

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

Via Zoom

January 15, 2021 - Noon

1. **Attendees:**

- a. **Members:** Cale Bradford, Stephanie Campbell, Sam Cappas, Wendy Davis, MaryEllen Diekhoff, Paul Felix, Shatrese Flowers, Clayton Graham, Kurt Grimm, Kim Hall, Kristina Kantar, Dana Kenworthy, Steve Kitts, Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Sheryl Lynch, Kristen McVey, Gary Miller, Sally McLaughlin, Brad Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jennifer Newton, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Rich Stalbrink, Tom Stefaniak, Greg Smith, Mark Stoner, Jeff Todd, AmyMarie Travis, Andrea Trevino, Bob Witham
 - b. **Not in attendance:** Vicki Carmichael (appointed Darrin Dolehanty as proxy), Jason Cichowicz, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin (appointed Gretchen Lund as proxy), Elizabeth Hurley, Clay Kellerman, Larry Medlock, Lakshmi Reddy (appointed Dana Kenworthy as proxy), Heather Welch (appointed Mark Stoner as proxy), Dan Zielinski
 - c. **Guests:** Steve David, Gail Bardach, Jon Cleary, Darrin Dolehanty
 - d. **Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Chris Biehn, Jeff Bercovitz, Mike Commons, Vicki Davis, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Diane Haver, Angie Hensley, Mary Kay Hudson, Jenny Kidwell, Diane Mains, Rachel McKee, Bob Rath, Colleen Saylor, David Steward, Nancy Wever, Jeff Wiese, Amanda Wishin
2. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board and informed them of her conversations with Dr. Kristina Box about the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and with Governor Holcomb about CARES Act money. She also announced that the State of Judiciary will not be live in 2021 and reminded the Board that the jury trial suspension order ends March 1, 2021 and counties should begin preparing for jury trials to start.
3. **Approval of minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Bob Witham and seconded by Judge Tom Stefaniak to approve the minutes from the meeting held September 15, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Indiana Court of Appeals remarks:** Judge Cale Bradford thanked the Chief Justice for talking to Dr. Box on behalf of the judiciary. He also stated that the Court of Appeals is able to continue doing their job because the trial courts are continuing to do their job.
5. **Indiana Judges Association report.** Judge Darrin Dolehanty, on behalf of Judge Vicki Carmichael, made a report for the Indiana Judges Association. Judge Dolehanty provided a summary of the last meeting in which they said goodbye to their Board

members and welcomed new members, received updates about the jury instructions, and discussed the legislative session. Legislators are interested in determining what counties have a need for judicial officers and they discussed positives and negatives of using the weighted caseload study.

6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Dana Kenworthy, president of the ICJFCJ, reported that they have met five times and had their annual meeting since the last Board meeting. They are developing an educational session for the legislature, Delinquency 101, which has been recorded and will be available on YouTube. The ICJFCJ is monitoring a lot of legislation and have mobilized 12 judges who are willing to testify on legislation as needed. ICJFCJ has also had to respond to DCS's drug testing subcontractor issue with Tomo, which indicated that persons did not provide a screen when they were not told about the test. Judge Kenworthy also reported that the ICJFCJ is looking at the feasibility of adding senior judges to the council and has engaged someone to look at tax consequences.
7. **Probation Standards:** Judge Jim Muehlhausen, chair of the Probation Committee, requested that the Board vote on amendments to reinstate Probation Standards 2.5 and 2.6. In 2018 the committee was revising the competency exam for probation officers and the Board suspended these Standards while the committee worked through the process. Judge Muehlhausen reported the competency exam is past the trial stage and the standards can be reinstated. A motion to approve was made by Judge Sam Cappas, seconded by Judge Mark Stoner, and approved by the majority.
8. **Court Alcohol Drug Program Rules:** Judge Gail Bardach, chair of the Court Alcohol Drug Program Advisory Committee, requested that the Board approve moving forward with a public comment period for amendments to the Court Alcohol Drug Program Rules. A motion was made by Judge AmyMarie Travis, seconded by Judge Paul Felix, and approved unanimously.
9. **Problem-Solving Courts Rules:** Judge Jon Cleary, chair of the Problem-Solving Courts Committee, proposed that the Board vote to move forward on public comment on Problem-Solving Court rule changes. A motion made by Judge Clayton Graham and seconded by Judge Stephanie Campbell, and approved unanimously.
10. **Office of Judicial Administration report:** Justin Forkner reported that the legislative updates have been covered by previous reports. He requested that members contact him with legislative questions or questions about the continued pandemic respond.
 - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report** Mary Kay Hudson updated that the first Legislative Update blog post will be published today. Regarding COVID-19, Ms. Hudson reported that the office continues to work with counties remotely and that the Education Division has done an excellent job transitioning to virtual education. Ms. Hudson announced that IOCS has hired some new staff - Mindy Pickett, Melissa Arvin, Tara Rochord, Colleen Saylor, and LaDeija Rowe.
 - b. **Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez reported in the last nine days the Help Desk has handled almost 2,700 tickets. Court Tech is deploying Odyssey in a few weeks to Marion County juvenile court and the seven counties remaining to convert to Odyssey should be complete by the end of this year. Court Tech has also issued 750 Zoom licenses to judges, senior judges, and eviction facilitators.

Regarding Fast Track Facilitation, the application has received over 350 inquiries, mostly from Marion County. In two-thirds of the cases, the landlords have refused to participate, but in 16 cases, the facilitator has been able to come to an agreement for the renter to either stay in property with a payment plan or agree to a move out date and payment plan.

As a result of Court Tech's contract with Department of Correction, OCT has deployed SRS to every community corrections agency and 50 probation departments. Ms. DePrez also reminded the Board that court calendars can be accessible on the public access site; 117 courts are currently posting their calendars. Over 200 laptops were requested and are being distributed to judges.

Court Tech is also working on a DOC calendaring application that will allow DOC to enter dates and times for each facility that are available for court hearings or meetings with state public defenders. Judges can then select and reserve those times on this calendar. Lastly, with the support of the Court, IPAC, ICJI, various legislators and the Sheriffs' Association, the Office of Judicial Administration applied for and received a million-dollar DOJ grant to build a jail management system.

11. **2021 meetings:** The remaining 2021 meetings will be held on April 7, 2021 at 12:00 pm; and August 31, 2021 at 3:00 pm; and December 9, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

Via Zoom

April 7, 2021 - Noon

1. **Attendees:**

- a. **Members:** Cale Bradford, Craig Bobay (proxy for Andrea Trevino), Stephanie Campbell (member and as proxy for Hunter Reece), Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin (member and as proxy for Gretchen Lund), MaryEllen Diekhoff, Paul Felix, Shatrese Flowers, Clayton Graham, Fran Gull (proxy for Wendy Davis), Kim Hall, Kristina Kantar (member and as proxy for Sam Cappas), Elizabeth Hurley, Amy Jones, Clay Kellerman, Dana Kenworthy, Robert Krieg, Sheryl Lynch, Gary Miller, Sally McLaughlin, Brad Mohler, Daniel Moore (proxy for Kristen McVey), James Muehlhausen, Jennifer Newton, Lakshmi Reddy, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Leslie Shively, Gregory Smith, Rich Stalbrink, Tom Stefaniak, Mark Stoner, Jeffrey Todd, AmyMarie Travis, Bob Witham, Dan Zielinski,
 - b. **Not in attendance:** Sam Cappas (appointed Kristina Kantar as proxy), Jason Cichowicz, Wendy Davis (appointed Frances Gull as proxy), Kurt Grimm, Steve Kitts, Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund (appointed Dean Colvin as proxy), Kristen McVey (appointed Dan Moore as proxy), Larry Medlock, Hunter Reece (appointed Stephanie Campbell as proxy), Andrea Trevino (appointed Craig Bobay as proxy)
 - c. **Guests:** Jon Cleary, Steve David, Chris Goff
 - d. **Staff:** Jennifer Bauer, Jeff Bercovitz, Jamie Bergacs, Mike Commons, Chris Biehn, Vicki Davis, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Angie Hensley, Mary Kay Hudson, Jenny Kidwell, Diane Mains, Rachel McKee, Bob Rath, David Steward, Nancy Wever, Julie Whitman, Amanda Wishin
2. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush welcomed the Board by broadcasting her State of the Judiciary address, which was done by video this year. The Chief Justice also announced that the September Conference will be in person and available by video, that most Supreme Court staff are back in the office, and that there has been no employee-to-employee transmission of COVID-19. The Supreme Court is postponing the district meetings until next spring so that they can be in person.
3. **Approval of minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Vicki Carmichael and seconded by Judge Clayton Graham to approve the minutes from the meeting held January 15, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Indiana Court of Appeals remarks:** Judge Cale Bradford thanked the trial court judges, court reporters, and clerks for doing such a good job. He announced that the last year has allowed the Court of Appeals to develop better procedures for moving a case more

quickly through the appellate process. He also announced that Judge Kirsch is retiring at the end of September and that applications are being accepted for his replacement.

5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** Judge Vicki Carmichael, president of the IJA, reported that the organization has been working diligently with their lobbyist and the legislature on bills of interest to the judiciary.
6. **Problem-Solving Courts Rules:** Judge Jon Cleary, chair of the Problem-Solving Courts Committee, proposed that the Board vote to approve Problem-Solving Court Rule amendments which add the National Best Practice Standards for family recovery courts and make various other changes to clarify, expand, or remove current rule requirements in response to changes in the law or current practice. A motion was made to approve the amendments by Judge Mark Stoner, seconded by Judge MaryEllen Diekhoff, and approved unanimously.
7. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report.** Judge Dana Kenworthy, president of the ICJFCJ, reported that there have been many meetings about legislation, specifically about bills SB 259 (parents with disabilities), SB 301 (Child Services Oversight Committee), SB 368 (juvenile justice), HB 1256 (juvenile court jurisdiction), and HB 1531 (DCS and the education community). She also announced that senior judges are eligible to join ICJFCJ.
8. **Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) report:** Justin Forkner, CAO, reported that staff is phasing back in as people are vaccinated, and that staff is working toward live trainings and visiting counties. He also reported that OJA is working on hiring a Disciplinary Commission executive director to replace Mike Witte; Judge Mrzlack is working as the interim executive director.
 - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service (IOCS) report.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that the final Legislative Update blog will come out in early May and reminded the Board to watch for educational opportunities in the Wednesday message. She also announced that the Spring Conference and Justice Services Conference will both be virtual. Judicial identification cards are available if you contact April Dubree.
 - b. **Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez reported:
 - Noble and LaGrange counties will have Odyssey deployed in March, followed by Vermillion, Jefferson, Warrick, Switzerland, and Randolph counties by the end of the year. The upgrade for Odyssey will also be rolling out to all counties.
 - 132 Odyssey courts are now making their court calendars available on-line.
 - Zoom licenses will be automatically renewed for counties who have them.
 - The Supervised Release System has now been deployed to all Community Corrections Departments. The SRS team is converting those probation departments that use Odyssey Supervision to SRS, which will take about 2 years to complete.
 - The Senior Judge Portal was released in February with an interactive map for courts to use to help find senior judges that will serve their area. They have now processed over 1200 claims for senior judges since June 1st of last year.

- Judges can also contact Court Tech if they want to allow criminal case fees to be paid on-line through mycase.
 - The DOC Scheduling app will be piloted with 4 DOC facilities: Westville, Wabash Valley, Pendleton and Miami.
2. **Other business:** Chief Justice Rush asked Board members to report how things are going in their county and/or a random fact. Many judges reported that the judges and most of the staff in their county are vaccinated and court business is returning to normal. Judge Greg Smith, chair of the Domestic Relations Committee, additionally reported the Parenting Time Guidelines have been posted for public comment and invited the judges to review and comment.
9. **2021 meetings:** The remaining 2021 meetings will be held on August 31, 2021 at 3:00 pm; and December 9, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

French Lick, Indiana

August 31, 2021

1. **Attendees:**

- a. **Members:** Stephanie Campbell, Sam Cappas (member and proxy for Tom Stefaniak, Kristina Kantar, and Rich Stalbrink), Vicki Carmichael, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin, Wendy Davis, Darrin Dolehanty, Paul Felix, Shatrese Flowers, Charnette Garner, Clayton Graham (member and proxy for Lakshmi Reddy, Amy Jones, and Mark Dudley), Jim Humphrey, Elizabeth Hurley, Clay Kellerman, Steve Kitts (member and proxy for Jim Muehlhausen), Robert Krieg, Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Sally McLaughlin, Kristen McVey, Larry Medlock, Gary Miller, Bradley Mohler, Jennifer Newton, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler (member and proxy for Kurt Grimm), Loretta Rush, Les Shively (member and proxy for Greg Smith), Mark Stoner, AmyMarie Travis (member and proxy for MaryEllen Diekhoff), Andrea Trevino, Bob Witham.
- b. **Not in attendance:** Cale Bradford, Jason Cichowicz, MaryEllen Diekhoff (appointed AmyMarie Travis as proxy), Mark Dudley (appointed Clayton Graham as proxy), Kurt Grimm (appointed Matthew Rentschler as proxy), Kim Hall, Amy Jones (appointed Clayton Graham as proxy), Kristina Kantar (appointed Sam Cappas as proxy), Jim Muehlhausen (appointed Steve Kitts as proxy), Lakshmi Reddy (appointed Clayton Graham as proxy), Greg Smith (appointed Les Shively as proxy), Rich Stalbrink (appointed Sam Cappas as proxy), Tom Stefaniak (appointed Sam Cappas as proxy), Dan Zielinski.
- c. **Guests:** Thomas Hallett.
- d. **Staff:** Kathryn Dolan, Leslie Dunn, Justin Forkner, Michelle Goodman, Angie Hensley-Langrel, Mary Kay Hudson Robert Rath, Angela Reid-Brown, Amanda Wishin.

- 2. **Welcome and opening remarks** - Chief Justice Rush welcomed the Board and thanked them for attending in person. She also reminded them of current initiatives that are in place – eviction help, Innovation Initiative, senior judge availability – and reminded the judges to reach out to the Supreme Court if they need help.
- 3. **Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge Darrin Dolehanty and seconded by Judge Clayton Graham to approve the minutes from the meeting held April 7, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** President Judge Darrin Dolehanty reported that the Board of Managers will meet September 1st and Rep. Steuerwald will be honored with the Champions of Justice award during the meeting. He also reminded everyone that the annual meeting is Thursday at lunch and there is a reception on Thursday night. Judge

Dolehanty also announced fewer than ten judges are not members of the IJA and encouraged the Board to get to know their local legislators.

5. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report:** President Judge James Humphrey reported that the Juvenile Judges Conference was held in person with 80+ judicial offers in attendance. The ICJFCJ continues to work on issues related to SEA 368's jail removal provision, acceptance under the safekeeper statute for juvenile arrestees, and automatic expungement for juvenile adjudications when person turns 19 years old, dual status considerations, legal representation for children in CHINS cases, and appointed counsel in paternity cases.
6. **Juvenile Judges Conference change** – Mary Kay Hudson announced IOCS wants feedback on expanding judicial education opportunities for family law, so that it is also included in the Juvenile Judges Conference. IOCS intends to provide additional networking and education opportunities, not dilute the domestic relations workshop or juvenile judges conference.
7. **Judicial Conference Committees**
 - a. **Court Alcohol & Drug Program Committee (CADPAC):** On behalf of the Court Alcohol and Drug Program Committee, Angie Hensley-Langrel requested a vote on CADPAC rule revisions on training requirements. A motion was made to approve the amendments by Judge AmyMarie Travis, seconded by Judge Stephanie Campbell, and unanimously approved.
 - b. **Domestic Relations Committee:** Judge Thomas Hallett, chair of the Domestic Relations Committee, explained the proposed changes to the Parenting Time Guidelines. Including presence of third parties during child exchanges, where exchanges occur, extracurricular activities, defining home, shared parenting, and removing parallel parenting. A motion was made to approve the amendments by Judge Les Shively, seconded by Judge Wendy Davis, and approved unanimously.
8. **Office of Judicial Administration report**
 - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service report** — Mary Kay Hudson reported that distance learning is here to stay and that the new directory will be available for pick up during the conference. Ms. Hudson also provided an update about the jail management system that Court Technology is developing. She also announced the creation of a Domestic Relations Benchbook Committee.
 - b. **Court Technology report.** Justin Forkner presented the Court Technology report on behalf of Mary DePrez. He highlighted the following: (1) Only two counties remaining, Switzerland and Randolph, for the roll out of Odyssey. The new release of Odyssey, R17, scheduled to come out late this year; (2) Court Tech is working on DOC scheduling application to schedule virtual hearings with inmates; (3) Judges can opt in to having their court calendars available online; 154 courts are signed up; (4) A post card is going out to parties to an eviction case with links to housing resources.
 - c. **Innovation Initiative update** – Bob Rath reported that the Family Law Taskforce and Technology Working Group have submitted their reports; Civil Litigation Taskforce will be submitting their report at the end of 2021. The Family Law

Taskforce recommended triaging cases, trauma informed training, among other things. Both the Family Law Taskforce and Technology Working Group recommended pilots for online dispute resolution in small claims and family law cases. Hamilton County is also piloting a digital evidence portal, which is now expanding to additional counties. Judge Kimberly Bacon is also piloting electronic check-in for court cases, which then sends a text message inviting the litigant into the courtroom. Text message reminders were also recommended, but that information is not available readily for most civil litigants. The text messaging is difficult to accomplish because no one has the litigant cell phone numbers.

9. Next meeting will be held December 9, 2021 at 3 p.m. in Carmel.

**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF INDIANA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes
Carmel, Indiana
December 9, 2021**

1. **Attendees:**

- a. **Members:** Cale Bradford, Marla Clark, Dean Colvin, Darrin Dolehanty (member and as proxy for Vicki Carmichael), Mark Dudley, Paul Felix, Charnette Garner (member and as proxy for Shatrese Flowers), Clayton Graham, James Humphrey, Elizabeth Hurley, Amy Jones, Clay Kellerman, Steve Kitts, Robert Krieg (member and as proxy for Leslie Shively), Jeryl Leach, Gretchen Lund, Sally McLaughlin, Kristen McVey, Gary Miller, Bradley Mohler, James Muehlhausen, Jennifer Newton, Lakshmi Reddy, Hunter Reece, Matthew Rentschler, Loretta Rush, Greg Smith, Rich Stalbrink (member and as proxy for Tom Stefaniak and Sam Cappas), Mark Stoner, AmyMarie Travis, Andrea Trevino (member and as proxy for Wendy Davis), Bob Witham, Dan Zielinski.
- b. **Not in attendance:** Stephanie Campbell, Sam Cappas (appointed Rich Stalbrink as proxy), Vicki Carmichael (appointed Darrin Dolehanty as proxy), Jason Cichowicz, Wendy Davis (appointed Andrea Trevino as proxy), MaryEllen Diekhoff, Shatrese Flowers (appointed Charnette Garner as proxy), Kurt Grimm, Kim Hall, Kristina Kantar, Larry Medlock, Leslie Shively (appointed Robert Krieg as proxy), Tom Stefaniak (appointed Rich Stalbrink as proxy).
- c. **Staff:** Vicki Davis, Mary DePrez, Kathryn Dolan, Justin Forkner, Mary Kay Hudson, Amanda Wishin, Josh Woodward.

2. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Chief Justice Loretta Rush started by thanking everyone for their hard work, recognizing that tension is high with litigants. She encouraged the Board to get to know their local legislators. She also discussed issues with mental health - a mental health call-in line will be launched in Indiana (988), it's the number one concern for sheriffs, and the court will be hosting a mental health summit. The Supreme Court will continue to pay for zoom licenses and help with software and hardware needs for counties. She also discussed Justice Steve David's retirement and turned it over to him to discuss his next steps.
3. **Minutes.** A motion was made by Judge AmyMarie Travis and seconded by Judge Steve Kitts to approve the minutes from the meeting held August 31, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Court of Appeals Report.** Judge Cale Bradford reported that Judge Derek Molter has joined the Court of Appeals. He also announced that Judge Ted Najam is retiring the end of July 2022, and there will be additional openings the summer of 2023 and 2024. Appeals on

Wheels has started again. Judge Bradford also announced that in the last year there were 6000 notices of appeal, and 2000 majority opinions.

5. **Indiana Judges Association (IJA) report.** President, Judge Darrin Dolehanty, reported that membership is good; there are only about a dozen judges who are not members. The jury instructions are doing a great job and bringing in royalties. The IJA is gearing up for the legislative session. Judge Dolehanty also reminded the Board that there is a process for requesting a new judicial officer through the legislature that includes going to the summer study committee. Lastly, he announced that IJA is working with Justice Dickson on a retirement handbook.
6. **Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (ICJFCJ) report:** President, Judge James Humphrey, reported that a committee on juvenile jail removal, chaired by Judge Dana Kenworthy, is still meeting. The ICJFCJ is also gearing up for the legislative session. The ICJFCJ is also working on a memo to address the automatic expungement of juvenile offenses that was part of a bill from last year.
7. **Office of Judicial Administration report:** Justin Forkner, Chief Administrative Officer, also mentioned that any new judicial officer requests will have to go through the summer study committee this summer. He also announced that district meetings are coming up this spring and judges can choose which location to attend.
 - a. **Indiana Office of Court Service report.** Mary Kay Hudson reported the creation of a new committee, Domestic Relations Benchbook Committee, chaired by Judge Greg Smith. She also announced that although there has been a fair amount of staffing changes, the leadership at IOCS has not changed. She also stated that if anyone had not received a judicial directory to reach out to her office.
 - b. **Court Technology report.** Mary DePrez reported that an online dispute resolution pilot has started in Allen, Marion, and Lake Counties. Court Tech is working on the jail management system and was awarded a second grant through the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. Three pilot counties will test out the jail management system– Elkhart, Martin, and Grant Counties – and the plan is to go live at the end of 2022. A new attorney dashboard in mycase will be launched in early 2022 that will help with e-notice notifications. The next step in development will be to add party access on mycase. The last county to join Odyssey, Randolph County, is about to go live.
8. **Other business.** Chief Justice Rush asked Board members to report how things are going in their counties. Judges discuss COVID related issues in their counties. Many judges reported that their county is building a new jail or making renovations to their courthouse.
9. Next meeting will be held April 26, 2022, at Marriott East in Indianapolis.