

Charter – Friend of the Court Bureau Advisory Committee

1. Committee Membership. The Friend of the Court Bureau (FOCB) as part of the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) develops policies and procedures to improve the operation of friend of the court offices. In order to assist the Bureau in performing its duties, the SCAO establishes the Friend of the Court Bureau State Advisory Committee composed of the following individuals chosen by the State Court Administrator or his designee:
 - a. Three public members who have had contact with an office of the friend of the court.
 - b. Three attorneys who are members of the State Bar of Michigan and whose practices are primarily domestic relations law. Not more than one attorney may be a circuit court judge.
 - c. Three human service professionals who provide family counseling.
 - d. The Friend of the Court Bureau shall appoint non-voting ex-officio members to assist with the business of the committee.

Members will be asked to serve a term of two years on the committee. Members may be reappointed at the discretion of the State Court Administrator.

2. The FOCB will choose a chair and vice-chair for the committee through whom it will work to ensure that meetings are productive.
3. The committee will meet periodically as necessary. At those meetings general business will be conducted, including but not limited to:
 - a. Consideration of Policy Development based on:
 1. Update on Statutes
 2. Update on caselaw
 3. Court rules
 4. Grievance summary.
 - b. Special projects.
4. The committee will only meet when the FOCB determines that at least five voting members are available.
5. In recommending action to the FOCB, the committee will operate by consensus where possible and by majority vote where necessary. Before making any final recommendation, the committee will allow a member of the public to address the committee on the proposal.