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| final_logo_pc [Converted] | **Superior Court Judges’ Association Equality and Fairness Committee****Date and Time: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 @ 12:05 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.****Meeting Via Teleconference****Number: 1-877-820-7831 PW: 358515#** |  |
| **Meeting Minutes** |
| **Attendees:** Judge David Keenan, Judge Helen Whitener, Judge Carol Murphy, Judge Eric Lucas, Judge Kevin Naught, Judge Nichole Gaines-Phelps**Absent:** Commissioner Sabrina Ahrens**Excused:** Judge Andrea Darvas, Judge Jacqueline Shea-Brown1. **Chair & Vice Chair Reports**

Judge Whitener and Judge Lucas will be operating as co-chairs for the year. Judge Lucas attended the SCJA long range planning conference on June 9. There was nothing new to report to this group that came from that. Part of what was decided at the long range planning conference was that next conference is going to be in Chelan. The direction for the year was a desire to get more new people involved in the operation of SCJA, and there will be an initiative coming from them this year  |
| 1. **Education**

The committee was sent the invitation to propose an education session(s) for the 2018 SCJA Spring Conference. Judge Keenan mentioned a Reentry Simulation that he recently attended and spoke at, as possible proposal from the committee. He, Judge Theresa Doyle, and many others participated. Cynthia mentioned that the Commissions might be interested in joining in on the proposal. Judge Whitener commented that she met a young man who was having a hard time with reentry because he wasn’t able to vacate his record. Judges don’t understand what individuals go through in reentry – she supports the proposal. All were in agreement that a proposal for the Reentry Simulation would be a good idea. Judge Murphy recommended that we coordinate with others on the proposal. How do we coordinate with other committees or groups so we are working together on programs that actually get approved and are successful, rather than other efforts that not been fruitful in past. **ACTION:** Judge Keenan will draft the proposal and circulate to the group. Cynthia will coordinate with Commissions to see if they will co-sponsor with this Committee.  |
| 1. **Discuss Sub-Committee Structure**

As a recap of what happened last year, we created three subcommittees: Education, Media Outreach, and Legislative. We started off meeting as a big group every other month, and tried to meet as a subcommittee every month that we weren’t meeting as a big group. What happened is that subcommittees often had to cancel meetings because of low attendance. By the end of the year we were back to meeting just as a big group, but still moving forward subcommittee work and doing report-backs at the big group meetings. The current structure seems to work. **ACTION:** We will continue to have the three subcommittees and they will move forward their work. We will continue to meet as a big group on a monthly basis. Subcommittees can call their own meetings as often as they decide it is necessary to move their work forward.**Committees:****Media & Outreach**The Media Outreach Committee for SCJA is now called the Public Outreach Committee. The SCJA E&F Media Outreach Committee was Judge Shea-Brown and Judge Lucas and they did make some headway in trying to figure out how our Committee can become actively involved in posting our materials to the SCJA website. The SCJA Public Outreach Committee was aware of what our concerns were and we helped moved them along so that they are now trying to get the website to be fully functional. The issue that the Committee is dealing with is publication guidelines. Before they put any content on the website they want to have publication guidelines. **Legislative** The Legislative Committee is chaired by Judge Lucas. That committee gets going strongly during the legislative session, which starts in January. This past year we tried to facilitate having members of the committee comment on legislation as it was being introduced. We had some good contributions from our members this year, especially from Judge Shea-Brown. The structure worked for the most part, but still needs to be tweaked a little bit, and this is open for discussion. **Education**At Spring Conference, Judge Phelps had some good ideas on education. Judge Whitener, who was the current chair of Education, thought she would be good person to chair Education Committee moving forward. Judge Whitener has many other commitments and discussed the idea with Judge Phelps and she is ok with it. The group agreed that Judge Phelps should be the chair for Education this year. **ACTION:** Judge Phelps is now the chair of the Education Committee and will work with Judge Keenan on the Reentry Simulation proposal. |
| 1. **Other New Business**

Judge Whitener is putting together an event entitled, “The Color of Justice” on August 17. The purpose is for judges to empower young girls from marginalized backgrounds to pursue career paths in the law. The event highlights female judges of color, but it is open to all female and male judges who want to come to support. The attendees will be girls ages 11-18. Judge Phelps will be moderating the event. Planning is coming together nicely. What she would like is add SCJA Equality and Fairness Committee to the list of sponsors. She is not asking for money sponsorship, just recognition in name. Judge Phelps and Judge Whitener are already giving their time, as members of this Committee. A piece of our sponsorship could also be encouraging people to go. So if you know anyone who is interested, please share the invite with them. **UPDATE:** The registration has closed, as the maximum number of attendees has been exceeded.The group was wondering whether we can reproduce the event in different counties across the state. Judge Whitener’s understanding was that it was also done in Spokane. Judge Murphy mentioned that Thurston county would be interested in hosting one as well. Would replicating a program like this fall under the Education Committee? Judge Whitener could coordinate with the sponsor groups to see if they were interested in helping replicate the event across the state. Snohomish County would also be interested. **ACTION:** The Committee agreed to be added to the list of sponsors. We should continue to discuss whether it would be possible for this group to help facilitate the replication of this program in other jurisdictions like Thurston County and Snohomish County. |