

Protection Order Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Remote via Teams

MINUTES

January 26, 2024

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. Attendance: Hon. Jonathan Brown; Mag. Michael Douglass; Hon. Danielle Gaughan; Mag. Melinda Jackman-Hanlin; Hon. Mary Margaret Lloyd, Chair; Hon. Bruce MacTavish; Mag. Patricia McMath; Hon. Kristen McVey; Mag. Katie Melnick; Christopher Nancarrow
Staff: Melissa Arvin, Carl Cowan, Erskine Reeves, Annette Page, Tom Jones
2. October 2023 minutes approved.
3. Legislation: Senate Bill 130—discussion was had surrounding the language of the bill but the legislation was dead by the timing of the meeting so the bill was no longer a concern.
4. Updates for IOCT: Protection Order registry will be updated by the end of January/beginning of February.
3. Updates to Forms:
 - IOCT: Add Caution and Medical Information—just for LEO to mark but not for petitioners, Hamilton County uses the queue to write a note to send to HCSO for service
 - Suggestions from Judges:
 - **Whether protected children are Respondent's** – Due to the difficulty of determining which of the children listed on a PO form are the Respondent's children, the Committee recommends a box on the confidential form: Respondent's Child.
 - **Default Settings** - for family and household members should be set to 'allow contact' not 'deny contact.'
 - **Contact with Protected Person, Household Members, and Especially Children** — Cover sheet was designed to let law enforcement know who is in the household.
 - **Pets**—Pets will be autopopulated from petition to be included in the order.

- **Money** – New orders will include a box indicating that fines and costs will be reduced to a civil judgment.

4. Meeting dates and times (usually 4th Friday of month):

May 31, 2024

Oct. 25, 2024—IN PERSON

Protection Order Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

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AGENDA

April 26, 2024

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. Attendance: Hon. Jonathan Brown; Mag. Michael Douglass; Hon. Danielle Gaughan; Mag. Melinda Jackman-Hanlin; Mag. Marcia Harper; Hon. Mary Margaret Lloyd, Chair; Hon. Bruce MacTavish; Mag. Patricia McMath; Hon. Kristen McVey; Mag. Katie Melnick; Christopher Nancarrow; Mag. Julie Verheye
Staff: Melissa Arvin, Carl Cowan, Annette Page, Tom Jones
2. January 2024 minutes are approved.
3. Follow up from the Danger Zone/PO session at Spring Judicial College:
4. Update on PO Forms and POR updates: No new updates other than those that are mandatory will be permitted at this time. There is no timeline for finishing the POR updates from statutory changes but IOCT is in contact with the developers and will work to get a timeframe.
5. Outstanding business or new business
 - Incite training is suggested for judges and staff. IOCT is looking into whether judges get training in New Judge School. Incite contains training documents on both the Protection Order Registry and Odyssey.
 - Best practices for the Benchbook: best practices surrounding allowing adults living in the home with a petitioner to be included on the protection order; how to handle requests for dismissal of protection orders and no contact orders; what conditions should a court impose on identifying parties in a protection order at filing or dismissal.
 - Mag. McMath will have new forms ready for the next meeting.

MEETING DATES:

May 31, 2024

Oct. 25, 2024—IN PERSON

Protection Order Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Remote via Zoom

MINUTES

October 25, 2024

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. Attendance: Mag. Melinda Jackman-Hanlin; Hon. Bruce MacTavish; Mag. Katie Melnick; Mag. Julie Verheyne, Chair; Mag. Michael Douglass
Staff: Melissa Arvin, Carl Cowan, Tom Jones
2. April Minutes are approved.
3. Protection Order Session at Annual Meeting: The session was well-received and there has been positive feedback from the session, as well as requests for additional time and information on protection orders. Contact Melissa if there are any suggestions for content for the Protection Order session for New Judges. Brady disqualification has been suggested as a focused topic.
4. Update on PO Forms and POR updates: No timeline from the developers on the updates to the POR.
5. NCSC Site Visit/Mentor Court Status: Indiana is one of three mentor states for other jurisdictions looking to create their own electronic filing portals. The National Center for State Courts just completed a site visit and interviewed many stakeholders and court personnel to document the process and lessons learned so that it can be replicated. A subset of this project is that Indiana has also had the opportunity to work with UX4Justice in getting a prototype for a more trauma-informed electronic filing portal. The prototype is being designed and tested in the coming weeks and will be available for viewing shortly.
6. Question re: INcite and Petitions to Extend: Best practices and technical explanations on some questions from the committee such as using the special conditions section of the forms to clarify any differences in procedures or fact scenarios that are not accommodated by the standard forms.

Next Meeting Dates:

January 24, 2025

February 28, 2025

March 28, 2025

April 25, 2025

May 23, 2025

June 27, 2025

August 22, 2025

October 24, 2025