

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
July 15, 2011

The Domestic Relations Committee met at the Indiana Judicial Center from 10:30 a.m. – 2:25 p.m. on Friday, July 15, 2011.

1. Members present. Craig J. Bobay, Frances G. Hill, Sheryl L. Lynch, Nanette K. Raduenz, Frederick A. Schurger, Debbie J. Shook, Richard R. Stalbrink, Dean A. Young and William C. Fee, Chair were present
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Bob Monday and Stuart Showalter were present.
4. Minutes approved. The minutes for the committee on May 20, 2011 were approved.
5. Parenting Coordination.
 - a. Magistrate Bobay reported the Parenting Coordination Subcommittee met and agreed to place the draft parenting coordination rules as part of the Parenting Time Guidelines as suggested at the Board meeting in June. Various Board members also suggested permitting a court to appoint a parenting coordinator over the objection of the parties. Magistrate Bobay stated the subcommittee revised the Parenting Coordination Guidelines to permit the court to appoint a parenting coordinator over the objection of the parties and other changes.
 - b. Magistrate Bobay agreed to draft three rules, in a similar manner as child support guidelines, which would (1) adopt the parenting time guidelines including provisions about parenting coordination, (2) give parenting coordinators immunity, and (3) require parenting coordinators to meet educational requirements and pay a registration fee. The rest of the draft parenting coordination rule would be contained as a new portion of the parenting time guidelines. The Domestic Relations Committee agreed to distribute these to committee members for approval of this reorganization and suggested this distribution should also go to the ADR committee.
 - c. A new public comment period would occur when the parenting time guidelines revisions are completed with the new portion added encompassing parenting coordination.
6. Parenting Time Guidelines.
 - a. Committee members reviewed the Exchange of Information section. Commissioner Shook and Judge Stalbrink agreed to look at their draft of material on communication to see if it should be added to existing draft language in I. A. Communication, parts 1-5.
 - b. Judge Fee distributed an article for consideration entitled, “Special Considerations for Infants and Toddlers in Separation/Divorce: Developmental Issues in the Family Law Context,” by Jennifer E. McIntosh, 6/27/11.
 - c. Judge Fee asked committee members to work high conflict information into existing commentary and include references to parallel parenting, co-parenting and other solutions in this area.
7. Future meeting dates. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, August 19, Thursday, October 27, 2011, Thursday and Friday, November 17 and 18, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Judicial Center. The Center could not pay for the overnight. They also agreed to

meet in conjunction with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Regional Meeting in Indianapolis on Oct. 27-29, 2011 in Indianapolis. Members of the committee agreed to hold meetings on January 20, February 17, March 16, May 18, July 20 and Aug. 17, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Judicial Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law