

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CASE MANAGEMENT

Honorable Jerome J. Metz, Jr.

Hamilton County Common Pleas Court
Chairperson

Honorable Laura J. Gallagher

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas
Vice Chairperson

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Judge Craig R. Baldwin
Gretchen Beers, Esq.
Russell Brown, Esq.
Judge Kim Browne
Judge Timothy Cannon
Judge Rocky Coss
Judge Gary Dumm
Judge Richard Frye
Judge Laura J. Gallagher

Lisa M. Gorrasi, Esq.
Judge Michael Hall
Judge Jerome Metz, Jr.
Judge Diane M. Palos
Judge Tom Pokorny, Retired
Elizabeth Stephenson, Esq.
C. Michael Walsh, Esq.
Judge Curt Werren

Committee Members Absent:

Judge Anthony Capizzi
Judge Carol Dezso, Retired
Judge Kristen Johnson
Judge Terri Stupica

Susan Sweeney, Esq.
Judge Gene Zmuda
Judge Joseph Zone

Supreme Court of Ohio Staff Members Present:

Brian Farrington
Ashley Gilbert, Esq.
Diane Hayes

Nikole Hotchkiss, Ph.D.
Colleen Rosshirt, Esq.
Tasha Ruth, Esq.

Update on Superintendence Rule 36 – Case Assignment for Trial Courts (Judge Frye)

Judge Frye presented Superintendence Rule 36 to the Justices requesting the adoption of the proposed amendments on September 26, 2017. Those [amendments](#) were adopted and are effective January 2018.

Update on Superintendence Rule 36 – Case Assignment for Appellate Courts (Judge Cannon)

Judge Cannon will present the amendments to Superintendence Rule 36 to the Commission on the Rules of Superintendence on March 2, 2018 requesting they be published for public comment.

Update on Superintendence Rule 39 – Case Time Standards (Judge Metz)

Judge Metz will request the final amendments to Superintendence Rule 39 be adopted by the Justices in early 2018. The amendments were to be presented on November 14, 2017, however due to a scheduling conflict, the date has been pushed back.

Update on Appellate Rule 9(A) – Composition of the Record on Appeal; Recording of Proceedings (Mike Walsh, Esq.)

Mike Walsh headed the subcommittee tasked with looking at App.R. 9(A). Over the last several months, the group made several proposed changes to the Appellate Rule, however it was determined that the changes that need to be made concern procedures as to what should be included in the record in the trial courts. Thus, the group's task has been referred to the Commission on the Rules of Practice and Procedure to consider amendments to the Criminal and Civil Rules of Procedure accordingly.

New Business: Letter from Commission on Dispute Resolution Concerning Juvenile Cases Referred to Mediation (Judge Metz/Tasha)

This issue comes to the ACCM from the Commission on Dispute Resolution regarding a request that the [Instructions for the Preparation of Statistical Reports, Form D](#), be amended to allow juvenile courts to place a case on inactive status for purposes of calculating the time standard when parties are engaged in mediation and conciliation dispute resolution processes. This mirrors a similar instruction found in the [instructions for Form B](#) which allows domestic relations courts to toll cases for dispute resolution services. The juvenile court cases that would be permitted to toll are limited to Custody, Change of Custody, Visitation (Column G), Support Enforcement or Modification (Column H), and Parentage (Column I). The ACCM unanimously approved this proposal. [Staff Note: The changes to the instructions for Form D were posted October 18, 2017.]

The topic of setting limits for the amount of time a case may be placed on inactive status while engaging in a dispute resolution process was discussed. The ACCM will continue this discussion at the March 23, 2018 meeting.

New Business: Case management Statistical Report Trainings – Regional and Annual (Colleen Rosshirt)

Colleen updated the group regarding the Case Management Section's statistical report trainings. The section has continued its efforts to promote best practices and consistency among all jurisdictions when compiling court statistics. Staff continue to conduct Lunch & Learns throughout the state and hosted a two-day statistical report training in Columbus. The section plans to conduct regional trainings in 2018 and another annual training in April 2018 at the Supreme Court of Ohio. If your court is interested in hosting a regional training or a Lunch & Learn contact casemgmt@sc.ohio.gov.

Update from Case Management Section (Tasha)

Tasha provided a brief update of happenings in the Case Management Section:

1. Judicial Performance Letters were mailed on July 25, 2017 to individual judges with 15 percent or more cases pending past the time standards in certain case categories.
2. The [Appellate Court Case Management System, Request for Proposal](#) was issued October 20, 2017. Responses are due November 30, 2017.
3. The Supreme Court of Ohio hosted a focus group on October 11, 2017 for appellate court judges to examine emerging needs of the bar and our citizens to assure our appellate courts are prepared to meet those needs most effectively.
4. The Supreme Court of Ohio will host two [Civil Justice Initiative](#) Workshops in May 2018. The workshop is designed to bring together individuals from each court who are responsible for civil cases to form a Civil Case Management Team (CCMT). Teams will develop a staffing model for civil case processing that delegates substantial responsibility for routine caseflow management to specially trained professional staff, supported by effective case automation, permitting judges to focus on tasks that require their unique training and expertise. Workshops will be offered May 14, 2018 in Akron, OH and May 16, 2018 in Columbus, OH. For more information contact casemgmt@sc.ohio.gov.
5. The Supreme Court of Ohio hosted a focus group on May 23, 2017 for municipal court judges to identify best practices for assessing and collecting fines & costs, discuss the public/funding authorities' perception of courts, and discuss how courts can obtain adequate funding without invoking the adversarial process.

Future Meeting Dates

- Friday, March 23, 2018
- Friday, May 11, 2018
- Friday, August 10, 2018
- Friday, October 19, 2018