

**Trial Court Budget Commission  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2012**



**Attendance – Members Present**

Mr. Mike Bridenback	Ms. Kathy Pugh
The Honorable Catherine Brunson	The Honorable Robert Roundtree
The Honorable Ronald Ficarrota	The Honorable Susan Schaeffer
The Honorable Charles Francis	The Honorable Elijah Smiley
Mr. Tom Genung	Mr. Walt Smith
The Honorable John Laurent, Chair	The Honorable Bertila Soto
Ms. Sandra Lonergan	The Honorable Margaret Steinbeck, Vice Chair
The Honorable Mark Mahon	The Honorable Patricia Thomas
The Honorable Wayne Miller	Mr. Mark Weinberg
The Honorable Debra Nelson	Ms. Robin Wright
The Honorable Gregory Parker	
The Honorable Belvin Perry, Jr.	

**Attendance – Members Absent**

The Honorable Thomas McGrady  
The Honorable Louis Schiff  
The Honorable Terry Terrell

**Welcome**

The Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Judge Laurent. The roll was taken and a quorum was present. Judge Laurent welcomed the members and asked everyone present on the call to introduce themselves.

**Allocation: FY 2012-13 Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative**

Alex Krivosheyev presented background information and stated that on December 7, 2011 the TCBC Executive Committee approved a \$5,756,351 funding proposal for the FY 2012-13 Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative. In addition, the funding proposal approved by the TCBC Executive Committee included executive direction resources to OSCA for data collection, analysis, and the administration of resources.

The Legislature appropriated \$4.0 million for non-recurring funding of the original \$5,756,351 requested for the FY 2012-13 Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative.

### **Funding Allocations:**

Alex Krivosheyev reported that the estimated pending foreclosure cases through January 2012 were circulated for review by each circuit. Once pending foreclosure case estimates were confirmed or amended by the circuits, proposed circuit allocations were calculated and distributed to Chief Judges and TCA's for review and to determine the type of resources they wanted to utilize (i.e. senior judge days, case managers, etc.).

Mr. Krivosheyev reviewed the proposed circuit allocations.

The Funding Methodology Committee (FMC) recommendation was to approve circuit allocations with the condition that circuits be given the opportunity to revise how to distribute their allocations among different types of resources.

Judge Miller motioned to approve the FMC recommendation. Mike Bridenbeck seconded the motion. Judge Laurent called for a vote of members in favor and opposed. The motion passed without objection.

### **Data Reporting:**

Mr. Krivosheyev reviewed the issue and stated that OSCA staff recommends, due to the decrease in approved funding from what was requested, that we focus on processing cases and any progress reports be based on SRS data that is already reported by the Clerk of Courts.

The FMC recommendation was to approve staff recommendation and to include in the status reports foreclosure dispositions by circuit from January 2012 through June 2012.

Judge Mahon motioned to approve the FMC recommendation. Judge Miller seconded the motion. Judge Laurent called for a vote of members in favor and opposed. The motion passed without objection.

### **Clerk Assistance:**

Mr. Krivosheyev informed the members that although proviso language in the GAA directed the clerks of court to utilize \$2 million of their budget to assist with the foreclosure backlog, it may be difficult for the Clerks to comply given their circumstances and stated that this issue was discussed in detail at the Chief Judges meeting on May 2, 2012. The issue addresses the \$31 million cut to the Clerks' budget and was presented for informational and planning purposes only.

**Overtime Policy:**

Mr. Krivosheyev explained that the TCBC and BMC approved overtime pay for OPS during the FY 2010-11 Foreclosure Backlog Initiative as long as the circuit stayed within their allocation.

The FMC recommendation was to approve the same policy for FY 2012-13 initiative.

Judge Mahon motioned to approve the FMC recommendation. Sandra Lonergan seconded the motion. Judge Laurent called for a vote of members in favor and opposed. The motion passed without objection.

In closing, Lisa Goodner emphasized that the plan will have to be approved by the Legislative Budget Commission but the circuits should proceed now to be able to plan and recruit resources in order to start effective July 1, 2012.

**Adjournment**

With no other business before the commission, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.