

Community Relations Committee

Judicial Conference of Indiana

April 29, 2022

Meeting Minutes

The Community Relations Committee met on April 29, 2022, by video conference. The meeting was chaired by Judge Maria Granger.

- 1. Members present.** Ellie Bright, John Broden, Chadwick Hill, Cheryl Rivera, Lori Schein, Austin Shadle, Stephanie Steele, and Maria Granger, chair.
- 2. Members absent.** Gary Schutte and Doug Stevens
- 3. Staff Present.** Jenny Bauer and Sarah Kidwell provided staff assistance.
- 4. Approval of Minutes.** Stephanie Steele made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2021 meeting and Chadwick Hill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- 5. Broadcast Pilot.** Jenny Bauer reported the 4-month broadcast pilot wrapped up on March 31. Media made a total of 50 requests in Allen Circuit Court, Delaware Circuit Court, and Tippecanoe Circuit Court. Unfortunately, the media did not make any requests in Lake Superior Court and only 1 request in Vanderburgh on a prohibited case type. According to Ms. Bauer, the media covered mostly criminal trials, including two jury trials. She and Amanda Wishin were pleased with the results of the pilot and feedback from surveys. Ms. Bauer thanked the committee members for reviewing the pilot report before it was submitted to the Judicial Conference Board of Directors. Judge Granger reported that she presented the pilot report to the Board of Directors on April 26. The Board approved the recommendation to amend Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 2.17 to allow broadcasting in courtrooms. She suggested a best practices guide may be needed since several board members had questions related to best practices.
- 6. Constitution Day.** Sarah Kidwell reported Constitution Day is September 17. The Office of Communication, Education, and Outreach announced Constitution Day 2022 in the April 27 weekly message to judges and recommended reaching out to interested teachers before the end of the school year. OCEO plans to send more information on registering in August to be part of the Court's press release.

- 7. Indiana Judges Association Awards.** Jenny Bauer reported she reached out to IJA regarding the judge and journalist community relations awards. She hopes to find out soon if IJA plans to reinstitute the awards for 2022.
- 8. 2022 meeting dates.** The committee is scheduled to meet on the following dates for the remainder of 2022: August 5, November 4

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney
Indiana Office of Court Services

Community Relations Committee

Judicial Conference of Indiana

August 5, 2022

Meeting Minutes

The Community Relations Committee met on August 4, 2022, by video conference. The meeting was chaired by Judge Maria Granger.

- 1. Members present.** John Broden, Chadwick Hill, Austin Shadle, Gary Schutte, and Maria Granger, chair.
- 2. Staff Present.** Jenny Bauer and Sarah Kidwell provided staff assistance.
- 3. Approval of Minutes.** John Broden made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 2022 meeting and Gary Schutte seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- 4. Indiana Judges Association Awards.** Jenny Bauer reported the committee received 3 nominations for the judge award: Justice Steve David and attorney Angka Hinshaw for hosting the ISBA's "Conversations on Race", Judge Scott Sirk for supporting media coverage of the Hancock County Drug Court, and Judge Marianne Vorhees for inviting Ball State journalism students to participate in Delaware Circuit Court's broadcasting pilot. The committee selected Justice David and Angka Hinshaw for the 2021 award and Judge Vorhees for the 2022 award. Ms. Bauer also reported that the committee received 2 nominations for the journalist award: Katie Stancombe of The Indiana Lawyer for her series of articles on judges in rural counties and Anne Lurea for leading the Ball State student team that covered Delaware Circuit Court during the broadcast pilot. The committee selected Katie Stancombe. The committee requested that Ms. Bauer contact the award winners and invite them to the IJA award luncheon in South Bend.
- 5. Broadcast Pilot.** Jenny Bauer reported the Supreme Court is scheduled to review the final report from the broadcast pilot and the proposed amendment to CJC Rule 2.17 in early September. If the Court approves the rule amendment, the Committee may need to work on a guide for best practices.

- 6. Constitution Day.** Sarah Kidwell reported Constitution Day is September 17. The Office of Communication, Education, and Outreach announced Constitution Day 2022 in April and plans to send more information on registering in August to be part of the Court's press release. She encouraged members to participate.
- 7. Other business.** Sarah Kidwell reminded committee members that the Court signed an order authorizing courtroom media coverage of adoptions year-round, in addition to the official National Adoption Day in November.
- 8. Next meeting date.** The next meeting date is scheduled for November 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney
Indiana Office of Court Services