

Supreme Court Commission on Children in the Courts

Summary of November 30th, 2007 Meeting

Present: Chief Judge Everett Inbody, Judge Douglas Johnson, Judge Vernon Daniels, Judge Lawrence Gendler, Tami Soper representing Sen. Gwen Howard, Judge Patrick McDermott, Judge Linda Porter, Amy Prenda, Judge Gerald Rouse, James Ruby, Jane Schoenike, Judge Gary Washburn, Vicky Weisz, Kelli Hauptman, April Faith-Slaker, Robert P. Goodwin, Kirs Wertz, Todd Landry, Jodi Nelson, Roberta Stick, Dick Stafford, Rebecca Harling, Kathy Moore, Judge Patrick Runge

The summary of the June 15, 2007 meeting was approved.

Updates

Chief Judge Inbody reported that the Supreme Court adopted the *Guidelines for Guardians ad Litem for Juveniles in Juvenile Court Proceedings* on July 18, 2007. The Supreme Court posted the Caregiver Information Form on its website in late summer, 2007. Other recommended attorney standards/guidelines that have been recommended by the Commission have been tabled for Supreme Court consideration.

Vicky Weisz reported that approximately 450 attorneys participated in the mandatory 6-hour basic GAL training in the 12 judicial districts and at the NSBA annual meeting. A list of attorneys who have completed the training will be available on the Supreme Court website.

Chief Judge Inbody reported that a new term of the Commission would begin in January. Commission members going off the Commission were thanked for their service. The Supreme Court will be recommending replacement members in January.

New Subcommittees

Several potential new topics for subcommittees were described by Judge Johnson and Vicky, were discussed in small groups, and then were discussed in the large group. Commission members expressed interest in forming subcommittees regarding the following new topics.

- Juvenile case progression standards
- Statewide Parenting Time standards: Training, collaboration, policy, protocol, and standards development
- Immigration issues in child welfare and juvenile justice
- Implementation of *Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Juvenile Delinquency Cases*

The topic of Interstate Placement was discussed but there was not sufficient interest to form a subcommittee.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Commission will be determined and Commission members will be informed in January.