

LFLAC Minutes September 25, 2008

The Parenting Time Subcommittee has concluded its work revising the Multnomah county standard parenting time guidelines (SLR 8.075). This subcommittee will not be meeting again until after the revised guidelines have been in effect for several months. However, a workgroup has been started by subcommittee members Mark Kramer and Rose Hubbard to develop a class to provide instruction on how to fill out parenting time plans. This workgroup will have its first meeting on October 23, 2008 at noon in Judge Waller's courtroom, #406.

The Parenting Coordinator Subcommittee has concluded its work proposing recommendations concerning the parenting coordinator guidelines and it was agreed that that subcommittee's term expires.

The Call/Settlement Conference Subcommittee will be piloting changes to the call system which will require in-person call. However, no changes to the SLRs regarding call will be made at this time. This subcommittee will also be reviewing status conference procedures from other counties as possible models for an eventual Multnomah County SLR. The time of the next meeting of the subcommittee will be announced.

The SLRs proposed by the LFLAC subcommittees will be reviewed in October by the state UTCR committee for recommendation to the Supreme Court. The proposed final version of the SLRs is currently on the family court website. Once the SLRs are approved, they will need to be disseminated in the local legal community. Oregon Association of Family Law Practitioners, the Oregon Law Institute Family Law CLE on October 3rd, and the Washington and Clackamas county family law newsletters were suggested as possible avenues for getting the word out.

The SLR Subcommittee will be continued. A proposal was made that the Family Law department return to using a dissolution judgment checklist in order to reduce the impact on Family Law staff and to reduce the wait time after submission of judgments. A discussion followed concerning the role of family court facilitators in document processing issues. The issue was referred to the SLR Subcommittee for review of document processing procedures and exploring a potential judgment checklist.

A Supervised Parenting Time Subcommittee was proposed to explore the possibility of providing services beyond those offered by Safety Matters, which is only able to provide supervision in domestic violence cases. The need for a broader range of supervised parenting time options in cases involving substance abuse and mental health concerns was discussed. This new committee will explore the possibility of developing additional resources and funding for supervised parenting in non-domestic violence cases.

Next LFLAC meeting will be on January 22, 2009 in Courtroom #406.