

# Tribal Court State Court Forum (TCSCF) Quarterly Meeting Summary

6/3/2022

Hybrid meeting – in person at Prairie Island Indian Community and virtually via Zoom

The purpose of the Tribal Court State Court Forum is to enhance tribal court and state court relationships, provide an opportunity to address issues arising from the courts' concurrent jurisdictions, collaborate on development and delivery of judicial education and training, recommend revisions to Minnesota's procedural rules of court, and work on issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

**Tribal Court Co-Chairs: Hon. Chris Anderson and Hon. Vanya Hogen**  
**State Court Co-Chairs: Hon. Denise Reilly and Hon. Sally Tarnowski**

## 1. Blessing and Welcome

The meeting began with a blessing from Prairie Island Indian Community Council President, Johnny Johnson and was followed by a welcome from TCSCF Co-Chair, the Honorable Chris Anderson and the Honorable BJ Jones from Prairie Island Indian Community, along with fellow Co-Chairs, the Honorable Sally Tarnowski, the Honorable Vanya Hogen, and the Honorable Denise Reilly.

Introductions were made by forum members as well as from special guests who were in attendance.

## 2. Review and Approve March 11, 2022 Meeting Summary



Meeting Summary -  
TCSCF - 3-11-22.pdf

Approved without change.

## 3. Overview of IV-E Reimbursement & Best Practice Tips for Judicial Officers

Beth Chapin, Paul Minehart, and Brian Mcgruder from the Department of Human Services presented an overview of IV-E reimbursement practice tips for tribal court and state court judicial officers.

## 4. Red Lake Nation's Approach to Child and Family Services

Judge Hogan, Judge Ringhand, and Cheri Goodwin presented on Red Lake Nation's focus on intergenerational family wellness as a framework for delivering child and family services, Gidinawemaaganinaadog: "Uplifting all of our Relatives"

## **5. Lunch presentation**

Renee Gregory, Family Services Attorney, Prairie Island Indian Community's Family Services Program presented on enforcing tribal court civil commitment orders in state court. Forum members voices support of exploring a rule change that would give full faith and credit to tribal court civil commitment orders in state court and vice versa.

## **6. Collaborative Treatment Courts**

Cecilia Bliss, State Treatment Court Coordinator and Lori Thompson, Court Administrator, White Earth Tribal Court, presented on the ways collaborations can form and what the data tells us about the effectiveness of treatment courts.

Curtis Jackson, a graduate of the Leech Lake/Cass County Wellness Court shared his story

## **7. Items tabled until the September include**

Judge Bayley will share information about the Goodhue County drug court.

Judge Reilly will lead a discussion about the challenges for tribes appearing remotely in state court juvenile protection proceedings involving ICWA.

## **8. Updates and Future Plans**

- A reminder that there is now a dedicated email address for the Tribal Court state Court Forum. [TCSCF@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:TCSCF@courts.state.mn.us)
- A reminder that Cecilia Bliss will be covering for Becca during her planned parental leave.
- The Third District has offered to host the September meeting, Cecilia will be in touch with Judge Duncan to make the arrangements.

Future topic suggestions included:

- January 25, 2022, Star Tribune article about removals in ICWA cases. The ICWA Law Center was cited in it and perhaps someone from there would be willing to come and speak with the TCSCF group about it.
- State court probation revocation issues revisited – a brainstorm of solutions. Would some supervision or other involvement by tribes during probation make a difference?
- Training proposals for judge conferences.
- Criminal jurisdiction – intersection between law enforcement and tribal sovereignty – recent MN legislation, U.S. Supreme Court's decision in U.S. vs. Cooley and other developments

that may be producing better outcomes for MN tribes and their members (recent MSBA Appellate Practice Section CLE on the topic).

- Check-in regarding TCSCF strategic priorities.

### **Closing Remarks & Adjourn**

TCSCF Tribal Court Co-Chair Judge Hogan, and Judge Jones thanked everyone for their presence and participation and shared that the co-chairs would follow-up by email with more information about the next meeting, including opportunities for further suggestions and conversation about possible agenda items.

**Meeting adjourned.**

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**Next Meeting:** 9/16/2022 – State Court Host