

Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Committee shall examine the range of civil and criminal dispute resolution processes, utilized in other jurisdictions, convene alternative dispute resolution program administrators for the purpose of facilitating informational exchanges to promote program efficacy, and monitor the progress of all court-sponsored alternative dispute resolution programs.

General Charge:

The Committee shall examine the range of civil and criminal dispute resolution processes utilized in other jurisdictions and make recommendations regarding programs and various types of dispute resolution techniques suitable for adoption in Illinois, including methods for ongoing evaluation. The Committee shall develop recommendations for implementing and administering dispute resolution programs that remain affordable, appropriate, and provide an efficient alternative to protracted litigation. The Committee shall monitor and assess on a continuous basis the performance of circuit court dispute resolution programs approved by the Supreme Court and make regular reports regarding their operations. The Committee shall develop uniform reporting requirements for circuit courts in the collection and monitoring of statistical information for alternative dispute resolution cases. The Committee will also examine and develop training programs in ADR techniques and practices to promote consistency in ADR services. The Committee shall also explore the feasibility of expanding ADR into other courts.

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Automation and Technology Committee

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Automation and Technology Committee shall provide consultation, guidance, and recommendations regarding standards, policies and procedures relating to the use of technology and automation within the judicial branch.

General Charge:

The Committee shall develop general guidelines which promote the effective and efficient use of technology and automation in the trial courts including recommendations for statewide standards, protocols, or procedures. The Committee shall analyze and develop recommendations related to rules and statutory changes that will manage the use of technology within the courts. The Committee's work also includes the review and evaluation of technology applications and their impact on the operation and workflow of the court. The Committee will also research and recommend response protocols to resolve security issues which may affect the use of technology.

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Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

To advise the Judicial Conference in matters affecting criminal law and procedures and the administration of probation services.

General Charge:

The Committee shall review and make recommendations on matters affecting the administration of criminal law and shall monitor, evaluate and provide recommendations on issues affecting the probation system. The Committee will review, analyze and examine new issues arising out of legislation and case law that impact criminal law and procedures and probation resources and operations.

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None

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Committee on Discovery Procedures

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Committee on Discovery Procedures shall review and assess discovery devices used in Illinois, with the goal of making recommendations to expedite discovery and to eliminate any abuses of the discovery process.

General Charge:

The Committee shall study and make recommendations on the discovery devices used in Illinois including, but not limited to, depositions, interrogatories, requests for production of documents or tangible things or inspection of real property, disclosures of expert witnesses, and requests for admission. The Committee shall investigate and make recommendations on innovative means of expediting pretrial discovery and ending any abuses of the discovery process so as to promote early settlement discussions and to encourage civility among attorneys. The Committee will also review and make recommendations on proposals concerning discovery matters submitted by the Supreme Court Rules Committee, other Committees or other sources.

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Committee on Education

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Committee shall identify education needs for the Illinois judiciary and develop short and long term plans to address these needs.

General Charge:

The Committee shall develop and recommend a “core” judicial education curriculum for Illinois judges which identifies the key judicial education topics and issues to be addressed through the judicial education activities each Conference year. This will include identifying emerging legal, sociological, cultural, and technical issues that may impact decision making and court administration by Illinois judges. Based on the core curriculum, the Committee shall recommend and develop programs for new and experienced Illinois Judges. To do so, the Committee shall recommend topics and faculty for the annual New Judge Seminar and Seminar Series, and, in alternate years, the Education Conference and the Advanced Judicial Academy. The Committee will also assess the judicial education needs, expectations and program participation of Illinois judges. The Committee shall also review and recommend judicial education programs, offered by organizations and entities other than the Supreme Court, to be approved for the award of continuing judicial education credits.

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Study Committee on Complex Litigation

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Study Committee shall make recommendations, through proposed rules or other procedures, to reduce the cost and delay attendant to lengthy civil and criminal trials with multiple parties or issues. The Committee shall provide yearly updates to its Manual for Complex Litigation (Civil and Criminal).

General Charge:

The Committee shall prepare revisions, updates, and new topics as necessary, for the Manual for Complex Litigation, including the maintenance of forms accurate to the Manual Appendix. Additionally, the Committee will study and make recommendations regarding the development of a forum for judges to disseminate information regarding practices and procedures that have successfully brought complex cases to fair and prompt disposition. The Committee shall study and make recommendations regarding the management of multiple overlapping litigation and other problems commonly associated with complex litigation.

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Study Committee on Juvenile Justice

CONFERENCE YEAR 2007

Statement of Purpose:

The Study Committee on Juvenile Justice shall review and assess practices related to the processing of juvenile delinquency, abuse, neglect, and dependency cases. The Committee shall provide judges with current developments in the processing of juvenile court cases through up-dating and distributing the juvenile law benchbook (Volumes I and II).

General Charge:

The Committee shall study and make recommendations on the processing of juvenile delinquency, abuse, neglect, and dependency cases; prepare supplemental updates to the juvenile law benchbooks for distribution to judges reviewing such proceedings brought in juvenile court; and, make recommendations regarding training for juvenile court judges on emerging issues of juvenile law identified during the course of the Committee's work on the benchbook or during Committee meetings.

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