

## LPP Steering Committee Meeting

### Agenda

**July 16, 2024**

4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83083038539?pwd=UHBkbERZMHU2NmXvOXlZMDBIbFFuUT09>

Committee Members	Present	Excused
Judge Amber Mettler (Chair)		
Anastasia Boyko		
Brooke Byall		
Emily Lee (Bar Staff)		
Jackie Morrison		
John Seegrist (Secretary)		
Leslie Staples		
Lindsey Brandt		
Melissa Parache		
Monte Sleight (Co-Chair)		
Scotti Hill		
Tonya Wright		

### Agenda

<b>Item 1</b>	<b>Action:</b> Welcome Recognition of quorum		Monte Sleight
<b>Item 2</b>	<b>Action:</b> Approve proposed minutes from previous meeting	Tab 1	Monte Sleight
<b>Item 3</b>	<b>Report:</b> Supreme Court conference July 18, 2024.		Monte Sleight Emily Lee
<b>Item 4</b>	<b>Report:</b> Updates from the bar		Emily Lee
<b>Item 5</b>	<b>Report:</b> Update on rural outreach and future goals		Monte Sleight
<b>Item 6</b>	<b>Report:</b> Update from LPPs		LPPs
Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Steering Committee Meeting Times for 2024 (Third Tuesday at 4 pm)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 16, 2024</li> <li>▪ February 20, 2024</li> <li>▪ March 19, 2024</li> <li>▪ April 16, 2024</li> <li>▪ May 21, 2024</li> <li>▪ June 18, 2024</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ July 16, 2024</li> <li>▪ August 20, 2024</li> <li>▪ September 17, 2024</li> <li>▪ October 15, 2024</li> <li>▪ November 19, 2024</li> <li>▪ December 17, 2024</li> </ul>	

### Tab One

## LPP Steering Committee Meeting

### Minutes

July 16, 2024

4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83083038539?pwd=UHBkbERZMHU2NmXvOXlZMDBIbFFuUT09>

### Attendance

Committee Members	Present	Excused
Judge Amber Mettler (Chair)	x	
Anastasia Boyko	x	
Brooke Byall	x	
Emily Lee (Bar Staff)		x
Jackie Morrison	x	
John Seegrist (Secretary)	x	
Leslie Staples		x
Lindsey Brandt	x	
Matthew Page	x	
Melissa Parache	x	
Monte Sleight (Co-Chair)	x	
Scotti Hill		x
Tonya Wright	x	

#### Item 1: Welcome and Recognition of Quorum

Quorum recognized and approved proposed Minutes from May 21, 2024. Motion by Leslie Staples and Tonya Wright, minutes approved as amended.

#### Item 2: Update

Emily Lee has prepared a memo for the Supreme Court, which will be shared with the committee. The Supreme Court Justices will review our recommendations in a special meeting dedicated to this topic. The meeting with the court is not open to the public.

#### Item 3: Update from LPPs on Current Casework and Projects

There needs to be more clarity on the capabilities of LPPs. Despite court-approved forms, there has been pushback on their usage. Lindsey Brandt shared a challenge she faced when an opposing attorney disputed the submission and signing of a specific form. It was required that an attorney from her firm sign the form, after which she refiled it, the proceeding continued.

It was noted that many courtroom attorneys are adversarial and treat others similarly. Some attorneys refer to LPPs in a derogatory manner as "paralegals."

LPPs, aiming to enhance access to justice, may not be prepared for such hostility and lack training to address it.

Tonya Wright reiterated concerns over discovery. Matt Page clarified that original documents included discovery and appropriate responses to requests. He suggested broadening the scope further, but Judge Mettler cautioned against this, citing potential repercussions if done incorrectly. Currently, LPPs are not required to undergo training for these responsibilities.

Training needs to clarify permissible actions in court. Some LPPs are reluctant to argue in court but find it necessary at times. Consistency in judicial expectations is crucial.

Melissa Parache expressed a desire to argue her own motions and provide necessary explanations to clients, citing an instance where she was unable to clarify a legal term for a client. If her client had been in the court pro se the court would have been more lenient and explained the term. Challenges arise when transitioning clients to attorneys when needed, especially in cases with scheduled hearings.

Judge Mettler emphasized the complexity of discovery, highlighting insufficient training for LPPs and potential negative impacts on cases if mishandled.

The committee shared examples of challenges experienced by the LPPs. Brooke Byall sought a settlement but had to respond to a complaint to meet deadlines for initial disclosures. Melissa Paracha faced difficulties obtaining necessary information despite the client's efforts to file discovery on their own.

The committee discussed additional forms to facilitate proceedings despite expected resistance from attorneys.

### **Item 3: Update from LPPs on Current Casework and Projects**

The director of special projects invited Tonya Wright to speak at the Institute for the Advancement of the Legal System Self-Represented Litigation Network. Matt Page reported that all states with LPP programs will be represented. Melissa Parache will distribute invitations to committee members.

### **Item 4: Discussion: Update on Outreach Efforts**

Monte Sleigh had no updates on outreach efforts.

### **Item 5: Discussion: Approval of Ensign College Classes**

Matt Page raised questions from an LPP candidate about accepting Ensign College

paralegal courses instead of UVU classes. Judge Mettler stated that the committee lacks authority in this decision.

Jackie Morrison inquired about allowing other schools to teach required LPP courses. Judge Mettler clarified that this committee doesn't determine compliance with rules.

**Item 6: Update from the Bar**

No report.

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:56 PM**