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| final_logo_pc [Converted] | **Superior Court Judges’ Association Equality and Fairness Committee****Date and Time: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 @ 12:05 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.****Meeting Via Teleconference****Number: 1-877-820-7831 PW: 358515#** |  |
| **Meeting Minutes** |
| **Attendees:** Judge Whitener, Judge Loring, AOC Staff: Cynthia Delostrinos, Intisar Surur, Andrea Valdez, Excused: Judge Shea-Brown1. **Approval of August 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Judge Loring was the only Committee member present at the August meeting who was also present at the meeting. Minutes could not be approved.**ACTION:** Cynthia send email to approve meeting minutes from August via email.1. **Chair Report –** Judge Helen Whitener
* **Elected as new co-chair of the Minority and Justice Commission** – Took affect the 1st of September. Elevates visibility of the SCJA Equality and Fairness Committee.
* **SCJA E&F Mission Review:** Discussion continued on the mission of the Committee, and whether the work we were doing was living up to the charge:
* **Maintain Liaison with state Commissions concerned with issues of justice, gender, and diversity.**
* Discussed new idea around “liaising with state Commissions”
* Way to get other SJCA members interested in Committee.
* E&F Committee members could attend Commission meetings, or see if they can be appointed as liaisons so they can report to us about what the various commissions are doing. Judge Whitener is already on the Minority and Justice Commission, and Judge Shea-Brown serves as an ad-hoc member of the Gender and Justice Commission.
* Are members in agreement with this new focus? What members are interested in working with various commissions to report on status of other commissions?
* Who will check to see if the Governor’s Ethnic Commissions actually touch on issues pertaining to the courts? All minutes and agendas are public. WE would have to find ones that are relevant then assigning judges to attend. Would require more work.
* We could identify judges already participating on Committees or Commissions relevant to SCJA E&F’s mission, send request to judges to participate in E&F.
* We could do additional work around Governor’s Ethic Commissions – We would initiate the conversation by telling them what our charge is and have them let us know when they will be discussing anything related to our charge or the courts and to extend an invite to us when they would like us to participate in issues relating to the courts.
* The executive director would be the one to have best sense of connections and what is coming up for their Commission. If we provide them with brief description of what we do and what we’re interested in, that would provide opportunity for them to collaborate.
* What are all of the committees that exist within the Judiciary – are we missing any?
* Judge Loring is nominated for the Public Trust and Confidence Committee.
* **ACTION:** Intisar can send us the master list to Cynthia. Cynthia will send to Judge Loring and Whitener. Table this discussion for the next meeting.
* **Participate in the design of Association educational programs concerned with issues of diversity and gender.**
* This is something we are already currently doing.
1. **Sub-Committee Updates**
* **Legislative** (Judge Lucas) – Set over for next meeting. Intisar Surur was present at the meeting and gave feedback on SCJA Legislative Committee. It would benefit us to have at least one representative who sits on both Committees. Liaising is critical component during leg session. Good to have someone highlighting bills of interest to SCJA E&F. Come together as group and discuss bills. Provide input so Judge Lucas can provide it to the committee. There is a grey area of what Judges can support in terms of legislation. It is always issue specific, depends on situation, timing, etc. Would love to hear more from this committee as we move into Leg. Session. Session starts second week of January.
* **Media & Outreach** (Judge Shea-Brown) – Set over to next meeting.
* **Education** (Judge Phelps)
* **SCJA Spring Conference – Proposal for Implicit Bias/ Mindfulness Training**

The training was accepted. **ACTION:** Send a congratulatory note. Cynthia will follow up with Phil to see what is next in planning. Follow up with Judge Phelps and Commissioner Ressa1. **Color of Justice Programs**
* **UPDATES: Yakima (November 2) & Thurston (Postponed – New Date TBD)**

The Thurston County Color of Justice program was postponed. They had been working with a contact from the schools who was helping with outreach to the students. They had only received two applications by the deadline. The feedback was that it was difficult getting students to register because the school year had started late. It was also shared that when counselors talked with students of color about it they were not interested because of the negative perceptions and experiences they have had, or have heard of, in the courts, and they did not want to go to an event that was taking place in the court. Judge Murphy and Tonya were going to attend a meeting with school counselors this past Monday to further explore the issue.We will be attending the Color of Justice in Yakima. We have put together goodie bags for the students. Maybe Andrea or Intisar can do outreach with local schools – seeing POC working in the courts. Show up at school events. That is why it is important – we want community to know we are about them. We need to bring them in in a positive way. Whatcom County may be the third site. Will need to check back in with them. There is a retirement at the court, and the court is small. Run into logistical issues. **ACTION:** Connect with Judge Donohue and update her. Schedule a telephone conference with Thurston County w/ Judge Phelps and Judge Whitener. Also schedule a telephone call with Whatcom County to figure out whether they’d be able to host next year. 1. **Next Meeting** – Wednesday, November 21 @ 12:05pm – 1:00pm
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| **Committee material archiving –** Please see link to OneDrive containing SCJA E&F current and archived materials: [https://1drv.ms/f/s!AsngiM81\_PG\_f-sk-2-rjDvBSt8](https://1drv.ms/f/s%21AsngiM81_PG_f-sk-2-rjDvBSt8) |
| Persons with a disability, who require accommodation, should notify Cynthia Delostrinos at 360-705-5327 or Cynthia.Delostrinos@courts.wa.gov to request or discuss accommodations. While notice 5 days prior to the event is preferred, every effort will be made to provide accommodations, when requested. |