams</p> <p><u>Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)</u> <u>Staff Present:</u> Jamie Gradick, Rural Courts Coordinator/Court Services Supervisor</p>	<p><u>Members Absent (Excused):</u> Judge Tom Armstrong Judge Paul Gilbert Judge Tom Stockard Judge James Wilson</p> <p><u>Members Absent (Unexcused):</u> Judge Cheri Emm-Smith Judge Doug Kassebaum Judge Mike Lister Judge Ben Trotter</p>
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I. Call to Order

- Judge Schlegelmilch, as chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

II. Determination of a Quorum

- A quorum was present.

III. Approval of Meeting Summaries

Supreme Court Building ♦ 201 South Carson Street, Suite 250 ♦ Carson City, Nevada 89701 ♦ (775) 684-1700 · Fax (775) 684-1723

Supreme Court Building ♦ 408 East Clark Avenue ♦ Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

- The summaries from the January 13, 2023 and July 14, 2023 meeting were approved.

IV. Business, Action, and Discussion Items

- AOC Updates
 - Ms. Gradick informed attendees that the Nevada Supreme Court Law Library has contracted with LexisNexis to offer Lexis+ access to Nevada’s courts. If interested, please let Ms. Gradick know.
 - Ms. Gradick provided attendees with a copy of the e-filing flyer that was sent out from the AOC and the “POP Onboarding” announcement that was sent out on behalf of DPS (*please see materials for these handouts*).
 - Attendees briefly discussed ongoing AOC IT projects; concern was expressed regarding the Guardianship portal currently in development. Judge Young questioned whether this project would allow the Supreme Court to “vet” guardianship cases before they are assigned to courts. Ms. Gradick commented that this is not the intent of the project; she will confirm this with Kate McClosky and report back.
 - Ms. Gradick informed attendees that, with the approval of the Court’s budget requests during Legislative Session, the AOC anticipates the addition of several new positions over the next several months.
 - Additional positions are being added to the Audit team, the Court Services Unit, Judicial Education, and others.
- Civil Traffic Status
 - Attendees discussed the Global Justice (GJS) Civil Traffic CMS and expressed ongoing concerns.
 - Ms. Gradick confirmed that the AOC IT team is working to address concerns with GJS but there is also an effort being made to move this back to Court View.
- Community Service Reports/Updates
 - Judge Vecchiarelli participated in a mock trial with local elementary students.
 - Judge Young presented to graduates of the Jobs 4 Nevada Graduates program.
- Other/Discussion
 - Judge Schlegelmilch provided attendees with a brief overview of the water law judges’ pilot program, training, and appointment processes as approved in the recent ADKT 0576 Order.
 - Attendees expressed concern regarding the Department of Indigent Defense Services (DIDS) and a lack of adequate, local indigent defense in the rural counties.
 - DIDS Director, Marcie Ryba, has been visiting rural courts; many judges are still experiencing issues with the office including a consistent decrease in available services and providers.
 - Judge Russell informed attendees that Carson City has left the State Public Defender’s Office and has established its own PD office for both Carson City and Storey County.
- Informational Documents

- Attendees reviewed the judicial security resources documents.
 - A suggestion was made that the Nevada Supreme Court Marshal's Office offer training for local court bailiffs and marshals. Ms. Gradick will forward the suggestion to the Supreme Court Marshals Office.

V. Future Meetings

- Sierra Regional Judicial Council: 2024 Dates TBD
- Judicial Council of the State of Nevada: December 1, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

VI. Adjournment

- Judge Schlegelmilch adjourned the meeting at 12:40 pm.

TAB 7

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS
Director and State Court
Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

Washoe Regional Judicial Council

November 1, 2023

Noon

Summary prepared by: Almeda Harper

Members Present

Chief Judge Lynne Jones (Chair)
Judge Shirle Eiting (Vice Chair)
Judge Kendra Bertschy
Judge Barry Breslow
Judge Kathleen Drakulich
Chief Judge Christopher Hazlett-Stevens
Chief Judge Kevin Higgins
Judge Tamatha Schreinert
Judge James Spoo
Judge Egan Walker

Guests Present

Mr. James Conway
Ms. Alicia Lerud

AOC Staff Present

Almeda Harper

Absent

Judge Aimee Banales
Judge Justin Champagne
Judge David Clifton
Judge Paige Dollinger
Judge Gene Drakulich
Judge Erica Flavin
Judge Scott Freeman
Judge Terry Graham
Judge Pierre Hascheff
Judge Jessica Longley
Judge Cynthia Lu
Chief Judge Shelly O'Neill
Judge Tammy Riggs
Judge Bridget Robb
Judge Kathleen Sigurdson
Judge Connie Steinheimer
Judge Ryan Sullivan
Judge E. Alan Tiras
Judge Sandra Unsworth
Judge Chris Wilson

Absent Excused

Judge Dixie Grossman
Judge David Hardy
Chief Judge Scott Pearson

- I. Call to Order
 - Chief Judge Simons called the meeting to order at Noon.
- II. Call of Roll and Determination of Quorum Status
 - Ms. Harper called roll; a quorum was not present, however, the Chair elected to proceed with the meeting as information only.
- III. Approval of Meeting Summary
 - There being no quorum, the summary was not approved.
- IV. AOC Updates
 - Specialty Courts
 - ♦ The theme for the Nevada Specialty Court Conference will be Silver State, Gold Standard, and will be held on October 16–18, 2024 in Reno.
 - ♦ The Committee will fund 10 slots for attendance at the national conference, All Rise, in May of 2024, being held in San Diego, CA.
 - ♦ 2025 funding applications have been distributed.

- ♦ The next peer review will include the Western Regional Adult Drug Court and the 2nd Judicial District Drug Court
- ♦ The Committee will be holding elections for terms expiring on 12/31/23.
 - Chief Judge Simons requested the list of members and terms be routed to the Washoe Regional members for reference.
- Judicial Education Upcoming Events
 - ♦ In your materials, you will find details regarding the Limited Jurisdiction Judges Seminar coming up in January.
 - ♦ The annual AOC Family Law Conference will be held on April 9, 2023, followed by the 2024 District Court Judges Seminar on April 10th-12th, at the Aliante Resort and Casino in North Las Vegas.
- IT Projects Update
 - ♦ The AOC recently sent out a letter and flyer with updates on the many IT projects underway. Please see the materials for more information.
 - ♦ Update as of 10/24/23: There are six courts currently utilizing CourtView for Civil Traffic with more being added.

V. Discussion and Action Items

- Mental Health Summit
 - ♦ Judge Walker commented there will be a Washoe County Mental Health Meeting on January 12 or 13, 2024. There are 150 slots for stakeholders, police, judicial, medical, county, and city leaders to tackle the mental health issue using the Sequential Intercept Model.
 - The Limited Jurisdiction Winter Seminar is scheduled for the same week in January.
 - Judge Walker requested that courts send their Court Administrator if the Judge cannot attend the Mental Health Summit.
 - ♦ The Board of County Commissioners has agreed to partner with the Judges, County, and Cities to address mental health and elder issues. The meeting invitation will be sent out next week.
- Mental Competency
 - ♦ Judge Walker commented that in January 2023, the wait list to get into Lakes Crossing was about 35 persons and the wait time was four to six months. As of last week, the wait list was less than seven people and the wait time was one–two months. He feels the wait time can still be improved. The new process is showing remarkable success.
 - ♦ The Sheriff will be signing a contract to begin jail-based restoration to competency services to educate people about the criminal and court process including the roles of all players involved.
 - ♦ Currently, there are 57 persons accused of gross misdemeanors or felonies on the competency docket. Last month there were 11 admissions to the list, of those, 7 cases were closed. The real success so far is the inertia as no one has impeded the new changes.
 - ♦ Judge Walker is ready to begin accepting misdemeanors. There is a need to create a record of how and why the competency issue was raised and how the case got to the District Court. He created and routed forms to Washoe judges to address these needs, but the forms remain unfinished.
 - Mr. Conway addressed two issues with the forms. He was not aware the forms were to be used on the record, in court. He plans to address the forms at the next judges' meeting, which will be held later in the month. The second issue is the District Attorney's position on whether or not a hearing is necessary when the forms are received.
 - ♦ Chief Judge Jones requested that Judge Walker keep track of areas that may need legislative change.
- Court Updates
 - ♦ Second Judicial District Court
 - Chief Judge Jones commented that she has recently changed her name.

- The District Court may be receiving a new building through the Washoe County Strategic Plan.
- The court staff will be reestablishing their Evidence Committee after hiring a new Evidence Clerk.
- There have been four to five cases on each grand jury docket. Cases are being bound over and accompanying indictments. The number of trials has nearly doubled since the last 10-year high mark and may triple based on the current numbers.
 - Judge Breslow added that he has also seen a vast increase in trials this year based on previous years.
- A new case management system, with Journal Technologies, is currently under contract.
- ♦ Reno Justice Court
 - Judge Bertschy commented that three new staff members have been hired.
 - Specialty Courts Program Coordinator
 - A second Assistant Court Administrator
 - An additional Deputy Clerk
 - They will ensure one of the members of the staff will be attending the Mental Health Summit.
 - Judge Breslow asked if the 10% cash option on bail for Category A and B charges has stopped.
 - Chief Judge Higgins commented that his court never offered this option. They only offer 10% on a case-by-case basis, on Category D or E charges.
 - Judge Bertschy commented that an administrative order was entered several months prior indicating that the option is no longer available.
 - Chief Judge Jones added that she agrees with Judge Breslow and does not allow the option for her cases.
- ♦ Reno Municipal Court
 - Chief Judge Haslet-Stephens commented that the court was awarded two grants from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.
 - A four-year, million-dollar grant for the Community Court to expand and enhance services, including a new case management program and temporary housing for a subset of their participants.
 - A million-dollar umbrella grant was awarded for their specialty courts to enhance treatment and testing.
 - They will be hosting a convening of Regional Community Courts on February 8, 2023. Several community courts have been invited to visit their town and attend a conference to discuss best practices.
- ♦ Sparks Justice Court
 - Chief Judge Higgins commented that their Court Administrators are working on the forms for Mental Competency.
 - He has been drafted to sit on a Legislative Committee in preparation for the next Session. He attended a conference for the National Center for State Courts to discuss fines and fees. He believes all administrative assessment fees will be eliminated. He pointed out that the majority of the AA fees can easily be subsumed into the State General Fund with the exception of the \$10 court facility fee and the \$7 portion from the main AA fee that goes to the court.
 - In California, there is a Court Retirement fee that pays for Judicial Retirement.
 - He would love to get signed up for the new E-filing system the Supreme Court is offering for free, he is not a fan of the program they currently use, E-file.
- ♦ Sparks Municipal Court
 - Judge Spoo commented that the Sparks Attorney's Office has been working with the police department on domestic violence-related matters. One of the initiatives they have created is the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) which offers intensified training

for specialized units within the Sparks police department to respond to domestic violence matters.

- ♦ Incline Village Justice Court
 - Chief Judge Higgins commented that Judge Tiras moved into a new facility at the library in Incline Village.

VI. Adjournment

- There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

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