

**Community Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

**Minutes
January 24, 2014**

The Community Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on January 24, 2014.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the Community Relations Committee were present: James Ahler, Sally Blankenship, Julie Cantrell, Douglas Fahl, Helen Marchal, David Najjar, Charles Todd, and Kathleen Lang, chair.
2. **Staff assistance.** Jenny Bauer and Kathryn Dolan provided staff assistance to the Committee.
3. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from the October 2013 meeting were approved.
4. **Faces of Justice Video.** The committee discussed possible updates to the video. The members decided that students should be the audience for the video, the length of the video should be cut to 5 or 6 minutes, and the “man on the street” questions should not be used. The members also decided that committee members will appear in the video, unless they are running for re-election or retention. The committee members agreed to review the script and send revisions to Jenny Bauer and Kathryn Dolan.
5. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Community Relations Committee is scheduled for June 27.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney
Indiana Judicial Center

**Community Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

**Minutes
October 24, 2014**

The Community Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met by conference call on October 24, 2014.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the Community Relations Committee were present: Deborah Domine, Charles Todd, Tiffany Vivo, and Kathleen Lang, chair.
2. **Staff assistance.** Jenny Bauer and Elizabeth Osborn provided staff assistance to the Committee.
3. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from the January 2014 meeting were approved.
4. **New committee members.** Judge Lang announced that the new members on the committee are Blaine Akers, Dennis Carroll, Christopher Newton, and Tiffany Vivo. Judge Lang also announced that she is leaving the bench at the end of the year and Judge James Ahler will become the new committee chair in 2015.
5. **Faces of Justice Video.** The committee discussed the first cut of the video that was done by Justin Harter. The committee members liked what has been done so far and discussed the possibility of a voice-over at the beginning of the video to make the purpose of the video clear. The committee also discussed the possibility of editing the overall length of the video and possibly including video shots that are focused outside of Constitution Day.
6. **Constitution Day.** Judge Lang reported that she and Magistrate Domine went to classrooms in September to make Constitution Day presentations. They stated that they liked the curriculum prepared by Courts in the Classroom and felt that the June and September preparation meetings were very helpful. The committee would like to continue the partnership with Courts in the Classroom for Constitution Day activities.
7. **Proposal from Steve Key.** The committee discussed a proposal from Steve Key of the Hoosier State Press Association on use of electronic devices by the media in the courtroom. The committee reviewed a handout from Mr. Key and also discussed if other Judicial Conference committees should possibly weigh in. The committee decided to discuss the issue again at the next meeting when more members are in attendance and then invite Steve Key to a future meeting for discussion. Elizabeth Osborn reported that media were allowed to use tablets in the courtroom in a high profile case in Allen County with good result. The reporters were allowed to make online posts using the courthouse Wi-Fi, which reduced the number of distractions because they did not have to leave the courtroom each time to make a post.

8. **IJA Awards.** The committee discussed the general lack of interest in the past few years for the judge and journalist awards sponsored by the Indiana Judges Association. The committee asked for input from IJA on whether the time might be right to develop something new.
9. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Community Relations Committee is scheduled for February 20, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney
Indiana Judicial Center