

AGENDA
FRIEND OF THE COURT BUREAU
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Michigan Hall of Justice
925 W. Ottawa St., Lansing, Michigan

Friday, May 18, 2018

1. Call to Order

Pete Dever, Amy Yu, Sara Hodits, Lynn Bullard, Guy Jacobson, Dr. Julia Cunningham, Gail Towne, and Tim Cole.

2. Administrative Matters

- a. Review minutes from February 2018. Minutes were not available to be reviewed.
- b. New members:
 - i. Human Service Professional – Dr. Julia Cunningham, HRA Psychological Services
Dr. Julia Cunningham introduced herself and explained her professional responsibilities.
 - ii. Family Law attorney: Gail Towne, Attorney, with Lennon, Miller, O'Connor & Bartosiewicz, PLC. Attorney Gail Towne introduced herself and explained her professional responsibilities.
- c. Correspondence as of last meeting (February 2018): One – request from a member of the general public, requesting to be notified of any vacancies to the FOCB Advisory Committee. Liz has responded, indicating that if a proper position becomes open, Liz will contact him.
- d. Proposed amendment to MCR 3.206. Members briefly discussed the proposed amendment to MCR 3.206. The proposed amendment would no longer require the minor's date of birth be listed in the complaint.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Old Business

- a. Domestic Violence Best Practices Guide Update: Tim Cole provided an update on the completed sections of the Domestic Violence Resource Guide.
- b. Grant Projects – Update
 - i. PASS (Muskegon) – Tim explained that the PASS grant was a child support specialty court project in Muskegon to help parents overcome obstacles that hindered their progress in making child support payments.
 - ii. SEED (Muskegon – evaluation portion) – Tim explained that Amy Lindholm, Liz Stomski, and Suzy Crittenden are looking at the SEED data and making efforts to clean up the data so the evaluation can be completed.
 - iii. Safe and Together – Tim explained that the Safe and Together Grant takes the domestic violence model for child welfare cases and applies those concepts to domestic relations cases. There was a statewide meeting held on March 29, 2018. There are three counties involved in the project: Kent, Saginaw and Washtenaw. The Grant partners met with the curriculum editors, and will start reviewing curriculum drafts in near future (this is not an SCAO grant, so we cannot control the timeline). Once the curriculum is approved, then selected FOC employees will be trained on the curriculum so they can train FOC employees.

5. New Business

- a. FOCB Update
 - i. Trainings:
 1. MFSC Southeastern Region (May) – Steve presented to the group on procedural justice. Tim explained the procedural justice central components. Procedural justice training is intended to make court employees more aware of what court users maybe experiencing.
 2. Customer Service – Macomb Co. (May) – Liz presenting on customer service for frontline staff at Macomb County at the FOC's request.

3. MFSC Northern Region (May 22): Three SCAO presentations – Tim to present on third Party Custody and Parenting Time Issues; Paul on the New Show Cause Rule (MCR 3.208); and Liz to present on the new UIFSA forms.
4. MI/WI Border Conference (June 26) – Michigan and Wisconsin will meet for its biannual Border Conference to discuss intergovernmental case processing issues between the two states. Tribal nations from both states will also be invited to attend (Wisconsin is the “host”). Liz will be attending for SCAO/FOCB, and OCS and other Intergovernmental WIT members will also be in attendance. The meeting is open to all Intergovernmental staff in the state. Announcement went out on Google Group, and another one will be up soon.
5. SCAO/FOCB Training for UP Counties (June 27) – on the way back from Wisconsin, Liz and members of the Intergov WIT will be holding an intergovernmental training and round table for anyone who wants to attend. Training is in Escanaba, MI.
6. 2018 Michigan Family Support Conference. Tim provided a list of the proposed Friend of the Court workshops for the Fall MFSC Conference. Those workshops are:
 - Special Needs of Felons in Child Support Cases
 - Civil Contempt
 - Enforcement Manual
 - Michigan Child Support Formula Session
 - Child Support Orders in Abuse and Neglect
 - Adverse Childhood Experiences
 - Land Mines in Applying for Grants and Implementing Pilot Projects-
 - Difficult parenting Time Cases
 - Intergovernmental (4) including Electronic Document Exchange
 - Domestic Violence in Child Support Cases
7. The Committee had a lengthy discussion on the Adverse Childhood Experience (ACES) training and asked if this could be an agenda item for its August Committee meeting. Some committee members had taken the ACES training and found the training to be very beneficial.

b. Standing Agenda Items for Update

i. Legislative Update

1. House Bill 4691 (“Joint Custody”): Several Committee members expressed concerns about the legislation and its current status.

ii. Case Law Update

1. *Shertown v Guastella*. The Committee discussed the issues raised in the case including standing parties of same sex marriages have in contested custody cases.

iii. OCS Policy Releases and Updates

1. Committee members were provided with a list of OCS policies and SCAO’s Incapacitation Policy.

6. Closing

a. Members Closing Comments.

- i. Members did not have any closing comments.
- ii. Mr. Robert Kerr (citizen attending the meeting) thanked Van Buren for the father’s education program that was implemented in the county.

b. Adjourn

Next meeting scheduled: November 16, 2018 @ 1 p.m., Hall of Justice in Lansing.

2019 Scheduled Meetings

February 15, 2019

May 17, 2019

August 16, 2019

November 11, 2019