

Agenda

Utah Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Resources for Self-represented Parties

February 9, 2022 – 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Via Webex: <https://utcourts.webex.com/meet/kadent>

Welcome and review of agenda	Judge Rich Mrazik
Approval of December minutes	Judge Rich Mrazik
Moving our meeting to a different date/time (can we do the first, third, or fourth Thursday of the month?)	Judge Rich Mrazik
Quick check in with everyone re: updates/challenges	Judge Rich Mrazik
Update regarding conversation with Rick Hoffman and his efforts to build a certification program	Judge Rich Mrazik
Discussion of proposal and consideration of possible support	All
Based on your experience and perspective, where do you think non-lawyer navigators would be most helpful?	All

**MINUTES for Utah Judicial Council's Standing Committee
on Resources for Self-Represented Parties Summary**

Via Webex
December 12, 2022
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Name	Position	Attended	Excused
Honorable Rich Mrazik	District court judge and chair	X	
Honorable Ann Marie Mciff Allen	District court judge	X	
Honorable Annette Jan	Juvenile court judge	X	
Honorable Danalee Welch-O'Donnal	Justice court judge		X
Nicole Gray	Appellate clerk of court	X	
Shannon Treseder	Urban clerk of court	X	
Nathanael Player	Self-Help Center representative		X
Charles Stormont	Utah State Bar	X	
Peter Strand	Legal services organization that serves low-income clients		X
Marcus Degen	Legal services organization that serves low-income clients	X	
Alison Satterlee	Private attorney	X	
Professor Leslie Francis	Law school representative	X	
Professor Beth Jennings	Law school representative		X
Kaden Taylor	State law librarian		X
Shawn Newell	Community representative	X	
Brooke Robinson	Community representative	X	
Amy Hernandez	Ex Officio Domestic Violence Coordinator		
Pamela Beatse	Ex Officio Utah State Bar Access to Justice Office		
Keenan Carroll	Utah State Bar Access to Justice Office	X	
Nancy Sylvester	Guest – Utah State Bar		
Sandra Carpaio	Guest – Utah 2-1-1		
Nini Rich	Guest facilitator		
Valeria Jimenez	Guest – OFA	X	

1. Approval of minutes
 - a. August and October minutes were approved.
2. What we are seeing/concerns/observations re: self-represented litigants
 - a. Requesting remote hearings or continuances is time consuming

- b. Concerns regarding documentation of costs added to debt collection cases
 - c. Can we require a proof of service to include the time of day that service was allegedly effectuated?
 - d. Discussion of appointment of counsel and guidelines regarding indigency
 - e. Discussion of disclosure requirements
 - i. Self-reps don't understand the need to disclose documents
 - 1. This can limit their ability to submit evidence later
 - 2. This can hamper efforts to advance a family law case
 - ii. Self-reps don't understand the disclosures they receive
 - iii. Request for admissions are sometimes used to support another avenue to obtain default judgments
 - f. Disclosure requirements in medical debt cases – Utah Code 31A-26-313
 - g. Courts are complying with guidance regarding remote hearings and processing filings via email
 - h. The appellate courts are updating their filing processes and updating courtrooms for hybrid hearings
3. Update regarding Racial and Ethnic Disparities group has a partnership with the Massive Data Institute at Georgetown University. This is exciting because it will allow for an analysis of census data related to our case data
 4. Navigator discussion
 - a. Non-lawyer training for people in evictions, domestic violence, and debt collection matters.
 - b. Try this in the Sandbox and if it works, ask for rule changes
 - c. Review of TLC Sandbox program
 - i. Training victim advocates to give legal advice on how to obtain a protective order. After training, these people are Certified Advocate Partners
 - ii. This isn't super complicate, but is high stress for people experiencing domestic violence
 - iii. Judges get better forms and better information
 - iv. One of the challenges requires data gathering and coordination of reporting efforts
 - d. Possible downsides
 - i. Concerns in debt collection – lenience granted to individuals without lawyers; if folks have navigators, will they lose that leniency?
 - ii. Where does the complaint go if someone is harmed by a navigator?
 - e. We need a nonprofit with enough administrative capacity to manage the application, training, and data reporting requirements
 - i. The nonprofit sector or the executive branch could manage an endeavor like this