

Minutes of the Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

October 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order on October 11, 2019 at 10:00 am Central Time by Chairman Telford Forgety.

Chairman Forgety, Bo Burk, J.B. Cox, Mark Davidson, Craig Fickling, Kim Helper, Russell Johnson, Kim Nelson, and John Ryder were present in Nashville at the AOC offices. Jim Kyle called in via teleconference. John Fine was absent. Chairman Forgety also welcomed guests. Senate Judiciary Chair Mike Bell, and legislative staff Chase Johnson and James Held were present. Chelsea Curtis with the PDs Conference was present, along with Charlie Baldwin, Michelle Consiglio-Young, John Coke and Ceesha Lofton from the AOC. Chancellor Tony Childress on behalf of the Trial Judges and Will Lockhart from the Coffee County Bar Association participated by phone.

Although a quorum was present in Nashville, the Task Force addressed the participation of one member by phone. J.B. Cox moved to allow electronic participation by Task Force Members under Tenn. Code Ann. §8-44-108. The motion was seconded by Russell Johnson and carried upon a full roll call vote with ten ayes and one absent.

Minutes from the September 30, 2019 meetings were approved following a full roll call vote.

Michelle Consiglio-Young updated Task Force members on the AOC efforts to create a repository for General Sessions case data. The Legislature has approved funding and efforts are in the works to build it so case numbers from General Sessions Court will be considered in future weighted case load studies.

The Task Force spent the rest of the meeting carefully reviewing and making suggestions for changes to the full draft report presented to members. Changes will be considered at the next full meeting. Craig Fickling suggested the face-to-face gathering was helpful and productive. Under new business, members discussed a preference for future meetings. Members were encouraged to be in Nashville on October 21st if possible, for additional discussion on the full report.

With no further business, the Task Force meeting adjourned until October 21, 2019 at 10 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kim Helper