|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| final_logo_pc [Converted] | **SCJA Equality and Fairness Committee**  **Date and Time: November 7, 2016**  **12:05 pm – 1:00 pm**  **Call in Number: 1-877-820-7831**  **Passcode: 358515#** |
| **MEETING NOTES** | |
| **Attendees:** Judge Laura Riquelme, Judge Eric Lucas, Judge Jackie Shea-Brown, Cynthia Delostrinos, Judge Andrea Darvas,  Meeting was called to order at 12:11pm.  **Membership Discussion**  The question of whether or not to switch between Sub-Committee and regular Committee meetings for our monthly meetings was brought up at the October meeting. The issue was up for discussion again. It was mentioned that there is always a conflict with the Outreach Committee, since there are only two people on the committee, and Judge Lucas is already the chair of the Legislative Committee so Judge Shea-Brown would essentially be meeting on her own. There was a proposal in the minutes about just leaving it up to the sub-committees to decide when to meet. That makes sense.  **Decision**: Monthly meetings will be all-Committee member meetings. Sub-committee meetings will be an extra meeting and the frequency of those meetings will be decided by chairs of sub-committee and members.  **Education Sub-Committee**  (Judge Darvas gave the report) The Committee’s primary interest was in supporting the Race, Law, and Politics training. Judge Darvas had a discussion with Faculty, Professor Paul Butler, about the session and what he’d like to present on. He is prepared to talk about police shootings and verdicts for officers who are charged with the shootings, and the disproportionate number of young black men shot by police. She emphasized to him that one of the things she would really welcome are his thoughts on what judges can do about inequities and disproportionalities in the justice system for people of color. There has been a lot of consciousness raising for judges here in Washington, but what she would like to see is more affirmative actions that judges can take to help address these issues. He seemed very intrigued by those thoughts. If this committee is interested in getting involved, let Judge Darvas know.  The planning and topics for the training are still pretty fluid. One thing that was confirmed is that Professor Butler is available and interested.  The other session that Committee members were interested in getting involved in the planning of was the High Profile Cases: Local Perspectives training. For the other session Judge Darvas was not the liaison, so didn’t have anything to report or comment on.  There was a question about how the two sessions are different. The next SCJA Education Committee meeting is on Thursday, so Judge Darvas can get more clarity on the purpose and plan for the other training.  The Race, Law, and Politics training is more about procedural decision making. There are essentially two things that Judge Darvas is asking of the Committee:   1. Input as curriculum gets solidified. What would committee like to see? 2. A Financial Contribution from this Committee. The Education Committee’s budget is very limited. Prof. Paul Butler has an honorarium and will need flight and lodging accommodations. The local perspectives session involves local judges that would already be at the conference anyway, so not much funding is needed.   **Media Sub-Committee**  (Judge Shea-Brown gave the report) No updates at this point. Judge Lucas mentioned an upcoming SCJA Outreach Committee meeting coming up in December, and will keep Judge Shea-Brown updated. The chair of the SCJA committee is Judge Alicea-Galvan, and it makes sense for us all to get together so she knows what our groups’ interests and ideas are. Issue with group is that there are 1-2 people on it and we can’t seem to get things going. Judge Lucas will send Judge Shea-Brown the minutes from last meeting. Main committee had a different perspective on Media and Outreach. Would be important to know what their thinking is. Will do some brainstorming before next meeting.  **Legislative Sub-Committee**  (Judge Lucas gave the report) The SCJA Leg. Committee had a meeting last Friday. Just a preliminary meeting to set the stage for the upcoming legislative session. There was an introduction of some of the bills that were going to be introduced during session. For most of the bills there was no official text yet, mostly ideas.   * Affidavit of Prejudice – This bill is one that the SCJA is proposing. The bill was drafted by Judge Cozza in Spokane, and what it was designed to do was to remove routine decisions out of the realm of affidavit of prejudice. For example, one item that was discussed was whether trial continuances should be in or out as a discretionary decision. * Bill on Reunification of Families – This bill is being sponsored by Rep. Lilian Ortiz-Self, and was about reuniting families under the dependency statute. It was brought up that reunification is already a priority in dependency statutes. The committee didn’t know why there was a proposed language change, and asked that more information be sought about the change and what the impact would be. * Legislation around Becca - No substantial discussion took place around this proposal. * BJA – Judicial stabilization account surcharge? The committee’s position was to oppose it as a general philosophical position, no more charges added to existing charges. * Guardianship – The Committee said that it will follow guardianship subcommittee’s recommendation.   The other part of the Legislative Committee meeting was a discussion about the different work sessions that are coming up. The Committee talked about who is going to represent SCJA at the different work sessions, and members were assigned.  The next meeting of the SCJA Legislative Committee is coming up in December. Judge Lucas will connect with the sub-committee about next steps. It will be a face-to-face meeting downtown and will be a more full presentation of the issues. Judge Lucas will let the sub-committee members know when the packet for the meeting is received, and what ends up happening next. When January hits, the meetings will take place every week.  Meeting was adjourned at 12:47pm. | |