

# MINUTES

## Preliminary Paraprofessional Discussion

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**Meeting Date:** September 21, 2020  
**Location:** Zoom Call  
**Chair:** Sr. Judge Kirsten Thompson  
**Vice Chair:** Sr. Judge Dan Harris  
**In Attendance:** Judge Torres, Sue Gerhardt, Linda Odermott, Helen Hirschbiel (staff), Susan Grabe (staff), Matt Shields (staff), Kellie Baumann (staff).

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### ACTION ITEMS

No action items

### INFORMATION ITEMS

#### Introductions:

Existing group members introduced themselves and provided information about their backgrounds and interest in the topic.

#### Discussion about the work of the potential group:

- Discussion of the cost of running a paraprofessional program. Some information regarding costs in Washington is available, but may or may not be applicable to Oregon because of differences in how Oregon's program may operate.
- Review of the makeup of the committee: 3 judges, 2 paralegals, 2 landlord/tenant, 2 family law, 1 new lawyer, 2 public members. A question was raised regarding whether 1 new lawyer member was enough. The group felt that this was adequate given the desire to not let the group get too big.
- Discussion regarding additional individuals who could be invited to participate either on the Implementation Committee or on the Advisory Committee.
- Discussion of the role of the Advisory Committee. Members won't be voting. They may be asked to present information or ideas to the Implementation Committee sometimes.

#### Next steps:

- Next meeting is scheduled for 10/12 at 12:30pm via Zoom.