

HB23-1108 – Judicial Taskforce  
Minutes – December 15, 2023

A meeting for the Judicial Taskforce was held on December 15, 2023, and it was a hybrid meeting. The following members of the Taskforce were present:

**Chief Justice Brian Boatright (Co-Chair), Kelly Kissell (Co-Chair), Courtney Sutton , Emily Tofte Nestaval, Chris Radeff, Ginal Lopez, Margaret Abrams, Dr. Steven Berkowitz, Zak Brown, Christine Rinke, Jennifer Mendoza, Hon. Jill Brady, Hon. Valarie Robison, Hon. Michelle Amico, Hon. Kolony Fields, Dalia Labrador, and Roshan Kalantar,**

There was a presentation on the data from the Court User Survey. Heather explained that the survey could be taken by anyone and was not specific to domestic relations cases. The survey was distributed through emails as well as QR codes that are posted in various locations in the courthouses.

Prior to the review and voting of the various recommendations there was some discussion about the similarity of recommendations from the various working groups or task force discussions including agreement on expansion of subject matter experts to help with planning judicial education using subcommittees, the need for additional resources for judges to create time to attend judicial education, and expansion of the Bench Basic videos.

There was a discussion and vote on the recommendations from the Domestic Relations Group. After some discussion it was decided to vote on the report including all its recommendations as one vote. The vote was unanimous to approve the report.

The Task Force reviewed the recommendations from the Children Impacted by Violence Working Group. All the recommendations or alternative language recommendations were approved unanimously. The following summarizes any changes to the original recommendations:

**Recommendation 1**

- Adding the word sub to committee on this recommendation

**Recommendation 2**

- Substituted the alternative language recommendation from Chief Justice Boatright

**Recommendation 3**

- Substituted the alternative language recommendation and amended the last sentence to read, “including but not limited to” child and human development in the context of trauma and violence, the Victim Rights Act, trauma informed courtrooms, and interpersonal violence

**Recommendation 4 (absorbed into 3)**

Include language into list in number 3 as “impact of protection orders on children”

**Recommendation 5**

Add emphasizing training on the interest of children (add into rec 3, bullet 1)

**Recommendation 6**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

**Recommendation 7**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

The Task Force reviewed the four recommendations from the Judicial proposal recommendations. The recommendations were approved unanimously.

The Task Force reviewed the recommendations from the victim service agencies. All the recommendations or alternative language recommendations were approved unanimously. The following summarizes any changes to the original recommendations:

**Recommendation 1**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation, and moving the bullet points to including but not limited to

**Recommendation 2**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

**Recommendation 3**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

**Recommendation 4**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation to include but not limited to the list in the original recommendation.

Adopt the appropriate subcommittee shall review ... to be consistent with recommendation #6 from the Children’s Working Group.

### **Recommendation 5**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

### **Recommendation 6**

take language from 4th bullet point and substitute for rec 6 with the fourth recommendation from the Judicial proposals.

“The Judicial Education Committee will identify ways to evaluate the efficacy of the various judicial education programs.”

### **Recommendation 7**

Add to rec 4 re: evaluation add in “identify ways to track and evaluate efficacy of various judicial education” – approved

General attendance numbers to use to evaluate efficacy vs individual named JOs who attend

### **Recommendation 8**

Substituted the alternative language recommendation.

### **Recommendation 9**

Include training for appropriate personnel as identified by a subcommittee.

### **Recommendation 10**

Withdrawn

Next Steps: Kelly will be taking the approved recommendations and adding them into a draft of the report. The report draft will be sent out to Task Force members prior to the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for review.

The Co-Chairs opened for any public comment. There were no additional comments.