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

Friday, June 16, 2022
Remote via Zoom
2:00 p.m. (PST)
Summary Prepared by: Almeda Harper

Members Present
Chief Justice Parraguirre, Chair
Chief Judge Linda Bell
Judge Bert Brown
Judge Steven Dobrescu
Chief Judge Michael Gibbons
Judge Tom Gregory
Mr. Steven Grierson
Judge Bill Henderson
Judge Eileen Herrington
Chief Judge Kevin Higgins
Judge Dorothy Nash Holmes
Judge Eric Johnson
Judge Phillip Leamon
Ms. Alicia Lerud
Judge Mike Montero
Ms. Katherine Stocks
Judge Ryan Toone
Judge Nathan Young
Judge Anne Zimmerman

Guests Present
Ms. Ann Langford
Mr. Joe Tommasino
Ms. Bobbie Williams

AOC Staff
Ms. Angelina Arnold
Mr. Paul Embley
Ms. Almeda Harper
Mr. Hans Jessup
Ms. Brandi Jinkerson
Ms. Zaide Martinez
Mr. John McCormick
Mr. James Popovich
Mr. Sheldon Steele
Ms. Kandice Townsend
Ms. Kim Williams

Absent
Associate Chief Justice Hardesty, Vice-Chair
Judge Gus Sullivan

Absent Excused
Chief Judge Lynne Simons

I. Call to Order
- Chief Justice Parraguirre, Chair of the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- Ms. Harper called role; a quorum was present.

II. Public Comment
- There was no public comment.

III. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Summary
- The March 18, 2022, meeting summary was approved.

IV. Business and Action Items
- Traffic Infraction Process
  - Judge Nash Holmes commented that the NJLJ committee has developed a set of uniform fines or assessments to accompany the new traffic system and inquired if anyone has yet to discuss a uniform, statewide system, or process.

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- Mr. McCormick commented the Supreme Court staff have been working with Global Justice Solutions to create a system for traffic dispositions by October 2022. Allowing time for training and testing, the program is projected to go live by January 2023. The program will be an optional system for all Nevada courts to utilize. Judge Zimmerman has been working with stakeholders including NHP and Brazos. Brazos, the electronic citation vendor for the state, will not be creating citations that have both criminal and civil infractions. They will be on two different citations. At this time, uniform rules have not been discussed.
- Ms. Langford has created a distribution list of court contacts to ensure the many systems currently being used will be able to connect and will add Judge Nash Holmes to this list. She also commented a uniform civil infraction schedule has been approved but not a bail schedule. Courts will not be able to opt-out of the schedule as it will be programmed into law enforcement systems.
- Mr. Jessup commented that the updated USJR majors will capture the process associated with civil infractions. The system Global Justice is creating will help populate statistics.

- JCSN Attendance Policy Clarification
  - Chief Judge Bell had concerns about whether the attendance policy applies to the regional councils, requiring all judges in the region to attend meetings.
  - Mr. McCormick commented the judges are members of the region and have the option to attend. The policy applies attendance rules to the regional councils. If required, further clarification can be applied to the Bylaws.
  - Chief Judge Bell added she is unable to do business without a quorum.
  - Judge Young commented attendance has been a problem in Sierra Region. The last meeting was canceled due to low attendance regardless of encouragement to attend.
  - Mr. McCormick suggested creating a provision in the Bylaws to allow the regional councils to define their own quorum and attendance policy or simply remove the regional councils from the attendance requirement.
  - Judge Young suggested an amendment excluding regionals.
  - Chief Justice Parraguirre requested the average number of participants during regional meetings.
    - Chief Judge Bell commented Clark region averages 6-8 attendees.
    - Judge Montero commented North Central region has a quorum at each meeting.
  - Chief Judge Higgins commented part of the Strategic Plan was to have a more robust attendance and participation in determining policy. One of the most prominent complaints was the AOC making decisions without input from the judges. Judges should not complain about being excluded and refuse to attend regional meetings.
  - Mr. Jessup commented one of the issues raised during a Clark Regional meeting was the need to define 'term' for regional councils. The policy states, "two absences in a term". On the Judicial Council, a term is two years. Regional members are not elected to their respective councils and therefore do not have a 'term'. He felt that if the word 'term' could be clarified for the regional councils and a timeframe affixed to encourage attendance, this could help the situation.
  - Mr. McCormick suggested creating a separate section in the Bylaws that will cover attendance in regional councils and allowing proxies or representatives at the regional level.
  - **Chief Justice Parraguirre requested that any suggestions on how to encourage attendance should be sent to Mr. McCormick.**
  - Judge Toon suggested having one representative from each court attend the regional meetings.
- USJR Dictionary Workgroup Report
  - Mr. Jessup commented the USJR workgroup committee reviewed AB116 and additional legislative changes and worked the changes into the USJR Dictionary to capture the judicial caseload of the court. Changes have been highlighted in red in the meeting materials.
    - Four additional case types were added to the criminal dictionary.
      - Limited Jurisdiction Uphill in the district courts for civil infractions
      - Civil traffic infraction
      - Parking case type, includes both misdemeanor and civil infraction

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        - Other civil infraction case type
    - Five new dispositions in the criminal dictionary
        - Default judgment
        - Uncontested disposition
        - Contested hearing disposition
            i. FDA default judgment
            ii. Dismissed infraction judgment
            iii. Infraction committed judgment
    - Juvenile Dictionary
        - Created four new case types
            i. Added protection order case types for civil and family dispositions for harassment and domestic violence TPOs
            ii. Created juvenile traffic and civil infraction case type in delinquency offenses
            iii. Juvenile traffic civil infraction
            iv. Juvenile traffic other civil infraction case type
    - Civil and Family dictionary changes to clarify how matters should be counted
  - The proposed changes to the USJR Dictionary were unanimously approved.

V. Reports of Standing Committees
- Court Administration Committee
  - No additional comment was made.
- Court Improvement Program
  - Mr. McCormick commented Ms. Martinez has been named program coordinator.
- Specialty Court Funding Committee

VI. Regional Council Meetings
- Clark Regional Judicial Council
  - Chief Judge Bell commented that Judge Toone has been appointed the vice-chair of the regional council. Judge Wiese will be assuming the Chair position for the regional council beginning July 1, 2022.
- North Central Regional Judicial Council
  - Judge Leamon commented there were discussions on the regional attendance policy, AB116, and potential grant opportunities. Chief Justice Parraguirre inquired about the attendance policy discussion. Judge Leamon added there were no potential resolutions discussed. Their main concern was the definition of 'term' for a regional council member.
- South Central Regional Judicial Council
  - Judge Dobrescu commented members who were able to attend the last meeting discussed defining a ‘term’ as one year for the updated attendance policy. The main discussion revolved around unpaid fines and fees once AB116 is in effect. The potential loss of revenue was concerning. Revenue is already declining because warrants have stopped being issued.
- Washoe Regional Judicial Council
  - No additional comments were made.

VII. Other Items/Discussion
- Strategic Plan
  - The information included in the materials was presented during the Judicial Leadership Summit in May 2022.
- Judge Nash Holmes announced she will be retiring on July 16, 2022, after 45 years of law.
- Legislative bill drafts will be circulated for review later in the year.

VIII. Public Comment
- There was no public comment

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IX. Adjournment

- There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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