

State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) Handbook

Introduction

The State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) is a multi-disciplinary group of 16-18 members comprised of a panel of judges, trial court administrators, mediators, psychologists/evaluators, attorneys, family court service providers, and representatives from various state agencies, all of whom serve on a volunteer basis. The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court appoints SFLAC members to advise the State Court Administrator on family law issues in the courts ([ORS 3.436](#)). The SFLAC prepares educational materials and makes recommendations to the Judicial Department on topics within family law such as domestic violence, parental relationships, court operations, court connected mediation, and service to self-represented litigants. The SFLAC also conducts statewide conferences on family law issues for Court staff and the general public in Oregon to the extent that funds are available.

It meets quarterly and has several subcommittees that research and provide technical assistance on specific issues of concern in family law or pertaining to family courts. The subcommittees are currently focusing on such issues such as parenting plan outreach, domestic violence, child support, self-representation, parent education and more.

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1. The History of the SFLAC:

In 1992, the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) created The Future of the Courts Committee to help develop a vision for Oregon's courts in 2020. One crucial issue the committee identified was how the courts might deal with a potentially large influx of domestic relations cases and how to manage the workflow. As a result, in 1993 the Legislature created a task force was created to address growing concerns about the divorce process in Oregon, including the volume of family law court cases, the contentious atmosphere of dissolution proceedings, the misuse of the adversarial process during divorce, and the "lasting, damaging impact on both the parties involved and their children." As a result of the task force's proposed legislation, the 68th and 69th Legislative Assemblies approved the creation of local Family Law Advisory Committees (LFLAC) and a State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) to create a non-adversarial system for families undergoing divorce that provides the families with an opportunity to access appropriate services for the transition period.

- [View ORS 3.436](#): Appointment of Statewide Family Law Advisory Committee
- [View ORS 3.438](#): Duties of State Court Administrator

- **LFLACs**

In 1997, the 69th Legislative Assembly passed [ORS 3.434](#). It required each judicial district to develop a local plan to coordinate services to families in domestic relations proceedings by January 1999. The plans were required to address the need for and provision of conciliation, mediation, child custody evaluation and parenting time services, parent education classes and methods for coordinating cases when the same child or family is involved in proceedings before the court. In July 1999, the 70th Legislative Assembly passed SB 60, which authorized the LFLACs to implement, monitor and revise the local plans, and to work together with legal service providers to coordinate access to family law resources, including family law facilitation and other services. The legacy of this legislation is that many judicial districts have active LFLACs that continue to monitor family court services, provide input and advice to the local courts and work to improve access to family law resources.

- **SFLAC**

In 1998, Chief Justice Carson appointed members to the SFLAC to serve in an advisory role to the State Court Administrator on legislative matters, policies, and court rules in the area of family law. In addition, when funds are available, the SFLAC conducts an annual statewide conference to review legislative issues, provide family law training, review elements of successful family law programs, and foster the development of enhanced services to families involved in proceedings before the court. ([ORS 3.436](#)).

2. The SFLAC Charter

Oregon Revised Statutes [3.436](#) provides, in part, that:

1. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may appoint a statewide family law advisory committee to assist the State Court Administrator in carrying out the

administrator's responsibilities under [ORS 3.436 \(2\) and \(4\)\(a\)](#), and in identifying family law issues that need to be addressed in the future.

The Statewide Family Law Advisory Committee's charge shall include:

1. The SFLAC shall serve as the principal entity to review or identify for the State Court Administrator those family law issues in Oregon that need to be addressed and recommend appropriate action.
2. The SFLAC, together with the "Juvenile and Family Law Committee" of the Oregon Judicial Conference, shall make recommendations when appropriate for the major family law policy and legislative issues and initiatives as they arise for the Office of State Court Administrator and the Oregon Judicial Department.
3. The chair and vice-chair of the SFLAC shall meet with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the State Court Administrator once a year to discuss and advise on family law matters.

Signed by:

Paul J. De Muniz, Chief Justice, Oregon Supreme Court

Kingsley W. Click, State Court Administrator

[View official signed charter.](#)

3. SFLAC MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

The Governance Subcommittee shall be chaired by the SFLAC Vice-Chair and the SFLAC Chair shall designate the committee members. The committee will consist of two or more SFLAC members. The Governance Subcommittee Chair and JFCPD staff will maintain a current roster of SFLAC members and will provide an updated roster to SFLAC members when new members are added.

- **VACANCIES and NOMINATION PROCESS:** When an SFLAC vacancy occurs, SFLAC members will suggest potential new members. Candidates who are currently serving, or have served, effectively on SFLAC subcommittees will be strongly preferred. The Governance Subcommittee may solicit suggestions from other sources, as well. SFLAC does not have specific slots, but it maintains representation by judges, trial court administrators, facilitators and other providers of family court services, family law mediators, family law lawyers, mental health professionals, custody evaluators, and the director or other administrator of the Department of Justice Division of Child Support.

The Governance Subcommittee will contact potential members to solicit their interest and willingness to serve, taking care to be clear that SFLAC does not appoint members, but rather a Chief Justice appointment, and will also send an information sheet to potential new members. Potential members will be encouraged to attend an SFLAC meeting and join subcommittees or work groups prior to appointment.

Potential members will be asked to complete the SFLAC [Membership Inquiry Form](#), containing a short biographical outline. The Membership Inquiry Form will include name, address, occupation, family law involvement, any SFLAC affiliation (such as member of a subcommittee), special skills or interest in family law, and a brief

statement explaining the applicant's interest in joining SFLAC. The Governance Committee Chair will maintain a list of potential new members with their Notice of Interests.

The Governance Committee Chair will circulate nominee names and biographical information to SFLAC members by email. For non-judge members if a majority of SFLAC members vote in favor of an applicant, the SFLAC Chair will forward the applicant's name and Notice of Interest to the Chief Justice for consideration. For Judge nominees, if possible, the SFLAC shall submit a minimum of two recommendations per each opening to the Chief Justice along with their Notice of Interests. The SFLAC Chair will also include a statement indicating the nominee preferred by a majority of the SFLAC with any specific reasons for that preference. For non-Judge proposed members the SFLAC need only submit one nominee for each opening.

- **SFLAC Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)**
The SFLAC, and its Subcommittees, are committed to supporting successful family law policies, reforms and programs that serve all individuals and families who access Oregon's courts. We believe we can do so only with a diverse membership which actively cultivates a culture of equity and inclusion. The SFLAC seeks to include the voices of persons who are from traditionally underrepresented or marginalized communities, including persons who are Black, Indigenous, Latinx and persons of color; LGBTQIA2S+ individuals; veterans; persons with disabilities; economically disadvantaged individuals; and persons from other traditionally underrepresented and/or marginalized communities. The SFLAC recognizes that learning comes from those who have lived experiences and/or have experienced marginalization and will actively seek those perspectives through committee membership and community engagement. The committee is engaged in continuing education and guidance from OJD's Office of Engagement, Equity, and Inclusion to create a lasting framework for diversifying membership.
- **VOTING:** The SFLAC Chair will decide if the vote will occur at an SFLAC meeting or by email.
- **APPOINTMENT and RESPONSIBILITIES:** The Chief Justice appoints SFLAC members to three-year terms that may be renewed. When the Chief Justice appoints a new member, the SFLAC Chair will notify the new member and provide an introductory letter, a list of the next four meeting dates, and minutes from the most recent SFLAC meeting. SFLAC members are expected to attend quarterly meetings by telephone, video, or in person. This obligation cannot be delegated. If unable to attend, members will notify SFLAC staff or the Chair before the meeting. If a member misses three consecutive meetings, the SFLAC Chair will consult with the member and may ask the member to resign. Members are expected to participate on one or more subcommittees or work groups and to serve as liaison to one or more local Family Law Advisory Committees.

4. Notice of SFLAC Meetings, Minutes and Annual Reports

SFLAC meetings are quarterly, usually on the first Friday of March, June, September, and December. Three of the four meetings are held remotely via WebEx from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. One of the four quarterly meetings will be an all-day, in-person ‘retreat’ meeting. The location of this meeting will be moved to different locations throughout the state. Notice of SFLAC Meetings, as well as the approved Minutes of each meeting, shall be made available to the public and found here:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/meetings.aspx>

Generally, on an annual basis, the SFLAC provides a Committee Report to the Chief Justice outlining the work of both the SFLAC and each of the Subcommittees. These, and other reports of the SFLAC and SFLAC Subcommittees, can be found under “Committee Reports” here:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/default.aspx>

5. SFLAC Subcommittees

SFLAC Subcommittees research issues in specific areas involving family law and the courts and make proposals to SFLAC for recommendation to the Chief Justice and the State Court Administrator. In addition to their specific focus, each Subcommittee centers the needs of Self-Represented Litigants (SLRs) to further the SFLAC goal of ensuring access to justice.

SFLAC Subcommittees generally meet more frequently than the SFLAC, usually once per month. In addition, Subcommittees may periodically constitute ad hoc workgroups within the Subcommittee. The workgroups may include members that are not on the Subcommittee and are expected to last only as long as that particular project requires.

Each Subcommittee will decide their own projects in line with the SFLAC Charter as well as their mission to guide these projects. When a subcommittee creates a product for which they are requesting the SFLAC’s approval, each subcommittee should have an opportunity to review the product and provide input before the SFLAC votes on whether to approve and endorse the product. The originating subcommittee decides what input they will incorporate or not before sending to the SFLAC for a final decision on whether to endorse or approve.

Those interested in being involved in an SFLAC Subcommittee are asked to fill out a [Membership Inquiry Form](#) and return it to the SFLAC Chair and Vice Chair, just as if they are interested in joining the SFLAC itself (see above). However, the Subcommittees themselves determine membership in their own subcommittee as outlined above.

Each Subcommittee has a Chair and a Vice Chair, or two Co-Chairs. Future Chairs and Co-/Vice Chairs of subcommittees should be chosen with input from the Chair of the SFLAC. The SFLAC Chair may receive input from the Governance Subcommittee as well

but will rely heavily on input from the present Chair of the particular Subcommittee. The goal of this policy is to ensure a thoughtful transition, not simply an automatic succession from Vice Chair to Chair- though that certainly may happen quite often.

Unless the SFLAC Chair makes an exception, it is the expectation that one of the co-chairs of each of the Subcommittee will be a member of the SFLAC so that the work and goals of the SFLAC and Subcommittees can be easily shared during the respective meetings. However, Subcommittee Chairs may step down from their role as chair/co-chair and remain on the subcommittee and/or the SFLAC. Members of the Subcommittees need not be SFLAC members.

The Subcommittee's include:

- **Child Support:** The Child Support Subcommittee focuses on matters specific to child support that intersect with other areas of family law, access to justice, and particularly on the business of the courts and Oregon Judicial Department.
- **Data:** The focus of the Data Subcommittee is prioritizing the data reports that can be obtained and developed from the Odyssey case management system to provide relevant and practical information to the OJD, our community partners, and the legislature, all in an effort to further the mission and goals of the OJD.
- **Domestic Violence:** The mission of the DV Subcommittee is to promote survivor safety and offender accountability by increasing access to justice and procedural fairness from a survivor-centric perspective. Their work includes:
 - Serving as a resource to courts on domestic violence issues and legislation
 - Providing input on procedures and forms for restraining orders and matters involving intrafamily and intimate partner violence
 - Creating written materials for self-represented litigants, abuse survivors, judges and OJD staff
 - Advocating for improvements in protective orders, the process by which they are obtained, and their enforcement; and
 - Advancing the use of trauma informed procedures and best practices
- **Education:** The goal of the Education Subcommittee is to identify educational needs for OJD staff as well as both internal and external customers and develop and implement materials and resources including pamphlets, videos, webinars, and trainings/conferences to address these needs. The Subcommittee is responsible for planning both the statewide facilitator training and SFLAC family law conference that take place in alternating years, as allowed by JFCPD budget as further outlined in section 6 below.
- **Futures:** The Futures Subcommittee remains committed to its vision to reimagine "Court" as a service and process rather than a specific place where trials and hearings occur. By so doing, we strive to imagine and assist to implement avenues for more and better legal services.
- **Legislative:** This subcommittee is ad hoc that is reconstituted as needed.
- **Mediation Services:** The Mediation Subcommittee was created:

- To ensure that all family law litigants have access to court-connected mediation services in cases involving minor children in which custody or parenting time is in dispute;
- To make recommendations to ensure adequate funding for mediation services;
- To make recommendations regarding mediator resources including best practices, trainings, and support.
- **Governance:** The Governance Subcommittee recommends and vets nominees for SFLAC membership to ensure a diverse, qualified, and hard-working group. Additionally, the Subcommittee provides oversight and evaluation of the SFLACs structure, rules, and practices for the SFLAC to work towards its mission.
- **Parental Involvement and Outreach:** PIOS provides information and training to parents, mediators, and the legal community regarding parenting time, legal decision making and family law related topics.

More information about each Subcommittee, including its membership, is available here <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/subcommittees.aspx>.

6. SFLAC Conference and Facilitator Training

- A. **SFLAC Family Law Conference:** In odd years, the SFLAC, in collaboration with Juvenile and Family Court Program Division, holds a 1.5-day conference in March, when funds are available through OJD. The March SFLAC meeting is held the afternoon of the second day of the Conference so that the members can be together and debrief the Conference.
- a. While the Conference Planning Committee is usually a workgroup under the Education Subcommittee umbrella, all SFLAC members are expected to support the planning and implementation of the Conference as needed.
 - b. SFLAC Members are strongly encouraged to attend the Conference. The conference is available to SFLAC members at no charge and travel and lodging expenses will be reimbursed as permitted by OJD when funds are available.
 - c. The SFLAC Wallace P. Carson Outstanding Achievement Award will be presented at each conference. The Guidelines and Nomination Form are in Appendix C. The award is presented to a person who;
 - has made a significant contribution to family law in Oregon;
 - is a visionary;
 - is committed to improving court processes for children and families;
 - is a role model for other practitioners;
 - has high ethical standards;
 - is held in high esteem by the family court community, including lawyers, mediators, evaluators, judges and facilitators.

- B. SFLAC Family Court Facilitator Training:** In even years, the SFLAC holds an all-day training for Family Court Facilitators and other family court staff when funds are available through OJD.
- a. The training is targeted for Family Law Facilitators and other court staff who provide family law-related services to self-represented litigants in each jurisdiction.

APPENDIX A

SFLAC Information Sheet (for Interested Persons)

Thank you for your interest in appointment to the Oregon Statewide Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC). Here is information about SFLAC's structure, traditions, and activities.

STRUCTURE

The founding statute, ORS 3.436, includes:

- (1) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may appoint a statewide family law advisory committee to assist the State Court Administrator in carrying out the administrator's responsibilities under ORS 3.438 (2) and (4)(a) and in identifying family law issues that need to be addressed in the future. The Chief Justice shall consider the diversity of this state in appointing the members of the statewide advisory committee.

The purview of SFLAC is within the discretion of the Chief Justice, who appoints members to staggered 3-year terms, renewable indefinitely, in their discretion. Historically, there have been approximately 18 members, all of whom are serving on volunteer basis.

It is SFLAC's policy to publish its agendas in advance, maintain a public website, assure in-person access to all venues, and provide opportunities for public comment. SFLAC members and guests may call in to meetings, and video access is provided for SFLAC members. Members may request reimbursement for travel expenses if funds are available, but members receive no compensation for service.

VALUES Chief Justice has looked to SFLAC for membership recommendations. Members represent a diversity of professions (judiciary, law practice, court administration, psychology, child support, mediation, mental health, and others). SFLAC undertakes membership recruitment in a thoughtful and intentional way to make sure there are diverse perspectives on the committee. A diverse membership is necessary if SFLAC is to successfully support family law policies, reforms and programs that serve all individuals and families. Thus, the SFLAC seeks to include geographic diversity and the voices of persons who are from traditionally underrepresented or marginalized communities, including persons who are Black, Indigenous, Latinx and

persons of color; LGBTQIA2S+ individuals; veterans; persons with disabilities; economically disadvantaged individuals; and persons from other traditionally underrepresented and/or marginalized communities. The SFLAC recognizes that learning comes from those who have lived experiences and/or have experienced marginalization and will actively seek those perspectives through committee membership and community engagement. The committee is engaged in continuing education and guidance from OJD's Office of Engagement, Equity, and Inclusion to create a lasting framework for diversifying membership.

To date, the Chair has been a judicial officer. There is no judicial majority by design. There are no "dedicated slots." Each member is appointed as an individual and speaks only for themselves. No one sends a deputy in their place.

Service on SFLAC requires a substantial personal time commitment. SFLAC meetings are quarterly, usually on the first Friday of March, June, September, and December. Three of the four meetings are held remotely via WebEx from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. One of the four quarterly meetings, will be an all-day, in-person 'retreat' meeting. The location of this meeting will be moved to different locations throughout the state.

Every member is expected to regularly attend meetings - in person or by remote access - as well as participate in subcommittee work, which requires interim meetings as well.

SFLAC strives to create a culture of inclusiveness, where every voice and perspective is respected. Every member has an equal voice at the table, regardless of titles, length of service, or hierarchy. We encourage collegiality, humor and informality (first names rather than titles are customary). There is often outspoken but respectful frankness in pursuit of consensus, which is almost always reached, but is not required.

ACTIVITIES

Subcommittees and work groups are formed and reformed as needed. It is not necessary to be an SFLAC member to serve on a subcommittee —indeed, it is the preference that SFLAC members first serve on a subcommittee before joining the SFLAC. The Subcommittees, like SFLAC itself, are committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and seek to have a diverse membership which actively cultivates the culture of equity and inclusion.

Each member serves as liaison to one or more local Family Law Advisory Committees and reports on their activities.

SFLAC members participate in the design and implementation of new court services, such as discrete legal services (unbundling), the Informal Domestic Relations Trial (IDRT), parental outreach programs, and remote services delivery. SFLAC also reviews legislative proposals to provide input to the Chief Justice. SFLAC Education

Subcommittee plans the statewide family law conferences for family law professionals and court staff.

The SFLAC has several subcommittees that meet routinely to address issues, promulgate court rules, raise policy positions, generate materials, prepare education materials and otherwise provide important contributions to the group. SFLAC Members are also expected to participate in subcommittee work as part of their commitment.

- **Domestic Violence** – The mission of the DV Subcommittee is to promote survivor safety and offender accountability by increasing access to justice and procedural fairness from a survivor-centric perspective. Their work includes:
 - Serving as a resource to courts on domestic violence issues and legislation
 - Providing input on procedures and forms for restraining orders and matters involving intrafamily and intimate partner violence
 - Creating written materials for self-represented litigants, abuse survivors, judges and OJD staff
 - Advocating for improvements in protective orders, the process by which they are obtained, and their enforcement; and
 - Advancing the use of trauma informed procedures and best practices
- **Child Support** – The Child Support Subcommittee focuses on matters specific to child support that intersect with other areas of family law, access to justice, and particularly on the business of the courts and Oregon Judicial Department.
- **Parental Involvement and Outreach (PIOS)** –PIOS provides information and training to parents, mediators, and the legal community regarding parenting time, legal decision making and family law related topics.
- **Mediation** – The SFLAC Mediation Subcommittee was created: to ensure that all family law litigants have access to court-connected mediation services in cases involving minor children in which custody or parenting time is in dispute; to make recommendations to ensure adequate funding for mediation services; and to make recommendations regarding mediator resources including best practices, trainings, and support.
- **Futures** – The Futures Subcommittee remains committed to its vision to reimagine "Court" as a service and process rather than a specific place where trials and hearings occur. By so doing, we strive to imagine and assist to implement avenues for more and better legal services.
- **Education** – The goal of this subcommittee is to identify educational needs for OJD staff as well as both internal and external customers and develop and implement materials and resources including pamphlets, videos, webinars, and trainings/conferences to address these needs. The Subcommittee is responsible for planning both the statewide facilitator training and SFLAC family law conference that take place in alternating years.
- **Governance** – The Governance Subcommittee recommends and vets nominees for SFLAC membership to ensure a diverse, qualified, and hard-working group.
- **Legislative** – This subcommittee is ad hoc that is reconstituted as needed.

- **Data** – The focus of the Data Subcommittee is prioritizing the data reports that can be obtained and developed from the Odyssey case management system to provide relevant and practical information to the OJD, our community partners, and the legislature, all in an effort to further the mission and goals of the OJD.

You will find a theme of addressing the ever-growing needs of the self-represented litigant population is a top priority in all subcommittee work. By reviewing the last few Meeting Minutes at the following:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/meetings.aspx> you will have a good sense of what each of the subcommittees are currently up to, but we encourage you to reach out to any of the Subcommittee Chairs regarding any area of particular interest to you. You may not be specifically “invited” to join a subcommittee, rather the expectation is on you to proactively seek out the group for which you would like to contribute if you are not already a member.

At least annually the Chief Justice and the State Court Administrator meet with SFLAC to discuss issues and policies under the purview of the committee. SFLAC remains advisory to the Chief.

CONCLUSION

SFLAC service is exciting and rewarding, but it requires a substantial personal commitment. Expressions of interest in appointment are always welcome. The Chief Justice appoints members after considering the number of vacancies, the committee’s diversity, subcommittee service, and SFLAC’s recommendations. For more information, please contact Debra Dority, Governance Subcommittee chair, or Judge Karrie McIntyre, SFLAC chair. Thank you again for your interest.

APPENDIX B

SFLAC Welcome Letter

Congratulations on your appointment to the State Family Law Advisory Committee! You were selected because of your continued dedication and passion for family law matters. Thank you so much for volunteering! We look forward to having your expertise on the committee to help shape family law policy for the State of Oregon. What follows is some general information about the present SFLAC. You may also refer to the *SFLAC Information Sheet*.

Service on SFLAC requires a substantial personal time commitment. SFLAC meetings are quarterly, usually on the first Friday of March, June, September, and December. The meetings are virtual/remote via WebEx for three of the four meetings each year. One of the four meetings will be an all-day, in-person ‘retreat’ meeting. The location of this meeting will be moved to different locations throughout the state.

Chief Justice Meagan Flynn and State Court Administrator Nancy Cozine are interested in and very supportive of the work of the SFLAC and will occasionally join in meetings. SFLAC members may be asked to participate in Legislative Work Groups or to testify before the State Legislator on a variety of issues. The SFLAC charter at the following link: <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/default.aspx> details the charge of the SFLAC.

The SFLAC has several subcommittees that meet routinely to address issues, promulgate court rules, raise policy positions, generate materials, prepare education materials and otherwise provide important contributions to the group. SFLAC Members are also expected to participate in subcommittee work as part of their commitment. Our currently active subcommittees (and their chairpersons) are as follows:

- Domestic Violence - Debra Dority: ddority@oregonlawcenter.org and Samantha Malloy: smalloy@samanthadmalloy.com
- Child Support – Kate Cooper Richardson: Kate.Richardson@doj.state.or.us and Claudia Groberg Garcia: Claudia.G.Groberg@doj.state.or.us
- Parental Involvement and Outreach (PIOS) – Adam Furchner: adamfurchner@comcast.net and The Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn: Amy.HOLMESHEHN@ojd.state.or.us
- Mediation – Caitlyn Jackson: caitlyn.jackson@lanecountyor.gov and Laura Bisbee laura.bisbee@multco.us
- Futures – Ryan Carty: ryan@cartylawpc.com and Samantha Malloy smalloy@samanthadmalloy.com
- Education – Colleen Carter-Cox: Colleen.A.CARTER-COX@ojd.state.or.us and Hannah Marchese: Hannah.E.Marchese@ojd.state.or.us
- Governance – Debra Dority: ddority@oregonlawcenter.org

- Data – Linda Hukari: Linda.Hukari@ojd.state.or.us and Ryan Carty: ryan@cartylawpc.com
- *Legislative (ad hoc)* – Ryan Carty: ryan@cartylawpc.com

You will find a theme of addressing the ever-growing needs of the self-represented litigant population is a top priority in all subcommittee work. By reviewing the last few Meeting Minutes at the following:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/family/sflac/Pages/meetings.aspx> you will have a good sense of what each of the subcommittees are currently up to, but we encourage you to reach out to any of the Subcommittee Chairs regarding any area of particular interest to you. You may not be specifically “invited” to join a subcommittee, rather the expectation is on you to proactively seek out the group for which you would like to contribute if you are not already a member.

If you ever have any questions about the work of the SFLAC we would encourage you to ask any of the members, as many of them have been on the committee for quite some time. Our former Vice Chair (from 1998 to 2021), William Howe participated in drafting the enabling legislation for the SFLAC (ORS 3.346) which was enacted in 1997. He is a great resource, very generous with his time, and remains available to provide his historical knowledge and context for new members: WHowe@gevurtzmenashe.com.

If you ever have questions or would like to address something formally on the meeting agendas in the future, please let the Chair or Vice Chair know right away. We are so pleased to welcome you to the group and trust you will find working with such a dedicated and passionate group rewarding. Thank you for service.

Very Truly,

Karrie K. McIntyre
Chair of SFLAC
Lane Circuit Court
Karrie.K.McIntyre@ojd.state.or.us

Debra Dority
Vice-Chair
Oregon Law Center
DDority@OregonLawCenter.org

APPENDIX C

State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) Wallace P. Carson Outstanding Achievement Award Nomination Form

Selection Criteria

- Any member of the SFLAC may nominate a person, agency or organization that exemplifies the following recipient criteria:

Recipient must have demonstrated one or more of the following:

- Recipient has made a significant contribution to family law in Oregon.
 - Recipient is a visionary.
 - Recipient is committed to improving court processes for children and families.
 - Recipient is a role model for other practitioners.
 - Recipient has high ethical standards.
 - Recipient is held in high esteem by the family court community, including lawyers, mediators, evaluators, judges, and facilitators.
- The following list is intended to give the SFLAC information about your nominee. You may find that you have limited information in certain areas. That is expected. The SFLAC does not expect a long narrative from you but rather a concise narrative about your nominee.

To make a nomination for the award, please complete and return this form. You may be contacted, confidentially, for more information on your nominee.

NOMINEE _____ Company/Firm/Agency _____

In a few paragraphs describe the nominee's attributes (if additional space is needed, attach a letter to this form).

If possible, please attach a copy of the nominee's resume and any letters of recommendation by those qualified to speak of nominee's character (i.e. opposing counsel, judges or current/past co-workers). This is not a required, but would assist the SFLAC in making its decision.

Name of nominator _____ Phone number _____

References: 1. Name _____ Phone number _____

2. Name _____ Phone number _____

**Guidelines for Selection of State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC)
Wallace P. Carson Outstanding Achievement Award**

I. ELIGIBILITY

Any person, agency or organization may be nominated for the Wallace P. Carson Outstanding Achievement Award. Former nominees may be re-nominated.

II. SELECTION CRITERIA

Recipient must have demonstrated one or more of the following:

- Recipient has made a significant contribution to family law in Oregon.
- Recipient is a visionary.
- Recipient is committed to improving court processes for children and families.
- Recipient is a role model for other practitioners.
- Recipient has high ethical standards.
- Recipient is held in high esteem by the family court community, including lawyers, mediators, evaluators, judges and facilitators.

The award is intended to honor a person, agency, or organization for outstanding achievement in family law.

III. NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

A. Nominations

1. Any member of the SFLAC may nominate a person, agency or organization that exemplifies the above recipient criteria.
2. Nominations must be in writing and should describe the nominee's qualifications using the above criteria.

B. Selection Process

1. The SFLAC members shall review the nominees and approve the recipient by majority vote.
2. The SFLAC shall keep all nomination materials and selection discussion confidential.
3. The SFLAC shall announce the recipient of the Wallace P. Carson Outstanding Achievement Award and present the award at each Family Law Conference.

IV. AWARD

The award will be a plaque or a framed photograph with inscription below the photo. SFLAC will decide which on a case-by-case basis. The cost will not exceed \$100.