

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes

October 16, 2009

The Domestic Relations Committee met at the Indiana Judicial Center on Friday, October 16, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. Members present. Craig J. Bobay, Sheryl L. Lynch, Lynn Murray, Frederick A. Schurger, Debbie J. Shook, Dean A. Young and William C. Fee, Chair, were present.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Indiana Judicial Center provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Amber Njau, Project Analyst; Cynthia Longest, Deputy Director, Child Support Bureau; Karla Mantia, Prosecuting Attorney's Council; Lindsey Borschel, Web Coordinator and Daryl Stites, Web Application Developer were also present.
4. Minutes approved. The minutes of the committee on August 21, 2009 were approved.
5. Child support guidelines review.
 - a. Lindsey Borschel and Daryl Stites demonstrated a skeleton child support step by step calculator. She said the second calculator revised would be the downloadable calculator, and the last one would be the practitioner's calculator. She asked for completed scenarios under the new child support guidelines to be given to her by November 19. She also agreed to present a prototype of the calculator at the next meeting of the committee on November 19.
 - b. Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed a list of educational programs on the new child support guidelines and the current committee PowerPoint on the guidelines.
6. Presentation by Cynthia Longest. Cynthia Longest indicated there are areas in Indiana laws which are in conflict with federal child support statutes. She agreed to distribute a priority list of areas which need to be addressed in Indiana laws. Committee members agreed to give her feedback on these areas.
7. Sample scenarios for child support guidelines review. Committee members agreed to give the Judicial Center for use on Nov. 19 and Lindsey Borschel sample scenarios under the new child support guidelines in the following areas:
 - a. Social Security, 3-4 scenarios – Commissioner Shook and Magistrate Raduenz;
 - b. Medical Birth expense, 1 scenario, and Parenting Time Credit, 1 scenario, Judge Young;
 - c. Parenting Time credit, 1 scenario, Judge Hill
 - d. High Income, 3-4 scenarios, Magistrate Bobay
 - e. Low Income, 3-4 scenarios, Judge SchurgerThey agreed to get these scenarios to the Judicial Center by October 30.

8. Conference review of new child support guidelines. Committee members agreed to have Judge Fee moderate a session on the new child support guidelines on Nov. 19 during the Domestic Relations Workshop. The committee agreed the following members would assist

- a. Parenting Time Credit – Judge Hill;
- b. Social Security Benefits – Comm. Shook and Mag. Raduenz;
- c. High/Low Income, Incarceration, Potential Income – Judge Schurger and Mag. Bobay;
- d. Medical support and HIPW – Cynthia Longest and Comm. Lynch.

Conferees would work through sample questions in these areas; questions will be presented on 3” x 5” cards and will be taken at the end of each segment of the program; new worksheets would be made available for use by conferees, and the moderator will determine the amount of time spent on each segment.

9. Subcommittee on parenting coordinators. Judge Fee announced an organizational meeting of the subcommittee on parenting coordinators, composed of members of this committee and the ADR committee would be held on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Indianapolis.

10. Future meeting dates. Members of the committee agreed to the following meeting dates: November 19, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Marriott North to look at the child support calculator; in conjunction with the December 11 conference to look at the child support calculator; January 22, 2010, February 19, 2010, March 19, 2010, May 21, 2010, July 16, 2010, August 20, 2010, and October 29, 2010 all from 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Ind. Judicial Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law