

# Juvenile Court Improvement Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2019

Juvenile & Family Court Programs Division – Oregon Room  
1133 Chemeketa Street NE, Salem, OR 97301  
1:30 – 4:00 PM

<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>			
	Hon. Stephen Forte, Chair, Deschutes County Circuit Court	√	Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Multnomah County Circuit Court
	Hon. Don Costello, Chief Judge, Coquille Indian Tribe	√	Hon. Karen Ostrye, Hood River County Circuit Court
√	Hon. Norm Hill, Polk County Circuit Court		Shaney Starr, Oregon Casa Network & Casa of Marion County
√	Hon. Lindsay Partridge, Vice Chair, Marion County Circuit Court		Mandy Augsburger, President, Marion Polk Foster Parent Association, Foster Parent
√	Hon. Rebecca A. Duncan, Justice Oregon Supreme Court		Lauren Kemp, Multnomah County DA's Office
√	Darin Mancuso, Foster Care Ombudsman, Governor's Advocacy Office		Lacey Andresen, Permanency Program Manager, DHS
√	Gail Schelle, Adoptions Program Manager, DHS	√	Mark Hardin, Retired Director, Child Welfare Center on Children & the Law
√	Daniel Schneider, Training Specialist, Child Welfare Partnership, Center for Improvement of Child & Family Services		Nathan Schwab, Oregon Foster Youth Connection, Former Foster Youth
√	Joanne Southey, Deputy Chief Counsel, Civil Enforcement Division, DOJ	√	Liz Wakefield, Deputy General Counsel, Office of Public Defense Services
√	Shannon Biteng, DHS	√	Kathy Steiner, DHS
√	Emily Hawkins		
<b>JFCPD STAFF</b>			
√	Leola McKenzie, Director, JFCPD	√	Kristen Farnworth, Juvenile Law & Policy Counsel, JFCPD
√	Shary Mason, Model Court & Training Analyst, JFCPD/CRB	√	Yousef Allouzi, Data Analyst, JFCPD
√	Amy Benedum, JFCPD Program Analyst	√	Conor Wall, Data Analyst, JFCPD
√	Michelle Markson, Management Assistant, JFCPD		

- I. Welcome & Introductions** – Hon. Lindsay Partridge
- II. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting** – Hon. Lindsay Partridge  
Approved.
- III. Reports:**
  - a. ICWA Compliance – Shary

Shary reported that the ICWA Compliance workgroup that was requested by Brent Leonard, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, is planning on introducing a bill in the next session that would establish a separate code for ICWA.ORS419d200-378. She, Kristen and Referee Morgan participated in the workgroup. Judges in attendance requested a copy of the draft bill. Shary also said that Oregon is looking at establishing an ICWA Court in Multnomah County. This will be an agenda item at the Tribal Court State Court Forum on June 21, 2019.

b. Trauma Informed Courts

Shary informed the group that she was asked and submitted an article to Trauma Informed Oregon for their newsletter on Trauma Informed Care Within the Judicial System. She was pleased to hear everything the courts were doing. Contributors were Judge VanDyk, Debbie Spradley, Referred Strauch, Judge Partridge, Judge Karabeika, Judge Holmes Hehn, and Christine Isaacson, Klamath Tribes.

c. OJD Business Process for Assigning Case Numbers – Leola

Leola reported that due to circumstances beyond our control, OJD has not been able to get the new version of Odyssey set up in a test environment, so we are able to assess if any new functionality will be available to improve how juvenile cases are handled in Odyssey. As a result, JCIP staff surveyed the large workgroup, and the survey results indicated:

- Out of the 23 people who responded to the survey, six (2 judges; 4 trial court staff) do not think a business process change is needed. Of those six, five people think we should focus on training instead of changing the business process.
- Of the remaining responses, 16 people do not think the current business process is sufficient. Of the 16 responses:
  - Eight (7 OJD staff and 1 attorney) think we should wait until we know whether Odyssey 2018 will provide a solution.
  - Seven (3 judges; 2 attorneys; 1 OSCA rep and DHS) think we should immediately take necessary steps to implement the one case per child per wardship system.
  - One (DOJ) would like us to determine whether Odyssey 2018 will solve the problem within the next couple of weeks, and if not, immediately take the necessary steps to implement the one case per wardship system.
- The group as a whole rated the proposal to “convene a multi-disciplinary workgroup to create uniform practices regarding filing, timelines, expectations and consolidation” as being an “effective” to “very effective” method to improve juvenile case processing.

Based on the group’s preferences expressed in the survey, JCIP staff recommended to Nancy Cozine that OJD work concurrently on two solutions: (1) continue to analyze whether Odyssey 2018 will provide relief as resources and technology allow; and (2) begin to take necessary steps to implement a one case per child per wardship system by convening a multi-disciplinary workgroup. The charge of the new smaller workgroup will include further development of the one case number proposal, as well as related issues regarding timelines, discovery,

consolidation and other expectations to add clarity and efficiency to the juvenile court process. The group will be tasked with identifying and developing juvenile code and UTRC revisions by December 15, 2019. In January, we will evaluate which parts of the group's proposal will be impacted by the conversion to Odyssey 2018 and determine whether to move forward with legislative proposals or business process changes. Nancy and the Chief Justice have endorsed this course of action. JCIP staff will be reaching out to representatives of the juvenile court, DOJ, OPDS and the Court of Appeals over the next week or so to identify members of the workgroup.

d. Juvenile Dependency System Efficiencies Budget Note – Leola

Leola reported that all counties are in some phase of implementing one of the four statewide system efficiencies. The multidisciplinary workgroup formed from the Assigning Case Numbers project will also be exploring possible statewide efficiencies. Leola will plan an opportunity for the JCIP AC to provide input on possible next steps at the September meeting.

e. JELI Spring Convening – Kristen

Kristen received positive feedback from the Judges that attended the JELI Spring Convening Conference. A suggestion was made to not take the time to go over the presenter bios during the conference but to print them as handouts. As a result of the conference, Judge Love and Amanda Swanson from DOJ will work together to create a sex trafficking bench card.

f. JCIP Conferences – Kristen

Kristen updated the committee on the planning of Through the Eyes of a Child Conference and the Model Court Summit. Through the Eyes will be held at the Oregon Garden on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Model Court Summit will be held at the Salem Convention Center on August 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a motivational speaker at dinner. Some of the topics at the Model Court Summit will include county efficiencies to determine ways different counties handle scenarios, shelter and removals, pick up orders with a highlight on ICWA, Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) and the Time to Adoption Process.

g. DCM Update - Yousef

Yousef reported that at the last meeting Dr. Alicia Summers presented the findings of her process evaluation. A meeting was held in early May to discuss the results and all four courts agreed to continue the project through at least June 2020. With three years' worth of data we can complete a full evaluation, particularly looking at are kids exiting care more quickly. We will also be looking at making some updates to the screening tool and are hoping to meet with DHS about what factors they've identified as predictors of long stays in foster care. The current tool is not predictive of long stays in foster care, so we are checking with DHS to see if we can identify some that are more predictive.

**IV. Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)**

a. Quarterly Statistical Reports

JCIP has released its 2019 Q1 reports. A review of the reports shows the changes of how we are now reporting our statistics. In June of 2018, the Court Reengineering and Efficiencies Workgroup (CREW) recommended new OJD Timely Disposition Standards after a review of the Oregon Judicial Conference Standards for Timely Disposition. The recommendations were set as follows:

For Juvenile Dependency- Jurisdictional Petitions

- 75% of cases with a jurisdictional or dismissal judgment(s) entered regarding all parents on the case within 60 days
- 98% with a jurisdictional or dismissal judgment entered regarding all parents

For Permanency Hearings

- 98% within 425 days (14 months) of filing

For Termination of Parental Rights

- 98% within 270 days (9 months) of filing

JCIP has made several adjustments to its reports to reflect these standards. The Time to First Jurisdiction Finding and Time to Jurisdiction on Both Parents reports now feature columns for cases that reach jurisdiction within 60 days (with a 75% goal) and 90 days (with a 98% goal). Additionally, the Time to TPR report now features cases that are resolved within 182 days and those resolved within 270 days (with a 98% goal).

Previously, JCIP ran the Time to TPR report to include petitions filed six months prior to the reporting period. To provide stats on the OJD Timely Disposition Standards, the report has been reset to run nine months as well as six months prior to the current period.

As for the actual numbers, dependency petitions were up 11% from the previous quarter, but they are still down 10% from Q118.

Time to Jurisdiction on Both Parents within 60 days was up 3 percentage points.

It was at 42% statewide Q118, same for Q119.

Dependency Petition to Termination or Relinquishment was down 72 days.

Adoptions were at 43% statewide, same as last year.

## **V. Discussion Topics:**

### **a. JCIP Strategic Plan & Self-Assessment – Leola**

Leola walked through the JCIP strategic plan and received input and suggestions on strategies for the three key areas of JCIP activities:

1. Improve quality of dependency court Hearings
2. Improve the system response to safety, permanency, and well-being of children in foster care
3. Improve judicial practices and leadership in juvenile dependency cases

If committee members have additional ideas or suggestions they should contact Leola or Yousef by Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

b. Mini Grant Request for Juvenile Law Training Academy (JLTA) – Shary

Shary said that JCIP had received a grant request from the Juvenile Law Training Academy (JLTA). This grant request has been supported in the past and there is a place holder in the budget for this training opportunity should the Advisory Committee approve. The Committee approved the request.

c. Should to Shoulder – Shary

Shary said that JCIP had received a grant request from Shoulder to Shoulder. This grant request has been supported in the past and there is a place holder in the budget for this training opportunity should the Advisory Committee approve. The Committee approved the request. Shary also mentioned the need for judges to participate on the Shoulder to Shoulder panel on October 28th. Judge Holmes Hehn and Judge Ostrye have judicial officers in mind and asked that a request be sent to them.

**VI. Upcoming Events – All:**

- Through the Eyes of A Child – August 11, 12, 2019
- Model Court Summit – August 13, 2019

**VII. Next Meeting:** Monday, September 9, 2019, 1:30-4:00 p.m.