

MINUTES

Paraprofessional Licensing Implementation Committee

Meeting Date:	November 9, 2020
Location:	Zoom Call
Chair:	Sr. Judge Kirsten Thompson
Vice Chair:	Sr. Judge Dan Harris
Committee Attendance:	Sue Gerhardt, Linda Odermott, Jon Dennis, Brian Cox, Robin Wright, Ralph Gzik
Advisory Group:	Katherine Denning, Nik Chourey, Danny Lang, Leslie Harris, Terry Wright, Grant Stockton, Jason Specht, Susan Harris, Jered Brown, Aubrey Baldwin, Crystal Sullivan
Staff present:	Helen Hierschbiel (staff), Susan Grabe (staff), Matt Shields (staff), Kellie Baumann (staff)

ACTION ITEMS

Meeting notes for 10/26 meetings approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Introductions:

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

Discussion of Committee Charges:

- Judge Thompson led a discussion of the workgroup charges, process and timelines.

State of Washington:

- The committee reviewed the ABA article on Paraprofessionals in the agenda materials and discussed what worked and didn't work in Washington State, including the bureaucracy and fee structure.

Discussion of the role of Workgroups

- Committee members discussed the following issues:
- The Washington license and application fee structure. The cost and program structure created an obstacle for those who wanted to participate, especially since they were not eligible for student loans. The license fee and structure would be an operational determination for the board of governors to make.

- Scope of Practice Rules. Where the specific rules relating to scope of practice should reside and determined they would reside in the regulation workgroup.
- Malpractice insurance. This will likely be a question to explore with the PLF regarding feasibility of coverage for this type of activity.
- Interface between membership in the bar and oversight of paralegals.
- Scope of License. The Implementation Committee will need to have a broader conversation about the scope of licensure.
- Futures Task Force set out a good framework to follow which can be revisited once the Workgroups have fleshed out their recommendations.

Future meetings:

- November 23 will be a 2 hour workgroup meeting
- December 14th will be a one hour full committee meeting.
- January 11th will be a 2 hour workgroup meeting.
- January 25th will be a 2 hour workgroup meeting
- Possibly February 8th for a full committee meeting.

10/26 Meeting Notes. The 10/26 meeting notes were adopted.

Next steps:

Next meeting is scheduled for 12/14 at 12:00 pm via Zoom.