

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
P. O. BOX 315  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62705

JOHN M. WATERS  
CLERK

*Mattos*

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**MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** August 29, 1991

**TO:** Abel Mattos  
Chief, Court Programs Branch

**FROM:** Jack Waters, Clerk  
Central Illinois

**RE:** CJRA Advisory Meeting Minutes

Enclosed are the minutes of a July 19, 1991, meeting of the Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Group for the Central District of Illinois.

MINUTES

CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JULY 19, 1991

The second meeting of the Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Committee for the Central District of Illinois was held July 19, 1991 at the Federal Building in Peoria, Illinois. Committee members David Mueller, Walter Braud, Shawn Denney, Anne Draznen, Harlan Heller, Michael Meyer, Susan Stone, Jack Waters and Charlene Quigley attended. Member Jim Lewis was unable to attend.

The committee decided not to draw for terms at this time. When the Plan is finished the committee will evaluate the need for designation of terms.

Committee Chair David Mueller reviewed the overall goals of the committee following the 6-step analysis suggested in the enabling legislation. He remarked that the committee's task is to identify problem areas and give a roadmap for possible solutions. Mueller suggested, and the committee agreed, that the judges of the district should be kept fully informed as to the progress of the committee, including being provided with copies of minutes and all preliminary findings. They should also be advised that their input and attendance at committee meetings is always welcome.

The committee decided that the most efficient way to address the tasks at hand is by sub-committees. The following sub-committees were formed:

1. STATISTICS  
Anne Draznen, Chair  
Jack Waters  
Shawn Denney

The focus of this sub-committee will be to study the current methods of gathering statistics in the district and to determine how those figures can be used. In addition this sub-committee will determine which statistical questions can be explored given the data bases available.

2. PROCEDURES

Harlan Heller, Chair  
Walter Braud  
Charlene Quigley

This sub-committee will study how the district is now staffed and how problems are resolved now.

3. PERCEPTIONS

Susan Stone, Chair  
Jim Lewis  
Michael Meyer

This sub-committee will look at how the court is perceived by the public, the media, the bar, etc.

4. AGENDA

David Mueller, Chair  
Anne Draznen  
Harlan Heller  
Susan Stone

This sub-committee, made up of the committee and sub-committee chairs, will determine the agenda for each meeting, including the times and places of meetings.

The ultimate goal of these sub-committees will be to conduct a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the current docket of the court. With that information the committee can go on to identify significant areas where delay is a problem, as well as the costs involved. Included in costs must be the cost of access to the system, such as filing fees, attorney fees, opportunity costs of the delay in a case, and costs in defending meritless cases. While the committee is charged with looking at the current docket, the committee feels strongly that it must also look to future

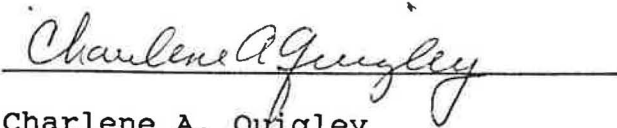
problems and the impact that economic and demographic changes will have on the future court docket. We must also be aware of the impact of the criminal docket on the civil side, and the changes in legislation that will impact the civil docket.

The committee decided that meetings should be scheduled every 60 days in the early stages, then every 6 weeks, then every 30 days when the actual plan is being put together. Tentatively, the 2nd Monday of the month at 10 A.M. will be set aside for committee meetings.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 8, 1991 at 10:00 A.M. at Peoria. The precise place will be announced closer to the meeting date.

Jack Waters reminded the members to keep their mileage, as a budget has been approved. He will have more details on how to claim for reimbursement.

The meeting was adjourned.



Charlene A. Quigley  
Reporter