



TRIBAL COURT–STATE COURT FORUM

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

April 11, 2024
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.
Virtual

Advisory Body Members Present: Hon. Abby Abinanti, Cochair, Hon. Joyce Hinrichs, Cochair, Hon. Richard Blake, Hon. Leonard Edwards (Ret.), Hon. Ana España, Hon. Tara Flanagan, Mr. Christopher Haug, Hon. Winston Keh, Hon. Lawrence King, Hon. Patricia Lenzi, Hon. Kristina Lindquist, Hon. Devon Lomayesva, Ms. Merri Lopez-Keifer, Hon. Nicholas Mazanec, Hon. Dorothy McLaughlin, Ms. Andrea Pella, Hon. Stephen Place, Hon. Mark Ralphs, Hon. Victorio Shaw, Hon. Alison Tucher, Hon. Christine Williams, Hon. Joseph Wiseman

Advisory Body Members Absent: Hon. April Attebury, Hon. Joni Hiramoto, Hon. April Olson, Ms. Christina Snider, Hon. Dean Stout

Others Present: Ms. Audrey Fancy, Ms. Ann Gilmour, Hon. Yvette Ayala Henderson, Ms. Jessica Henderson, Ms. Tracy Kenny, Ms. Christy Simmons, Hon. Eric Smith

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the December 14, 2023, Tribal Court–State Court Forum meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1–3)

Item 1

Cochair Report

Presenters: Hon. Abby Abinanti, Chief Judge of the Yurok Tribal Court, Cochair of the California Tribal Court–State Court Forum, Hon. Joyce D. Hinrichs, Judge of the Superior Court of California, Court of Humboldt, Cochair of the California Tribal Court–State Court Forum.

Judge Abby Abinanti notified committee members of new developments in relation to a study of Public Law 280 which involves the criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country.

Judge Joyce Hinrichs informed the Forum of the upcoming Cow County Institute on June 26-28, 2024 and invited members to provide input on what they think attendees should learn about tribal issues.

Ms. Ann Gilmour noted that the Forum annual agenda for 2024 had been approved by the Executive and Planning Committee and was included in the meeting materials. She also noted that the proposal for recognition and enforcement of tribal court child custody orders is currently out for public comment.

Item 2

State of Alaska Model

Presenter: Hon. Eric Smith (Ret.), Alaska Superior Court

Judge Eric Smith presented to committee members several practices in Alaska related to cross-jurisdictional collaboration in criminal justice cases. Judge Smith also discussed his experience with the use of sentencing circles and sentencing recommendations from tribes.

Judge Abby Abinanti suggested that a training on this subject, and perhaps a pilot project, be created to see if this model can be duplicated in California.

Item 3

PL-280 Study

Due to time constraints, this item was not discussed.

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further open meeting business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

C L O S E D S E S S I O N

Item 1

Legislative Update

Adjourned closed session at 1:23 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on enter date.