

**Minutes
Court Statistics & Workload Committee Meeting
October 15, 2014
Phone Conference**

The Honorable Paul Alessandroni, Chair

12:02 pm Meeting convened

Twelve of the fifteen members were in attendance:

The Honorable Paul Alessandroni, The Honorable G. Keith Cary,
The Honorable David H. Foxman, The Honorable Ellen S. Masters,
The Honorable Scott Stephens, The Honorable William F. Stone,
The Honorable Paula S. O'Neil, Ph.D., The Honorable Sharon Robertson,
Mr. Fred Buhl, Ms. Kathleen R. Pugh, Mr. Philip G. Schlissel, &
Mr. Grant Slayden

Members absent:

The Honorable Ilona M. Holmes, The Honorable Shelley J. Kravitz, &
Ms. Holly Elomina

OSCA Staff in attendance:

Greg Youchock, P.J. Stockdale, Shelley Kaus, Kimberly Curry, &
Blan Teagle

Other parties in attendance:

Ms. Susan Wilson

Item I. Opening Remarks and Introductions

- A. The chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the FY2014-16 term of the Court Statistics and Workload Committee.
- B. The chair welcomed the committee's three new members: The Honorable Scott Stephens, Circuit Judge from the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, The Honorable William F. Stone, Circuit Judge from the First Judicial Circuit, and The Honorable Paula O'Neil, Clerk of Circuit Court from Pasco County.
- C. Staff gave a brief history of the Court Statistics and Workload Committee (CSWC).

Item II. Committee Housekeeping

- A. Minutes from 4/10/2014 Meeting

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1. Members voted (unanimously) to approve the minutes from the last meeting of the FY2012-14 term, which was a phone conference held on 4/10/2014.
- B. Committee Charges
1. Staff presented the charges included in Supreme Court Administrative Order, AOSC14-40, IN RE: COMMISSION ON TRIAL COURT PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY, that are relevant to the CSWC. Staff discussed what the committee has been directed to work on during the FY2014-16 term.
- C. Committee Protocol and Procedures
1. Members were provided with a copy of the Protocol for Supreme Court Committees, most recently revised in December of 2013.
 2. Staff presented three operational strategies that the CSWC has successfully utilized in the past for addressing committee tasks.
 3. Members voted (unanimously) to adopt the use of these three proposed strategies for committee tasks in the FY 2014-16 term.

Item III. Judicial Workload Study

- A. Project Summary and Review
1. Staff provided an overview of this study, which the Supreme Court of Florida has tasked the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) with updating the trial court judicial case weights used to evaluate judicial workload.
 2. The major methodological steps identified by the NCSC were laid out, including the timeframe for completion. Staff informed members of the estimated cost associated with a study of this magnitude, as well as the fact that the Trial Court Budget Commission appropriated funding at its June 20, 2014 meeting.
 3. Staff announced that the committee's chair, Judge Paul Alessandroni, would be directly involved in this effort. The 40-member Judicial Needs Assessment Committee is planned to be comprised of one circuit judge and one county judge from each circuit.
 4. It was noted that a final determination as to when the study will begin is pending, but it is anticipated that it will commence in early 2015. Staff advised they are awaiting final approval from the supreme court before a contract can be executed with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC).
 5. Members involved in the original time study inquired as to some specifics of this forthcoming study. Staff and members discussed several variables to account for in a study and shared some observations and insights.
 6. Staff advised that the NCSC will be integral consultants to the judges and staff participating in the study, and they will be consulted on the methodology employed and subsequent analysis.

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Item IV. Issues of Interest

- A. Plan to incorporate Case-Event Definitional Framework (AOSC14-20) into SRS Reporting
 - 1. Staff updated members on the OSCA's progress regarding the supreme court charge to incorporate the Case-Event Definitional Framework into existing development projects. Staff explained the OSCA developed a physical data model that implemented case-event elements of the Trial Court Data Model, including database tables and supporting software code as part of the 2014 Criminal Transaction System Modernization project.
 - 2. Staff advised that in addition to upgrading the data collected via the Offender Based Transaction System (OBTS), this implementation is general in nature and will be usable by any subsequent data projects that involve case-event reporting.
- B. Uniform Data Reporting - Court Interpreter Hourly Reporting
 - 1. Staff reported that the OSCA has begun collecting court interpreting events and hours as part of a program being administered by the TCP&A. Currently, TCP&A is conducting a pilot program on the use of Shared Remote Interpreting Resources, which includes the reporting of both events and hours.
 - 2. In order to reduce the reporting burden on circuit court administrations, staff advised that the reporting of court interpreting events and hours via the Uniform Data Reporting (UDR) system has been suspended. UDR statistics for court interpreting events and hours are being computed from data provided under the Shared Remote Interpreting pilot project. Once this project is complete, reporting will resume under the previously existing UDR reporting mechanism.
- C. FY2013-15 Foreclosure Initiative
 - 1. Staff gave an update on the Foreclosure Initiative, which at the time was in its sixteenth month.
 - 2. Staff announced that the preceding three months showed a remarkable improvement in the quality of the data as OSCA staff had been working diligently with the clerks of court to increase the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of the data. Since September, 51 of the 67 counties report their data on a weekly basis at a minimum, with 43 of them submitting daily reports of the activity that occurs on mortgage foreclosure cases. A second vast improvement was reported: 42 counties have reported inactivity to the initiative to date, which is a requirement of the initiative that was initially not met by a large number of counties. Lastly, analysis of SRS to Foreclosure Initiative filings produced remarkably similar results, and in some instances the Foreclosure Initiative filings appear to be more accurate.
 - 3. Staff advised that the result of the increase in data submission frequency, completeness, and accuracy is a significant reduction in the amount of time in which calculated statistics can be considered reliable and ready for

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publication. In particular, the daily submission, combined with the ability to capture case activity as it occurs instead of querying data after the fact, has resulted in a tremendous leap forward in the quality of the Foreclosure Initiative data. Staff reminded members that this event-push model was a recommendation from the TIMS report and Trial Court Data Model that this committee was instrumental in developing.

D. Performance Measures Required by Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.225(a)(2)

1. Staff updated members that the measures required by Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.225(a)(2) are also included as elements under several related projects, such as the TCP&A's High Performing Courts, the Judicial Management Council Performance Workgroup, and the OSCA's Judicial Data Management Services; and as such, additional work on these measures has been placed on hold in order to give these encompassing projects an opportunity to complete their respective planning. Staff advises that care should be taken to ensure that the final performance measurement effort as required by rule will meet the needs of all stakeholders involved.
2. Staff will continue to monitor the advancement of these projects as they involve the CSWC.

Item V. Next Meeting

1. Staff announced an in-person meeting was being planned for late January or early February of 2015. Plans to coordinate the in-person meeting to coincide with the first meeting of the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee (for the Judicial Workload Study) were being considered. Therefore, staff is awaiting scheduling of this anticipated meeting.
2. Members were alerted to look out for future emails regarding both the date and location of the CSWC in-person meeting.

1:27 pm Meeting Adjourned