

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
January 21, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, January 21, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. remotely through Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Andrew R. Bloch, Ashley N. Hand, Marie L. Kern, Jennifer K. Kinsley, David K. Najjar, Leslie C. Shively, William L. Wilson and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Pamela Christenberry, Joseph Fischer, Noora Al-Nadheri, Angela Reid-Brown, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams, Trial Court Technology, provided staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Jewell Sutton, DeKalb Circuit Court, was also present.
4. Minutes approved. The October 15, 2021 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Electronic parenting time calendar.
 - a. Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams demonstrated the use of the electronic parenting time calendar with the updates for the parenting time guidelines effective January 1, 2022. They discussed use of school calendars received from the Indiana Department of Education (DOE), showing which parent should have the child the day before and the day of the child's birthday, data entries for various scenarios, and other areas. Members of the committee agreed by consensus the updating of school calendars should be based on which schools were used most often.
 - b. Committee members discussed revisions to the priorities of enhancements for the electronic Parenting Time Calendar from the Family Law Taskforce. Court Technology discussed funding for these enhancements.
 - c. Members of the committee discussed revisions to be reviewed at the next meeting. They agreed by consensus to provide two scenarios for use by Court Technology and the committee to demonstrate the work of and enhancements to the parenting time calendar.
6. Recent legislation. Members of the committee discussed HB 1329.
7. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, February 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
February 18, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, February 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. remotely through Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Kurt Grimm, Ashley N. Hand, Mark A. Hardwick, Marie L. Kern, Lori K. Morgan and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, Noora Al-Nadheri, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams, Trial Court Technology, provided staff assistance.
3. Minutes approved. The January 21, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
4. Electronic parenting time calendar.
 - a. Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams demonstrated updates to the electronic parenting time calendar based on the discussion at the last meeting and the parenting time guidelines effective January 1, 2022. Scenarios from the committee were used to illustrate the updates. Committee members agreed by consensus to:
 - use the same names of holidays in the parenting time guidelines as in the calendar,
 - include a beginning and end time for midweek parenting time
 - identify the clearest black and white patterns for each person in an individual parenting plan and assign them a pattern by default with a color optional
 - request statistics on the use of the calendar to plan improvements
 - b. Members of the committee reviewed a mock-up of screens for children under three years old. They agreed by consensus there should be one screen with pull down menus to indicate information for each child.
 - c. Committee members reviewed and updated the priorities of enhancements for the electronic Parenting Time Calendar from the Family Law Taskforce.
 - d. Jill Russell showed statistics indicating increased use of the electronic parenting time calendar. Members of the committee discussed seeking additional information about the use of the calendar. In addition, the committee agreed Parenting Time Hotline should be informed about the updates to the calendar.
 - e. The committee discussed plans for an education program for judicial officers during the Juvenile and Family Law Conference in June.
5. Child Support Guidelines. Members of the committee discussed plans for an update for Indiana's Child Support Guidelines.
6. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, March 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
March 18, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, March 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. remotely through Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Andrew R. Bloch, Ashley N. Hand, Mark A. Hardwick, Marie L. Kern, Jennifer K. Kinsley, Lori K. Morgan, David K. Najjar, Leslie C. Shively, William L. Wilson and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, Noora Al-Nadheri, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams, Trial Court Technology, provided staff assistance.
3. Minutes approved. The February 18, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
4. Electronic parenting time calendar.
 - a. Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams demonstrated updates to the electronic parenting time calendar based on the discussion at the last meeting and the parenting time guidelines effective January 1, 2022. A scenario and comments from the public were used to illustrate the updates and use of mock of screens for children under 3. Committee members agreed by consensus to:
 - use months not years for children under three
 - include a choice for beginning and end times for midweek parenting time
 - ask appropriate questions for each category of months under the guidelines for children under 3
 - give an option to indicate times as children under three when they age through a parenting plan during the year or use default times
 - make other changes
 - b. Committee members reviewed and updated the priorities of enhancements for the electronic Parenting Time Calendar.
 - c. Members of the committee agreed the Parenting Time Hotline could place prior versions of parenting time guidelines on their website.
 - d. The committee discussed plans for an education program for judicial officers during the Juvenile and Family Law Conference in June.
5. Child Support Guidelines. Members of the committee discussed plans for an update for Indiana's Child Support Guidelines.
6. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, May 20, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
May 20, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, May 20, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. remotely through Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Andrew R. Bloch, Ashley N. Hand, Mark A. Hardwick, Lori K. Morgan, William L. Wilson and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Leslie Dunn, Joseph Fischer, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams, Trial Court Technology provided staff assistance.
3. Guest present. Judge Elizabeth F. Tavitias also attended the committee meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The March 18, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Electronic parenting time calendar.
 - a. Jill Russell and ChiQuita Williams demonstrated updates to the electronic parenting time calendar and showed how:
 - times and midweek parenting was displayed and flexibility in their entry
 - information for children under 3 would be indicated
 - a calendar “start date” would be used
 - overnights would be indicated at the end of the calendar
 - names would be shown on the printed calendar
 - the week view and day view could be used
 - reviewed disclaimer language
 - discussed tech changes for future versions
 - viewing the calendar on a mobile device could occur
 - printing the calendar
 - b. Committee members updated the priorities of enhancements for the electronic Parenting Time Calendar.
6. Previous parenting time guidelines. Members of the committee agreed by consensus to post the 2008, 2013 and 2017 versions of the parenting time guidelines at Parenting Time Helpline website.
7. Guardian ad litem guidelines. Leslie Dunn discussed plans for approval of Guardian Ad Litem guidelines and a Code of Ethics for use in family law cases. Committee members agreed by consensus the guidelines should be in the same format as the child support and parenting time guidelines. They also agreed to bring the guidelines back to the committee for review and approval after revision by the GAL subcommittee of the Family Law Task Force. Leslie Dunn explained the GAL guidelines would receive

public comment and then taken to the Judicial Conference Board of Directors and the Supreme Court of Indiana for approval..

8. Other.

- Parenting Time Helpline brochure and card was displayed and will be distributed to the committee
- The committee will continue to have limited in-person meetings, excluding the July 15th meeting
- Judge Hallett, Chair, thanked Judge Morgan for her service to the committee, noting her term on the committee ends on June 30.
- A form for fee waiver would be distributed to the committee

9. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, July 15, 2022 from 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in person at the Indiana Office of Court Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
July 15, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, July 15, 2022 from 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in person at Fuse East, Capital Center, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

1. Members present. Alicia A. Gooden, Jennifer K. Kinsley, Ana Patricia Osan, Leslie C. Shively, Beth A. Webber, and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, James Diller and Tom Jones, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell, Trial Court Technology provided staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Dr. David Betson, Professor Emeritus of Economics and Public Policy, University of Notre Dame; Angelica Carter, Jennifer Armstrong and Trevor Hale, Child Support Bureau and Karla Mantia, Bill Welch and Kasey Nell, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council also attended the committee meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The May 20, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Child support guidelines review. Dr. David Betson, Professor Emeritus of Economics and Public Policy, University of Notre Dame gave an introduction to incomes shares model used for Indiana's child support guidelines and the federal requirements for Indiana's four-year review of Indiana's child support guidelines.
6. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, August 19, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
August 19, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, August 19, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. remotely via Teams.

1. Members present. Andrew R. Bloch, Alicia A. Gooden, Ashley N. Hand, Mark A. Hardwick, Marie L. Kern, Jennifer K. Kinsley, David K. Najjar, Ana Patricia Osan, Beth A. Webber, William L. Wilson and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, James Diller and Tom Jones, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell, Trial Court Technology provided staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Dr. David Betson, Professor Emeritus of Economics and Public Policy, University of Notre Dame; Angelica Carter and Trevor Hale, Child Support Bureau; and Bill Welch and Kasey Nell, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council also attended the committee meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The July 15, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Child support guidelines review. Dr. David Betson, Professor Emeritus of Economics and Public Policy, University of Notre Dame discussed estimates of parental spending on one child and two or more children, and child support case file sampling strategies. Committee members agreed by consensus to include cases from every Indiana county, 5 cases files at a minimum, with a total of 1,249 case files randomly selected. Members of the committee also discussed various areas for revisions.
6. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, October 21, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
October 21, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, October 21, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. remotely via Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Andrew R. Bloch, Alicia A. Gooden, Kurt Grimm, Ashley N. Hand, Marie L. Kern, Jennifer K. Kinsley, David K. Najjar, and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, and James Diller, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jill Russell, Trial Court Technology provided staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Angelica Carter and Trevor Hale, Child Support Bureau; and Bill Welch and Kasey Nell, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council also attended the committee meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The August 19, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Child support guidelines review.
 - a. Members of the committee discussed estimates of parental spending on the costs of raising children. They agreed to focus on the low income levels at the next meeting.
 - b. Magistrate Kern moved to amend the Weekly Support Schedules. Judge Grimm seconded the motion. The motion was passed.
 - c. Committee members reviewed the Preface and its language on deviations and made revisions.
 - d. Due to staffing and time constraints, members of the committee agreed to review 700 randomly selected case files for deviations and other information. They discussed and revised the template to use when getting information from each case file.
6. Parenting Time Calendar. Jill Russell, Trial Court Technology gave a demonstration of the revised electronic Parenting Time Calculator.
7. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, November 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
November 18, 2022

The Domestic Relations Committee met on Friday, November 18, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. remotely via Teams.

1. Members present. Lisa A. Berdine, Andrew R. Bloch, Ashley N. Hand, Marie L. Kern, Jennifer K. Kinsley, Ana Patricia Osan, Leslie C. Shively, Beth A. Webber, William L. Wilson, and Thomas P. Hallett, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Joseph Fischer, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Christa Coffey and Jill Russell, Trial Court Technology provided staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Dr. David Betson; Jennifer Armstrong, Angelica Carter and Trevor Hale, Child Support Bureau; and Bill Welch and Kasey Nell, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council also attended the committee meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The October 21, 2022 minutes of the committee were approved.
5. Child support guidelines review.
 - a. Members of the committee reviewed and agreed by consensus to revisions on the language of split custody.
 - b. Dr. Betson discussed the low income adjustment of the child support guidelines. Committee members agreed by consensus to extend the low income adjustment to two minimum wage obligors, rather than one minimum wage obligor. They also agreed by consensus to phase in changes at \$2.00 per each \$10.00 increase in income.
 - c. Members of the committee agreed to compare the current child support weekly support schedule to weekly support schedules prepared based on current costs of raising children.
 - d. Staff reported review of reviewing 15 dissolution and paternity cases. Committee members agreed to a revised template to use when getting information from each case file.
 - e. Committee members reviewed assignments for the next meeting.
6. Next meeting date. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, January 20, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law