

Supreme Court Task Force to Examine Limited Legal Licensing

Task Force Charge:

The task force is charged with (1) examining emerging strategies and programs that authorize individuals to provide specific legal assistance in areas currently restricted to licensed attorneys and (2) recommending whether such programs should be established in Utah. Specifically, the task force should:

- Thoroughly examine the Limited Licensed Legal Technician Program in the State of Washington, as well as other like programs, to determine the origin, purpose, content, requirements, cost, authorizing entity, administration, and evaluation of such programs.
- Assess whether such programs would materially improve access and affordability for select types of legal assistance, and assess the balance between increasing access and ensuring consumer protection.
- Assess where the greatest need for legal assistance exists (case type) and how such a program might best address that need (authorized services). The Washington State program, for example, is limited to out of courtroom assistance in domestic cases.
- Consider issues that would have to be addressed in the implementation, regulation, and administration of such a program, such as:
 - role definition
 - training/certification requirements
 - scope of services and practice location
 - regulatory authority
 - supervision/quality control/complaint process
 - The task force is encouraged to make use of other resources as needed, such as, paralegals, educators, and legal services and legal aid.

Timetable:

The task force should report its findings and recommendations to the Supreme Court in November of 2015. Should the task force require additional time to prepare specific recommendations, the task force's findings and agreed upon direction should be provided in an interim report to the Court in November of 2015.