

**Court Security Committee
Minutes
Friday, January 12, 2024 at 12:30 (Eastern)
Via Microsoft Teams**

1. **Attendees:** Mag. Jason Reyome (chair), Judge Brian Bade, Judge Stephanie Campbell, Judge Mike Christofeno, Judge Troy Hawkins, Judge Matt Headley, Judge Jenny Newton, Judge Jonathan Rohde, Mag. Jesus Trevino, Judge Andrew Williams, Judge Jamie Woods, Mag. Sarah Wyatt.
Guests: Justice Brent Dickson, Jan Dickson
Staff: Amanda Wishin
2. **Minutes:** The Committee voted to approve the October 20, 2023 minutes.
3. **Judicial security:**
 - a. 214 judicial officers responded to a survey request. The majority indicated that they have received personal threats, and some indicated their family members had received threats. Almost all believe that restricting online access to residence addresses would make judges safer.
 - b. Mag. Reyome suggested that the Committee work on a method to track cases that involve violence against judges or in courtrooms, possibly using Odyssey similar to the way DV cases are tracked.
 - c. Justice Brent Dickson and Jan Dickson, founder of Judicial Family Institute, have testified to the legislature about protecting judges home addresses. They have also been meeting with legislative leaders about a state version of the federal Daniel's Law; Missouri and Oklahoma have passed them. Our current law only governs property records at a county level.
 - d. It was moved and seconded that the Court Security Committee:
 - i. actively support legislation and efforts to restrict online access to home addresses of judicial officers and residents of their households, and
 - ii. inform the Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference of Indiana of such action and request that the Conference approve this endeavor by the Court Security Committee.The motion was unanimously adopted.
 - e. In the interim, the Committee will pilot using private services like Deleteme.com and make a proposal to the Supreme Court after a year on whether these services are worthwhile, and which one is preferred.
4. **Update regarding court security plans & creation of plan to move forward:** We have 55 court security plans. Sheriff Joe Dowdell has availability to do courthouse assessments in 2024. Amanda will submit a reminder in a Wednesday message. She will also send a list of the non-compliant counties and Committee members are asked to reach out to judges in their district.
5. **Firearms familiarization 2024:** Amanda has emailed the Indiana State Police asking for a date in 2024.
6. **Remaining 2024 meetings:** April 12, July 12, October 11

Court Security Committee
Agenda
Friday, April 12, 2024 at 11am (Eastern)
Via Microsoft Teams

1. **Attendance:** Brian Bade, Mike Christofeno, Troy Hawkins, Matt Headley, Jenny Newton, Jason Reyome, Jon Sturgill, Jesus Trevino, Andrew Williams, Bryce Wolf, Jamie Woods, Sarah Wyatt. *Staff:* Amanda Wishin and Tom Jones.
2. **Minutes:** The Committee approved the January 12, 2024 minutes.
3. **Court security plans & courthouse assessments:** We have received 67 county plans to date. Sheriff Joe and his team currently do have not any assessments planned for 2024. Mag. Reyome and Judge Christofeno will be meeting with the Strategic Planning Committee in May to provide them with an update.
4. **Firearms familiarization 2024:** There are still spots available if any committee members are interested.
5. **Online privacy pilot:** There are still spots available for committee members to be a part of this pilot. We are looking at comparing 2 or 3 services.
6. **Remaining 2024 meetings: July 12 and October 11 (times subject to change).**

**Court Security Committee
Minutes
Friday, July 12, 2024 at 12:30 (Eastern)
Via Microsoft Teams**

1. **Attendance:** Brian Bade, Stephanie Campbell, Mike Christofeno, Amber Collins, Sheriff Joe Dowdell, Matt Headley, Jenny Newton, Hans Pate, Jon Sturgill, Rick Trevino, Andrew Williams, Sarah Wyatt.
Staff: Amanda Wishin and Tom Jones.

2. **Minutes:** The Committee approved the April 12, 2024 minutes.

3. **Online privacy pilot:** Judge Headley, Sheriff Joe and Amanda met with Dave Steward with Court Tech about creating an online privacy pilot. Dave's team will do some research into the various programs and make recommendations as to how the pilot should be structured. The goal is for five to seven judicial officers to test 2 or 3 services starting on September 1st.

Currently, [Ind. Code § 36-1-8.5-7](#) allows judicial home addresses to be removed from public property databases managed by counties, municipalities, or townships. Justice Dickson has also followed up about support for accompanying legislation that would also require all state agencies to remove private judicial information from their public databases; we will see if we can find someone to carry that bill. Judge Pate has worked with his local legislator and will reach out to him.

4. **Courthouse assessments:** Sheriff Joe recently completed an assessment for Lawrence County and he is scheduling an assessment for Hancock County. After an assessment, Sheriff Joe provides an overview report of the stats of courthouse security. This report can be helpful when judges need to ask for money for additional staff or equipment. Amanda wrote an article for Court Times that suggested counties have Sheriff Joe assess their counties, so hopefully more counties will reach out.
5. **Court security plans:** Seventy counties have turned in their court security plans. Amanda shared the list of counties that have yet to do so, and committee members volunteered to reach out personally.
6. **Remaining 2024 meeting:** The remaining meeting for 2024 is schedule for October 11. However, request of the committee Amanda will look to find a time for the committee to meet in person at the Annual Conference. Mark your calendars for the 2025 meetings, which will be held at 12:30 (Eastern) -
- January 10
 - April 11
 - July 11
 - October 17

Note: The Committee held an informal meeting during breakfast of the Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 19th. The Committee chatted about their experiences so far with the online judicial privacy pilot.

Court Security Committee
Minutes
Friday, October 11, 2024 at 12:30 (Eastern)
Via Zoom

1. **Attendance:** Brian Bade, Stephanie Campbell, Mike Christofeno, Amber Collins-Gebrehiwet, Troy Hawkins, Matt Headley, Jenny Newton, Rick Trevino, Bill Walz, Major Bryce Wolf, Jamie Woods,
Staff: Amanda Wishin and Tom Jones.
2. **Minutes:** The Committee approved the July 12, 2024 minutes.
3. **Online privacy pilot evaluation:** As the pilot of Deleteme.com and Privacy Bee wraps up, Amanda asked that the participating judicial officers provide feedback to include in the Committee's recommendation to the Supreme Court. Since this pilot was modeled after legislation that protects federal judges' personal information online, the Committee would like to talk about the use of these programs with federal judges. The impact of using the programs varied between rural and urban judicial officers. The Committee discussed that there may be more cost-effective ways to provide judicial officers with a sense of security.
4. **Electronic device rule/policies:** The interim recommendations from the Commission on Indiana's Legal Future included a recommendation to create a policy to allow electronic devices in court facilities. The Rules Committee has been assigned to draft this rule/procedure and asked for the input of this Committee. Counties have a variety of policies regarding electronic devices; some counties have multiple policies depending on the courthouse or the judicial officer. The Committee had concerns about a statewide rule because there are a wide variety of situations across the state. The Committee believes that each county should be able to control their electronic device policy.
5. **Security at judicial conferences:** The Education Division provided feedback from the September Conference that some people felt unsafe. After discussion, the Committee recommended that conference attendees should be provided with direct contact information to report security concerns and escorts should be offered if possible.
6. **Court Security plans & Courthouse assessments:** Amanda has received court security plans from 74 counties (80% compliance). Sheriff Joe Dowdell recently assessed Hancock County and is scheduling assessments for Goshen City Court, Jennings County, and Wells County.
7. **2025 meeting:** Mark your calendars for the 2025 meetings, which will be held at 12:30 (Eastern) -
 - January 10
 - April 11
 - July 11
 - October 17