

South Dakota Commission on Indigent Legal Services

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Members Present

- Betsy Doyle
- Eric Erickson
- Heather Lammers Bogard
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- Judge Larry Long
- Judge Bobbi Rank
- Sen. Lee Schoenbeck
- Dick Travis
- Dean Neil Fulton

Report from Chris Miles on Transition

Mr. Miles updated the commission on the logistical and administrative progress that has been made to set up the office prior to his official start date on November 12. Job postings for two attorney positions and a legal office business manager will be posted in the next several weeks, and the final attorney positions will be opened once the office has already been established. A copy of the listing will be distributed to the members. Mr. Miles also shared his research on prioritizing office protocols and his examination of practices used in other states.

Dean Fulton outlined the plan for presenting the budget to the legislature in 2025, along with what progress updates will be shared during the hearing.

Discussion of 6AC Report and Next Commission Steps

The commission discussed starting with items that do not require legislative changes and could be applied uniformly, such as the application process, determining eligibility criteria, and providing training and mentorship opportunities. Members also discussed the importance of emphasizing data collection and the need to obtain baseline data from the Unified Judicial System.

Dean Fulton proposed that he would work with commission members on the format of the applications and eligibility standards, as well as researching what already exists. He would also reach out to the UJS to start discussing data collection. Senator Schoenbeck recommended that the commission create a master list that outlines the requirements in the statute and recommendations in the report.

Other business

The commission discussed the process for scheduling future meetings.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Judge Rank and seconded by Senator Schoenbeck. The motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion: A motion to adjourn was made by Judge Long and seconded by Mr. Travis. The motion carried.