

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
April 26, 2022**

1. **Attendees:**

**a. Members:** Craig Bobay (proxy for Jennifer DeGroot), Cale Bradford, Jon Brown (proxy for Paul Felix), Stephanie Campbell, Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin, Wendy Davis, Darrin Dolehanty, Charnette Garner, Clayton Graham (member and as proxy for Mark Dudley), Kelsey Hanlon (proxy for James Humphrey), Elizabeth Hurley, Amy Jones, Clay Kellerman, Steve Kitts, Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Kristen McVey, Gary Miller, Bradley Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jennifer Newton (member and as proxy for Matthew Rentschler), Lakshmi Reddy, Hunter Reece, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Greg Smith, Rich Stalbrink, Mark Stoner, AmyMarie Travis, Bob Witham, Dan Zielinski.

**b. Not in attendance:** Jennifer DeGroot (Craig Bobay appointed as proxy), Mark Dudley (Clayton Graham appointed as proxy), Paul Felix (Jon Brown appointed as proxy), James Humphrey (Kelsey Hanlon appointed as proxy), Kristina Kantar, Matthew Rentschler (Jennifer Newton appointed as proxy).

**c. Guests:** Steve David, Chris Goff, Maria Granger, Jason Reyome.

**d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Mary Kay Hudson, Bob Rath, Jeffrey Wiese, Amanda Wishin, Josh Woodward.

2. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board and in turn encouraged them to welcome judges new to the bench. The Chief also announced that the Court will be providing Zoom licenses for another year, and that the Rules Committee is still working to thoughtfully craft Admin. Rule 14. Chief Justice Rush is pleased with the judicial salary increase for the year; most of the budget requests for the upcoming session will focus on trial court needs. Justice Steve David said a few words for his last Board meeting while still on the bench.

3. **Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Mark Stoner and seconded by Judge Stephanie Campbell to approve the minutes from the meeting held December 9, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Cale Bradford encouraged the Board by reminding that that they are leaders and eventually their caseloads will decrease. He also mentioned that

the Court of Appeals caseload is about half criminal, a third civil, 17% juvenile, and 1% administrative appeals.

5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** President, Judge Darrin Dolehanty, reported that the 2022 legislative session was particularly busy, but that their lobbyists did a great job. The IJA was in support of HB 1004, which gives judges discretion to send L6 defendants to DOC or keep them local. Judge Dolehanty requested that during the summer judges make contact with their local legislators and. He also mentioned that the interim study committee will be making decisions this summer about adding and removing judicial officers. Finally, the Senior Judge Committee is working on a retirement booklet and that the model jury instructions will be handled differently in the future.
6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report:** Vice President, Judge Kelsey Hanlon, reported that it was also an active legislative session for juvenile bills. She noted that lawyers for children is being considered by a summer study committee, HEA 1359 was an overhaul bill. They will be creating a taskforce/commission to iron out any issues with implementation of HEA 1359.
7. **Jury Committee.** Judge Amy Jones, on behalf of the Jury Committee, announced that the Jury Committee is developing a proposal to increase the statutory juror compensation rates because the last raise occurred in 1997. The Committee propose a vote at the September meeting. Any comments or concerns should be sent to Michelle Goodman.
8. **Cameras in the Courtroom Pilot (Court Security Committee and Community Relations Committee).** Judge Maria Granger, chair of Community Relations, and Mag. Jason Reyome, chair of Court Security Committee, announced that the pilot approved by the Board in 2018 that allowed media to bring cameras into designated courtrooms has been completed and the Committees recommend amending Judicial Conduct Rule 2.17 to give judicial officers discretion to allow media to take photos/film inside courtrooms. After questions, Judge Leslie Shively moved to approve the amendment and Judge AmyMarie Travis seconded the motion. The vote passed with a majority, with six votes against and one abstention.
9. **Office of Judicial Administration report:** Justin Forkner, Chief Administrative Officer, noted that the Office's chief diversity officer is leaving, but that Princess Darnell is still providing trainings.
  - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service report.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that most open positions have now been filled; the newest employee is Linda Girard with the Education Division. She also noted that the Justice Services Conference is next week. She announced that the applications for problem solving grants are due May 6 and that the Chief Justice approved 3.33% raise for probation officers. As a heads up, she also announced that there is significant work to be done because of HEA 1359 and the Board will need to approve updated probation standards by July 1, 2023.

**b. Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez reported that a few city/town courts are interested in converting to Odyssey. She also noted that 25 counties participate in the tax-intercept program, collecting about \$1.1 million a year, and it will start intercepting the automatic taxpayer refunds as well. Court Technology is still working on a jail management system. Some counties are pilots will interface with Odyssey. The Supervised Release System is another large initiative, and they are converting counties over to the new system, hoping to have all counties deployed by the end of the year. Court Tech is also working on giving parties access to their case on mycase; this will be accomplished by providing an access code to the party on the case to gain access through mail. If a county has a cybersecurity issue, call David Steward, their chief IT director, for assistance.

10. **Other business.** Judge Stephanie Campbell reported that there is a 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment auditor issue in her area. Chief Justice Rush reminded the Board that a memo on how to handle auditors was sent in a Wednesday message.

11. **Next meetings:**

- September 7, 2022 – 10:30am – South Bend
- December 8, 2022 – 3pm - Carmel

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
South Bend, Indiana  
September 7, 2022**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Cale Bradford, Stephanie Campbell, Sam Cappas, Vicki Carmichael, Jason Cichowicz, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin, Wendy Davis, Jennifer DeGroot, MaryEllen Diekhoff, Darrin Dolehanty, Mark Dudley, Lynn Ellis (proxy for Gregory Smith), Paul Felix, Shatrese Flowers, Charnette Garner, Clayton Graham, Kurt Grimm, Kim Hall, Elizabeth Hurley, Amy Jones, Kristina Kantar, Clay Kellerman, Kenton Kiracofe (proxy for Kelsey Hanlon), Stephen Kitts, Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Kristen McVey, Larry Medlock, Bradley Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jennifer Newton, Lakshmi Reddy, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Rich Stalbrink, Tom Stefaniak, Mark Stoner, AmyMarie Travis, Bob Witham, Dan Zielinski.
- b. Not in attendance:** Kelsey Hanlon (Kenton Kiracofe appointed as proxy), Gary Miller, Gregory Smith (Lynn Ellis appointed as proxy).
- c. Guests:** Chris Goff, Mark Massa, Derek Molter, Mark Spitzer.
- d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Jamie Bergacs, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Mary Kay Hudson, Mindy Pickett, Bob Rath, Jeffrey Wiese, Amanda Wishin, Josh Woodward.

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board and introduced Justice Derek Molter as the newest Indiana Supreme Court justice. She encouraged everyone to watch Justice Steve David's final remarks and announced that he will remain involved with the Commission on Equity and Access, the Juvenile Oversight Committee, and ICLEO. Chief Justice Rush also mentioned that she is making new requests for the Supreme Court's budget to help trial courts. Finally, she urged the Board to welcome new judges during the Conference.
- 3. Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Clayton Graham and seconded by Judge Hunter Reece to approve the minutes from the meeting held April 26, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Cale Bradford announced that by September 16, Judge Najam's successor will be named by the Governor; then Justice Molter's spot will be available. He also stated that the Court of Appeals is just short to getting back to the number of filings before the pandemic, which is an increase of about 15% this year.

5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Darrin Dolehanty, President, reported that this year's officers are Judges Mark Spitzer, Vicki Carmichael, and Heather Welch. Judge Dolehanty announced that at this week's meeting the IJA will be presenting their annual champion of justice awards and honoring colleagues that have passed away, including Judge Kellams, who was a past president. IJA continues to have a lobbyist contract and is gearing up for the next legislative session.
6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report:** Judge Kenton Kiracofe, Treasurer, reported on behalf of Judge Kelsey Hanlon. Judge Hanlon became the president in June because Judge James Humphrey is retiring. ICJFCJ is paying close attention to the work being done under HEA 1359, which requires the Judicial Conference to adopt juvenile probation standards by July 1, 2023. Last legislative session there was also a bill introduced by Sen. Ford regarding appointment of counsel for any child in a juvenile case. ICJFCJ recognizes that would be challenging for most courts, so they are working to get a head of that issue.
7. **Jury Committee.** Judge Marla Clark, chair, proposed legislation to increase juror payment, which would put Indiana in line with other states and is based on minimum wage. A motion to approve the proposed legislation was made by Judge Wendy Davis, seconded by Judge Jeryl Leach, and approved unanimously.
8. **Pretrial Release Committee.** Judge Mark Spitzer, chair, announced that 45 pretrial release programs are already in progress. Judge Spitzer stated that the Committee is proposing changes to the rules and requested permission to post the amended rules for comment. Judge Stephanie Campbell made a motion to allow the amendments to be posted for comment, which was seconded by Judge Vicki Carmichael, and approved unanimously.
9. **Innovation Initiative.** Chief Innovation Officer Bob Rath provided an update on several innovation projects. A mandatory pathway assignment pilot will be starting based on the Civil Litigation Taskforce's recommendation. He also noted that the Taskforce made several recommendations regarding the Trial Rules and asked for comment. He also reported on a virtual hearings pilot study by Prof. Victor Quintanilla. The Family Law Taskforce is working on pilots for case management of family cases and online dispute resolution. If anyone is interested in participating, contact Mr. Rath.
10. **Office of Judicial Administration report:** Justin Forkner, Chief Administrative Officer, discussed this year's legislative budget requests; technology is the largest request, and funding for problem solving courts, mental health courts, pretrial release, commercial courts, and civil legal aid funding will also be requested.
  - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, stated that IOCS is seeing less turnover and nearly fully staffed. Staff is providing support to the Youth Justice Oversight Committee established last session under HEA 1359,

which is chaired by Justice Steve David. IOCS's grants available to the trial courts have significantly expanded in amount and scope; contact Angie Hensley with questions. In November, IOCS is hosting a pilot Court Security Workshop with the National Sheriffs Association with teams from five counties. She noted that for this upcoming legislative session, more meetings will be planned among IJA, ICJFCJ, and JJIC leadership and IOCS staff to ensure interested groups are all on the same page.

- b. Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez, Executive Director, reported that the SRS deployment is almost statewide; only four probation departments are remaining. DeKalb City and Bluffton Town courts have been converted to Odyssey and New Castle is scheduled – only nine city and town courts are not on Odyssey. Public access to court calendars has been granted by 155 courts. Ms. DePrez also announced that Court Tech has been awarded \$3 million from the Department of Justice to build a jail supervision system, and they are waiting on another grant to complete the work. The pilot of the Indiana Department of Correction scheduling application has been completed and it will be rolled out to other interested courts. Court Tech is also working on party access for mycase, for both confidential and non-confidential cases.

**11. Next meeting:** December 8, 2022 – 3pm - Carmel

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes  
Carmel, Indiana  
December 8, 2022**

**1. Attendees:**

- a. Members:** Cale Bradford, Stephanie Campbell, Vicki Carmichael, Dean Colvin (member and as proxy for Kim Hall), Wendy Davis, Jennifer DeGroot, Darrin Dolehanty, Mark Dudley, Paul Felix, Shatrese Flowers, Charnette Garner, Clayton Graham, Kurt Grimm, Kelsey Hanlon, Amy Jones, Clay Kellerman, Stephen Kitts, Robert Krieg (member and as proxy for Leslie Shively), Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Kristen McVey, Bradley Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jenny Newton, Hunter Reece, Loretta Rush, Gregory Smith, Mark Stoner (member and as proxy for Gary Miller), AmyMarie Travis (member and as proxy for Sam Cappas), Bob Witham.
- b. Not in attendance:** Samuel Cappas (AmyMarie Travis appointed as proxy), Jason Cichowicz, Marla Clark, MaryEllen Diekhoff, Kim Hall (Dean Colvin appointed as proxy), Elizabeth Hurley (Vicki Carmichael appointed as proxy), Kristina Kantar, Sally McLaughlin, Larry Medlock, Gary Miller (Mark Stoner appointed as proxy), Lakshmi Reddy, Matthew Rentschler, Leslie Shively (Robert Krieg appointed as proxy), Rich Stalbrink (Kristina Kantar appointed as proxy), Thomas Stefaniak, Dan Zielinski.
- c. Guests:** Carolyn Foley, Chris Goff, Derek Molter, Mark Spitzer.
- d. Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Mary Kay Hudson, Amanda Wishin, Josh Woodward.

- 2. Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board. The Supreme Court's first budget hearing was held earlier in the day; the Chief Justice is asking for additional money for trial court projects such as problem-solving courts and commercial courts. Justice Derek Molter talked about his work with the Commercial Courts Committee, including the publication of a new Commercial Court Treatise and model jury instructions, and encouraged judges to suggest appropriate cases be moved to a commercial court. Justice Christopher Goff then talked about the recent Mental Health Summit, and an upcoming summit on sustaining rural communities in October 2023. The Chief Justice asked for feedback on the interim Administrative Rule 14 on remote hearings and testimony.

The Board then discussed moving judges' court calendars online. Several members of the Board expressed concern about how to post about confidential hearings, and the reflection on the calendar to their voters. The Chief Justice asked for the Board to submit feedback to her.

3. **Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Mark Stoner and seconded by Judge Clayton Graham to approve the minutes from the meeting held September 7, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Cale Bradford announced that he is completing term as Chief Judge at the end of the year, and he will be replaced by Judge Bob Altice. Judge Paul Felix and Judge Dana Kenworthy are finalists for the Court of Appeals position open because of Justice Molter's appointment to the Indiana Supreme Court. Judge Bradford also talked about his work on jail overcrowding and back logs.
5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Darrin Dolehanty, President, reported that the Board is continuing the lobbyist contract with Mike McDaniel and Amy Levander; former state senator Randy Head has joined the team, too. The 2023 legislative session starts on January 9, 2023. Judge Dolehanty reminded the Board to connect with their local legislators and encouraged them to attend the State of the Judiciary on January 11, 2023. Judge Dolehanty also stated that he is participating in monthly meetings about mental health with Rep. Steuerwald and Rep. Jeter.
6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report:** Judge Kelsey Hanlon, President, continued Judge Dolehanty's discussion of the upcoming legislative session. ICJFCJ has been spending a lot of time on the issue of counsel for kids, which came up last legislative session. Sen. Jon Ford is interested in doing a pilot, which the council supports. Judge Hanlon also announced that ICJFCJ is increasing dues to engage in professional lobbying.
7. **Pretrial Release Committee.** Judge Mark Spitzer, chair, began by thanking the Chief Justice for her budget request for pre-trial. He reported that one-third of the counties are pursuing pretrial programs. He also mentioned that the legislature is considering an amendment of Article 1, Sec. 17 – the bail section. The Pretrial Release Committee requests rule amendments that clarify educational requirements for providers and create a critical incident protocol. A motion was made to approve the rule amendments by Judge Stoner, seconded by Judge Felix, and approved unanimously.
8. **Probation Committee.** Judge James Muehlhausen, Chair, asked for direction from the Board of Directors on whether the Committee should study the probation officers salary schedule. The Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana (POPAI) created a report on salaries and requested that the salary schedule be reviewed. A motion to investigate salary issues was made by Judge Felix, seconded by Judge Wendy Davis, and unanimously approved.

Mag. Carolyn Foley, chair of the subcommittee on juvenile probation standards (as required by HEA 1359-2022), gave a status update. The subcommittee is meeting on a monthly basis with the Youth Justice Oversight Committee. A draft of the standards will be provided at the



April meeting, and the Board will vote at a June meeting. According to the legislation, the standards must be adopted by July 1, 2023.

**9. Office of Judicial Administration report:**

- a. **Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director, announced that the Education Division wrapping up new judicial officer orientation, which had over 100 judicial officers in attendance. The Court Security Workshop Pilot held in October provided good insights; additional court security education will build on this in 2023. Ms. Hudson presented at the Indiana Sheriffs' Association conference with Sheriff Mike Branham to tell sheriffs about Administration Rule 19 (court security plans), courthouse assessments, and training. Ms. Hudson also stated that IOCS staff have been supporting the justice reinvestment advisory council, which has been reviewing legislation. For this legislative session, IOCS will be continuing weekly calls with IJA and ICJFCJ so that everyone is on the same page about legislation.
- b. **Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez, Executive Director, reported that Court Tech is deploying Odyssey in some city and town courts; there are about ten remaining. Court Tech is also working on the jail management system, which will be deploying as a pilot in Martin, Grant, and Elkhart counties in 2023. Court Tech will also be deploying party access to MyCase at the end of January 2023.

**10. Other business:**

- Judge Wendy Davis discussed the federal lawsuit about the Allen County jail.
- Judge Kristen McVey discussed her new work court, starting in 2023, that include employment training with Work One and Ivy Tech.
- Chief Justice Rush mentioned that Indiana Bar Foundation kiosks distributed around the state currently help with evictions, but will later include indianalegalhelp.org.

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

- April 18 at 10:30 a.m. - Marriott East Indianapolis
- June 14 - Details TBD
- September 13 at 10:30 a.m. – French Lick
- November 30 at 3 p.m. – Renaissance Carmel