

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
April 18, 2023**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Robert Altice, David Avery, Jon Brown, Stephanie Campbell, Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Joseph Claypool, Dean Colvin, Jennifer DeGroot, MaryEllen Diekhoff, Darrin Dolehanty, Mark Dudley, Shatrese Flowers, Charnette Garner, Danielle Gaughan, Clayton Graham, Kurt Grimm, Kelsey Hanlon, Clay Kellerman, Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Stephenie LeMay-Luken, Sally McLaughlin, Bradley Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jenny Newton, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Gregory Smith, Richard Stalbrink, Thomas Stefaniak (member and as proxy for Samuel Cappas and Kristina Kantar), AmyMarie Travis, Bob Witham.
- b. Not in attendance:** Samuel Cappas (Tom Stefaniak appointed as proxy), Jason Cichowicz, Jennifer Harrison, Elizabeth Hurley (Rich Stalbrink appointed as proxy), Kristina Kantar (Tom Stefaniak appointed as proxy), Stephen Kitts, Gretchen Lund, Kristen McVey, Mark Stoner (Clayton Graham appointed as proxy).
- c. Guests:** Carolyn Foley, Derek Molter
- d. Staff:** Nick Ackerman, Jennifer Bauer, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Leslie Dunn, Mary Kay Hudson, Michelle Goodman, Mindy Pickett, Angela Reid-Brown, Bob Rath, Amanda Wishin, Jeff Wiese, Josh Woodward.

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board, noting that about one third of the judicial officers are new and encouraged the Board members to reach out to them. The Chief Justice remarked about the Supreme Court's budget in the legislature, a significant salary adjustment for judges is forthcoming, available senior judge days and scholarships for education.
- 3. Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Clayton Graham and seconded by Judge Stephanie Campbell to approve the minutes from the meeting held December 8, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Bob Altice congratulated the trial judges on their great work. He noted that the Court of Appeals has welcomed two former trial judges to their ranks, Judge Peter Foley and Judge Dana Kenworthy, and that the interviews for Judge Margret Robb's position will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup>. He also reminded the Board that not-for - publication opinions can be used for persuasive authority.

5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Darrin Dolehanty, President, reported on this year's legislative session. A team of judges testified on behalf IJA on 61 bills this session. IJA will pick a new secretary/treasurer on April 19<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Kelsey Hanlon, President, also reported that it was a challenging legislative session, but it was a mostly successful session working with the legislators. A [parental rights bill, HEA 1407](#), was a major concern that did not make it to the Governor's desk. She noted that comments were made by the legislators on the floor about judges reaching out – so it is important for judges to voice concerns to their legislators.
7. **Probation Committee, Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup.** Mag. Carolyn Foley, chair of the subcommittee on juvenile probation standards (as required by HEA 1359-2022), gave a status update and provided a draft of the standards. She highlighted that the subcommittee drafted a new section in the probation standards on youth-specific supervision, which includes use of the IYAS risk assessment instrument, informal adjustment conditions, formal probation conditions, collaborative case plans, and expectations for youth supervision. She noted that the Probation Committee had reviewed and approved these, and they had also been reviewed by the Child Welfare Improvement Committee, Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee, and the Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The Board was asked to review and provide comment on the proposed standards for a vote at the June Board meeting.
8. **Office of Judicial Administration report.** Chief Administrative Officer, Justin Forkner, reminded the Board that sine die for the legislative session is April 29. He noted that [HEA 1466](#), which doubles juror compensation, was a bill from the Judicial Conference's Jury Committee. He also asked the Board to review the proposed rule amendment on the Supreme Court's website about Purdue Global students taking the bar exam.
  - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, noted that the final Legislative update will be published mid-May. From last year's session, seven workgroups have been working on HEA 1359-2022, and that work will be highlighted at the Juvenile Judges Conference in June. Ms. Hudson also announced that grants are available right now for veterans treatment courts and pretrial services; family recovery court grants become available the first week of May. She also stated that IOCS will be sending out information about the local rules process and making the rules published on the website ADA accessible, and that the committee interest forms will be sent in May.
  - b. **Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez, Executive Director, reported the legislative session has also affected Court Tech. [SEA 136](#), as a result of no permit for firearms bill asks Court Tech to provide information in real time if someone has been prohibited from carrying a firearm. This will be a new INcite application that must be completed by July 1, 2024. They have also been working on an application from [HEA 1300-2022](#),

regarding searching for charitable organizations that post bond. Wabash City Court and Newcastle City Court have deployed Odyssey. Party access to Odyssey was deployed at the end of February. A party can request an access code to log-in to their case; Court Tech is averaging 80-90 requests a day during the week. She also announced that INJail is now live in Martin County, and they are working with Grant and Elkhart Counties to launch in 2023.

**9. Other business.** Chief Justice Rush encouraged the Board to provide comments on the Interim Administrative Rule 14 on virtual hearings. She also noted that Indiana is 42<sup>nd</sup> in the country regarding an attorney shortage, and that other states are looking at options to reduce the shortage. She then encouraged the Board members to share something in the last year that made them appreciate being a judge.

**11. Future meetings:** The 2023 meetings are scheduled for:

- June 14 at 3 p.m.- Renaissance Carmel
- September 13 at 10:30 a.m. – French Lick
- November 30 at 3 p.m. – Renaissance Carmel

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
June 15, 2023**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Robert Altice, Jon Brown, Stephanie Campbell, Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Joseph Claypool, Dean Colvin, Jennifer DeGroot, Aleksandra Dimitrijevic, Darrin Dolehanty, Shatrese Flowers, Charnette Garner, Danielle Gaughan, Clayton Graham, Elizabeth Hurley, Kristina Kantar, Stephen Kitts, Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Stephenie LeMay-Luken, Gretchen Lund, Sally McLaughlin, Kristen McVey, James Muehlhausen, Jenny Newton, Lakshmi Reddy, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Gregory Smith, Richard Stalbrink, Stephanie Steele, AmyMarie Travis, Bob Witham.
- b. Not in attendance:** David Avery (Jennifer DeGroot appointed as proxy), Samuel Cappas (Kristina Kantar appointed as proxy), MaryEllen Diekhoff, Mark Dudley, Kurt Grimm, Kelsey Hanlon (Stephanie Campbell appointed as proxy), Jennifer Harrison (Charnette Garner appointed as proxy), Clay Kellerman (Bob Witham appointed as proxy), Bradley Mohler, Jennifer Newton (Matthew Rentschler appointed as proxy), Hunter Reece (Stephanie Campbell appointed as proxy), Mark Stoner (Charnette Garner appointed as proxy).
- c. Guests:** Carolyn Foley, David Najjar, Elizabeth Tavitias
- d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Jeff Bercovitz, Kathryn Dolan, Leslie Dunn, Michelle Goodman, Justin Forkner, Mary Kay Hudson, Amanda Wishin.

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board. She updated the Board that the recently passed Supreme Court budget included money for increases to judicial salary, problem-solving and commercial courts, and pretrial serves. She noted that a shortage of lawyers and staffing is an issue across the state. She encouraged the Board to engage with new judicial officers and encourage them to get involved in committee work, and for them to use senior judges to take wellness days.
- 3. Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Stephanie Campbell and seconded by Judge Clayton Graham to approve the minutes from the meeting held April 18, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Bob Altice noted that the number of appeals cases are now close to pre-pandemic levels. He advised that Judge Margret Robb's last day would be June

16<sup>th</sup> and that she will continue on as a senior judge. The Court of Appeals is excited to be awarded the Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Award from the National Center for State Courts for their traveling oral argument program. If a judge knows of a school interested in hosting, he encouraged the Board to contact Anne Fuchs ([anne.fuchs@courts.in.gov](mailto:anne.fuchs@courts.in.gov)).

- 5. Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Darrin Dolehanty, President, reported that it was a busy legislative session with IJA tracking over 60 bills, many of them juvenile related. The Legislative Council recently met, and no topics were assigned to Courts & Judiciary, Child Services will be looking at review of child fatalities, and Commerce & Economic Development is studying the legalization of marijuana. Regarding the model jury instructions, Judge Dolehanty announced that the Civil Instructions Committee met to discuss an unconscious bias instruction and making the instructions more inclusive. The Criminal Instructions Committee will meet later in the year. Lastly, he announced that Judge Heather Welch takes over as IJA president on July 1 and Judge Stephanie Campbell will be secretary/treasurer.
- 6. Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Stephanie Campbell presented the ICJFCJ report on behalf of President Judge Kelsey Hanlon. She reiterated Judge Dolehanty's comments about the legislative session, noting that it will be important to pay attention to topics assigned to the summer study committees.
- 7. Family Law Taskforce.** Judge Elizabeth Tavitias presented a draft of the guardian ad litem guidelines that are part of the implementation phase of the Family Law Taskforce recommendation. The draft has been vetted by the Domestic Relations Committee and bar associations. They will be posted for public comment and brought to the Board for final approval in September. A new Guardian ad Litem Oversight Committee will manage complaints about those not following the guidelines.
- 8. Probation Committee, Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup.** Mag. Carolyn Foley, chair of the subcommittee on juvenile probation standards (as required by HEA 1359-2022) and as member of the committee, presented a final draft of the juvenile probation standards. The draft was reviewed by ICJFCJ and the Youth Justice Oversight Committee and very few substantive changes were made since the standards were presented at the April Board of Directors meeting. The new juvenile-specific standards are effective July 1, 2024. Mag. Foley also presented a change to Probation Standard 1.20, regarding quarterly electronic monitoring reports, which would be effective July 1, 2023. A motion made to approve all of the presented standards by Judge Greg Smith, seconded by Judge Vicki Carmichael, and passed unanimously.
- 9. Domestic Relations Committee:** Judge David Najjar, on behalf of the Domestic Relations Committee, presented the amended child support guidelines. The largest revisions are (1) revision of child support tables with approximately a 14-16% increase; (2) removal of 6% rule for healthcare expenses; (3) addressing when two or more kids are spending different amounts of overnights; (4) changes to the child support obligation worksheet; and (5)

emphasis on any deviations that may result. The child support guidelines are currently posted for public comment. The Board will vote on the guidelines at the September meeting.

**10. Office of Judicial Administration report.** Chief Administrative Officer, Justin Forkner, announced that grants with the new budget money will be available in the fall; court security and innovative projects will have more funding. The Court hopes that the legislative interim committees will discuss court and judicial security. Justice Brent Dickson sent a letter requesting it be added as a topic. Justin Forkner reported that the 2024 probation officer minimum salary schedule is under review and presented the range of salary increases being considered by the Court. Mr. Forkner anticipated the selected salary increase being published in the near future.

- a. **Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, stated that judicial officers will be receiving notice about their committee assignments shortly. She noted that education opportunities are included in the Wednesday message. Ms. Hudson also announced that the Youth Justice Advisory Committee, staffed by IOCS, is finalizing their report to the legislature which is due on July 1<sup>st</sup>. She said that the Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC) will be offering technical assistance to local JRACs, and the application is due on June 30<sup>th</sup>. If anyone has questions, reach out to Michelle Goodman or Jenny Bauer.
- b. **Court Technology report.** Justin Forkner reported on behalf of Mary DePrez, Executive Director. He stated that Court Tech is receiving 110 requests for party access on MyCase during the week. Regarding the Department of Correction scheduling application, 11 of the 18 facilities are participating and 67 courts are using it.

**11. Future meetings:** The 2023 meetings are scheduled for:

- September 13 at 10:30 a.m. – French Lick
- November 30 at 3 p.m. – Renaissance Carmel

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
French Lick, Indiana  
September 13, 2023**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Robert Altice, David Avery, Jon Brown, Stephanie Campbell, Samuel Cappas, Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Joseph Claypool, Jennifer DeGroot, Aleksandra Dimitrijevic, Mark Dudley, Charnette Garner, Danielle Gaughan, Clayton Graham, Kurt Grimm, Kelsey Hanlon, Jennifer Harrison, Elizabeth Hurley, Kristina Kantar, Clay Kellerman, Stephen Kitts, Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Stephenie LeMay-Luken, Gretchen Lund, Sally McLaughlin, Kristen McVey, Bradley Mohler, Jenny Newton, Jaime Oss, Lakshmi Reddy, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Lori Schein, Leslie Shively, Gregory Smith, Richard Stalbrink, Stephanie Steele, Mark Stoner, AmyMarie Travis, Heather Welch, Bob Witham.
- b. Not in attendance:** Dean Colvin, MaryEllen Diekhoff, James Muehlhausen
- c. Guests:** Andrew Bloch, Chris Goff, Thomas Hallett, Mark Massa, Derek Molter
- d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Jeff Bercovitz, Chris Biehn, Kathryn Dolan, Leslie Dunn, Joseph Fischer, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Mary Kay Hudson, Bob Rath, Jeff Wiese, Amanda Wishin, Josh Woodward

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board. She encouraged Board members to welcome new judges, participate in the upcoming weighted caseload study, and apply for available grants.
- 3. Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Mark Stoner and seconded by Judge Clayton Graham to approve the minutes from the meeting held June 14, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Bob Altice updated that the Court of Appeals now has three new judges from the trial court bench, Judges Peter Foley, Dana Kenworthy, and Paul Felix. He noted that there will be two additional Court of Appeals openings in 2024 in the northern district. The Court of Appeals won the Sandra Day O'Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education for their traveling oral arguments.
- 5. Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Heather Welch, President, noted that the IJA officers are Judges Stephanie Campbell, Mark Spitzer, and Darrin Dolehanty and encouraged the Board members to reach out to them with any questions. The 88<sup>th</sup> annual

IJA luncheon is September 14, and awards will be presented during the luncheon. This upcoming legislative session, IJA will have the same lobbyists and sine die is planned for March 14th. She emphasized the importance of the weighted case load study.

- 6. Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Kelsey Hanlon, President, reported that for the 2024 legislative session a ICJFCJ member will be available every Wednesday to testify. She encouraged the Board to join the ICJFCJ to help support their legislative efforts. The ICJFCJ officers are judges Kim Dowling, Kenton Kiracofe, Graham Polando, and Vicki Carmichael.
- 7. Strategic Planning Committee.** Judge Rich Stalbrink, co-chair of the Committee, announced that the conference agenda includes time set aside on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m. for districts to meet; a draft agenda with the district governance plan was provided to each district. He encouraged the Board members to work within their district to share resources.
- 8. Domestic Relations Committee:** Judge Thomas Hallett and Mag. Andrew Bloch, on behalf of the Domestic Relations Committee, presented the amended child support guidelines. Since the June meeting, public comments have been incorporated as appropriate. A motion was made to approve the amended child support guidelines by Judge Vicki Carmichael, seconded by Judge Greg Smith, and passed unanimously.
- 9. Office of Judicial Administration report.** Chief Administrative Officer, Justin Forkner, announced that district meetings will be held in the spring. He noted that the office is considering senior judges to help with grants and grant management. Mr. Forkner also gave the update for Court Technology. Party access on Odyssey continues to be very popular; 24,000 requests have been made since launch. Court Tech is currently working on INjail, which is live in Martin County and in process for Grant County. Court Tech is also upgrading Odyssey servers, and if there is any downtime notice will be sent out. Zoom licenses will continue to be paid for by Court Tech. The Court will be moving towards making it mandatory to post court calendars online.
- 10. Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, announced that IOCS has a variety of grants available - problem solving courts, court reform, adult guardianship, and CASA. The Criminal Justice Institute also has youth grants available later this year.  
She noted that last week's Wednesday message also had a memo about the new reporting requirements on juvenile diversion and detention required by HEA 1359.
- 11. Wabash Rural Justice Summit.** Justice Christopher Goff encouraged attendance in the October 13<sup>th</sup> summit aimed at rural justice. The goal of the summit is to inform judges and their justice partners of programs and funding that is available.
- 12. Future meetings:** The last meeting of 2023 is scheduled for November 30 at 3 p.m. – Renaissance Carmel.

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
Carmel, Indiana  
November 30, 2023**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Robert Altice, David Avery, Brian Bade, Jon Brown, Stephanie Campbell, Vicki Carmichael, Joseph Claypool, Dean Colvin, Jennifer DeGroot, Mark Dudley, Charnette Garner, Danielle Gaughan, Clayton Graham, Kelsey Hanlon, Elizabeth Hurley, Kristina Kantar (member and proxy for Sam Cappas), Robert Krieg, Gretchen Lund, Kristen McVey, James Muehlhausen, Jenny Newton, Jaime Oss, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Lori Schein, Leslie Shively, Gregory Smith, Adam Squiller, Richard Stalbrink, Stephanie Steele, AmyMarie Travis, Heather Welch.
- b. Not in attendance:** Sam Cappas (Kristina Kantar appointed as proxy), Marla Clark, MaryEllen Diekhoff, Aleksandra Dimitrijevic, Jennifer Harrison, Clay Kellerman, Stephen Kitts, Jeryl Leach, Stephenie LeMay-Luken (Rich Stalbrink appointed as proxy), Sally McLaughlin, Bradley Mohler, Lakshmi Reddy, Loretta Rush (Christopher Goff appointed as proxy), Mark Stoner (designated Charnette Garner)
- c. Guests:** Carolyn Foley, Christopher Goff
- d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Jeff Bercovitz, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Michelle Goodman, Mary Kay Hudson, Jeff Wiese, Amanda Wishin

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Justice Christopher Goff, on behalf of the Chief Justice Loretta Rush, welcomed the Board and thanked them for all that they do for the judiciary.
- 3. Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Vicki Carmichael and seconded by Judge Hunter Reece to approve the minutes from the meeting held September 13, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Bob Altice reported that in 2024 the Court of Appeals will have two openings in District 3. The Court will be holding informational meetings in that district to answer questions for those interested in applying. He also announced that they held close to 40 traveling oral arguments, and that if anyone has a location interested in hosting to contact Anne Fuchs.
- 5. Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Heather Welch, President, reminded everyone about the reception prior to the State of Judiciary on January 10, and that the

legislative session will start on January 8 and end by March 14. She encouraged the Board members to create and maintain relationships with their local legislators.

- 6. Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Kelsey Hanlon, President, reported that they have been talking to legislators in preparation for the legislative session. ICJFCJ is focusing on the session, but she invited the Board to provide other ideas on how the organization can support juvenile and family court judges.
- 7. Probation Committee.** Magistrate Carolyn Foley, on behalf of Chair Mark Smith., discussed the committee's assigned to review probation officer salaries. She noted that while the workgroup was meeting, probation officers were given a 7.8% increase, and that the Committee decided to table this issue to see the fiscal impact of the 7.8% increase before making a larger increase. She also presented a rule change and amendment to the probation standards on probation officer certification revocation. This creates a central repository for probation officers who behave unethically. A motion was made by Judge AmyMarie Travis to approve the changes; it was seconded Judge James Muehlhausen and passed unanimously.
- 8. Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, announced, that the Youth Justice Oversight Committee has resumed meeting with Judge Dana Kenworthy as chair. Related grants were available through Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, and she anticipates another cycle of these grants. She also reminded the Board that if they applied for any of the other grants through IOCS, notices are forthcoming. She noted that the district meeting schedule came out in the last Wednesday message.
- 9. Court Technology.** Mary DePrez, Executive Director, updated the Board on Court Tech's project to improve criminal history records and protection order records that are sent to the FBI. Court Tech will be rebuilding the protection order registry. On Odyssey, over 30,000 people have requested party access, mostly through MyCase; only 10,000 of those codes have been used to log in. The INJail application is still in its pilot phase. To wrap up the year, Court Tech will be making changes to the child support calculator and financial declaration document. In the first half of 2024, Court Tech will be updating the version of Odyssey because of security issues with the current version.
- 10. Online court calendar discussion.** Justice Goff led a discussion on court calendars being available online. Judges expressed concern about parties being able to find the court calendars online, time spent outside of hearings/trials being accounted for, security, and confidential information being posted.
- 11. Future meetings:** The 2024 meetings are scheduled for:
  - April 9, 10:30 am – Indianapolis
  - September 18, 10:30 am – Indianapolis
  - December 12, 3:30 pm - Carmel