

**CINA Court Improvement Committee**  
**DRAFT Meeting Minutes for**  
**October 31, 2014**  
**10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**  
**Snowden Building Training Center**

**Attendance:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anita Alves	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Blankenship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Guidi
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Rindner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lola Stepetin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Metivier
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Linda Beecher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Payne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Lyford
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Albert Wall (phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Stephens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Holt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christy Lawton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Devaney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marion Hallum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Moran (phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carla Erickson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lynn Biggs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge MacDonald (phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge Jeffery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justice Stowers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Francine Eddy-Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Rieger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mechele Adams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Sweet	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Offt		

Also attending: Kelley Montgomery, Shar Wharton, Stefanie Winters, and Bob Polley

**Review Prior Meeting Minutes**

May 5, 2014 meeting minutes approved unanimously with no changes.

**Set Next Meeting Date**

Meeting set for February 13, 2015

**New Member Introduction**

- Bob introduced the following new committee members: Albert Wall - Director, Division of Behavioral Health; and Mechele Adams - foster/adoptive parent representative

**New CINA Rules 24 & 25 - Registration, Confirmation, and Enforcement of Tribal Court Child Custody (ICWA) Orders in State Court - Laura Bottger, Court Rules Attorney**

- Ms. Bottger provided a summary and review of these two new CINA Rules, which went into effect on 10/1/14. She advised that the court system is in the process of developing court forms to assist with implementation of the rules. An update regarding the forms will be provided at the next CIP meeting.

### **OCS Update - Review of Final CFSP - Christy Lawton**

- Christy reviewed the OCS Child & Family Services Plan -- discussion of key elements by committee. OCS plans to move to centralized intake process.

### **Statewide Independent Living Specialists' Meeting / Permanency Summit - Amanda Metivier (FFCA) & Shar Wharton (OCS)**

- Amanda & Shar provided a summary about these two recent events re. older youth in care and alumni. Discussion of OCS partnering with AHFC for housing vouchers and with Voc Rehab for job skills training.

### **Tribal/State Collaboration Group - Mary Johnson, Cheryl Offt, & Christy Lawton**

- Review of structure, mission, and goals of the Tribal/State Collaboration Group (T/SCG). Discussion of the Tribal Title IV-E foster care maintenance payment agreement between the state and Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC). A T/SCG update will be a standing agenda item for future CIP meetings.

### **CINA Summit concept for Bethel / Western Region - Cheryl Offt & Bob Polley**

- Group discussion of possible CIP-hosted CINA summit in Bethel/Western region -- would be an attempt to have a multi-disciplinary group come together to try to improve CINA case processing in the region. Recommendation that it not be a one-time event, but an ongoing series of meetings/gatherings. Interested volunteers for a workgroup (not just CIP committee members) should contact Bob Polley.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Youth Engagement** - Amanda & Anita advised that the Independent Living subcommittee has merged with the Youth in Court workgroup to form the Youth Engagement subcommittee. Current projects include: developing training for CINA youth attorneys; enhancing youth participation in court; and promoting a youth "Know Your Rights" campaign (including online videos).
2. **Education** - Carla provided an update regarding the CINA Core Curriculum Development and its recent "pilot" rollout of 3 additional modules on 10/22/14.
3. **Mediation** – Wendy summarized CINA mediation efforts around the state.

4. **ICWA** - Diane reviewed the subcommittee's written report. Telephonic participation remains a problematic issue. Rather than a formal CINA Rule proposal option, Bob will submit a request to the Presiding Judges asking them to consider (at their February 2015 meeting) approving a uniform, statewide PJ order re. telephonic procedures in CINA matters.
  
5. **CINA Therapeutic Court (CTC) Development** - Judge Guidi discussed the startup of CINA Therapeutic Court as a pilot project in Anchorage, including details about the intake process.

**Adjourn – 2:30 pm**