

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
March 20, 2009

The Domestic Relations Committee met in Indianapolis, Indiana on Friday, March 20, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Indiana Judicial Center.

1. Members present. Craig J. Bobay, David C. Chapleau, Francis G. Hill, Sheryl L. Lynch, Deborah J. Shook, David A. Shaheed, Dean A. Young and William C. Fee, Chair, were present.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Amber Njau, Project Analyst; Cynthia Longest, Deputy Director, Child Support Bureau; Robert Monday, Parents and Children Equality; and Loretta Oleksy, Division of State Court Administration were also present.
4. Minutes approved. The minutes for the February 20, 2009 meeting were approved.
5. Draft child support guidelines. Committee members:
 - a. Agreed to add more detailed headings in the child support guidelines and commentary.
 - b. Agreed the modification and federal statute sections should be moved.
 - c. Decided to get language from Dr. Jane Venohr to update the economic data paragraph on page 4 of the guidelines.
 - d. Revised the Basic Child Support Obligation Worksheet to place the subsequent children multipliers on their own line.
6. Presentation by Loretta Oleksy.
 - a. Loretta Oleksy, Division of State Court Administration, distributed a draft Court ADR Programs For Domestic Relations Cases 2008 Annual Report for review.
 - b. Loretta Oleksy reported a county decided to stop the Court ADR program and stopped collecting fees. Committee members agreed by consensus, if the court stops an existing program, the court would have to spend down any monies being held in accordance with the ADR plan already on file with the Division of State Court Administration or spend down any monies for a purpose in the statute, rules or regulations, with the approval of the Division.
7. Parenting coordinators. Committee members discussed regulation of parenting coordinators. Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed the Association of Family and Conciliation Court's Guidelines for Parenting Coordination. They agreed these should be used in the development of guidelines in Indiana. They indicated an interest in regulating parenting coordinators by Supreme Court rule.

8. Next meeting. Committee members agreed to meet on Friday, May 15 at 9:00 a.m.; then on July 17, August 21, and October 16, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. all at the Indiana Judicial Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law