Commission on Parenting Time Guidelines
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 28, 2025
9:00 a.m. CDT
Zoom

Members Present: Judge Christina Klinger, Representative Brandei Schaefbauer, Shanna Moke, Kylie Riggins, Kacy Kienholz, and Ryon Rypkema.

Others Present: Caroline Srstka, UJS Staff Attorney, and member of the public Bob Mercer.

Call to Order: Judge Klinger called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Commission members introduced themselves.

Purpose of the Commission: Judge Klinger opened the meeting by welcoming members and introducing the purpose of the Commission, which is to review the existing parenting time guidelines and provide recommended updates. The goal is to identify areas that may benefit from clarification or revision, especially for use in cases where parents are unable to come to agreement on their own.

Potential Topics for Consideration: Discussion then turned to potential areas for improvement. There was a suggested need to better define what is considered "best" for parenting time and what constitutes the minimum standard. References to "Parent 1" and "Parent 2" in the guidelines may create confusion, especially around holidays, and should be clarified to avoid assumptions about gender roles. Chair Klinger emphasized the importance to focus on general standards that are fair and enforceable. Members noted that the enforcement provisions included in previous versions were helpful and encouraged further refinement to improve their effectiveness.

Public Comment: A brief public comment period was scheduled, allowing up to 10 minutes for public input. There was no public comment.

Timeline for Public Hearings and Future Meetings: The Commission discussed the timeline and format for future meetings and hearings. Public hearings may be held in Sioux Falls, Aberdeen, and Rapid City, with a final in-person meeting in Pierre in order to review feedback from the public and form recommendations. Srstka will compile the Commission's availability and provide public notice once hearings are scheduled.