

Virtual Court Proceedings Committee

Meeting Minutes - October 16, 2020

Present: Chief Judge St. Peter, Chief Judge Berens, Amanda Truan, Jen Olsen, Katherine Oliver, Jennie Leach, Stephanie Gerken, Kim Schwarz, Chief Judge Berens, Judge Roush, Judge Rush, Judge Torline

Staff: Amber Smith, John Houston, Sarah Hoskinson

The minutes of the September 3, 2020 meeting were approved.

Judge St. Peter invited updates from the subcommittees.

Data Gathering Subcommittee

Amanda Truan reported that Ellen House is working with OJA to determine how best to circulate a consumer data collection survey. The subcommittee will provide a full report at the next meeting.

Guidelines Subcommittee

Judge St. Peter discussed feedback received from the Supreme Court about the proposed standards and guidelines. The committee agreed to make some minor adjustments to the guidelines based on that feedback. Judge St. Peter informed the group that the Court was very interested in the survey results obtained by the data gathering subcommittee. He advised that he'd be giving an update to judges across the state at the upcoming judicial conference.

Legislative Subcommittee

Judge St. Peter reported that he has been reviewing the 2014 Judicial Branch Videoconferencing Committee report and will be reaching out to a newly-formed legislative subcommittee with comments about it. He would like to have legislative recommendations done by first week of November.

Amanda Truan suggested the data gathering subcommittee might try to collect information about the number of remote hearings that are occurring around the state on a forward-looking basis. Preliminary numbers reported to a survey circulated by Chief Justice Luckert's office were low because not everyone was regularly tracking this data. The subcommittee could develop parameters for tracking. The committee discussed possibly including AVC meetings between CSOs and clients, as well as the use of "zoom rooms" for those who show up in person at the courthouse because they don't have internet service at home.

The next meeting will be Nov. 6 at noon.

The legislative subcommittee will meet Oct. 30 at noon.