

**Georgia Commission on Child Support
Technology and Calculator Committee
Meeting Minutes: January 12, 2016**

Members Present:

Ms. Wendy Williamson, (via teleconference)
Mr. Ryan Bradley, (via teleconference)
Judge Warren Davis, (via teleconference)
Mr. Scott Harlan, (via teleconference)
Ms. Deborah Johnson (via teleconference)
Judge Louisa Abbot, (via teleconference)

Staff and Guests Present:

Ms. Patricia Buonodono, staff attorney
Ms. Elaine Johnson, staff
Mr. Bruce Shaw, staff
Mr. Stephen Harris, Associate General Counsel, Georgia Department of Human Services
Elizabeth Davenport, Atlanta Legal Aid
Anne Gray Herring, Atlanta Legal Aid
Lori Anderson, Atlanta Legal Aid

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Review/Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – 06/04/15

Judge Warren Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 4, 2015 meeting. Judge Abbot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- III. Old Business
 - a. Update on web-based calculator

Elaine Johnson updated the Committee on work being done on the online child support calculator development. Between June and October a focus group was assembled consisting of many types of users including judicial staff, law clerks, attorneys, mediators, and pro se litigants. The goal was to improve functionality and the intuitive nature of the end product. Pat Buonodono asked the committee if a letter or certificate would appropriate to be sent for participants in the focus group and testers as a token of appreciation. Committee members agreed that this would be a great idea insofar that no monetary value was awarded.

- (1) Gender neutrality

Elaine Johnson stated that since the Supreme Court ruling in Obergefell v. Hodges a committee was established to explore potentially making the calculator gender neutral. A strategy was worked out in the Committee's meeting to alphabetize starting with the first name of the parents. In the rare case that names

are identical it will be up to the court to assign a method to identify each parent. Now the online calculator will sort the names alphabetically and assign them to columns consistently throughout the worksheet.

(2) Security

Elaine Johnson went on to say servers have been set up to host the calculator at the Administrative Office of the Courts in both the test and production environment. Security measures are currently being placed in the site and servers for an audit to take place in the near future.

b. Schedule for web-based calculator

Elaine Johnson stated that she expects the new calculator to deploy in the middle of February.

IV. New Business

a. Excel calculators

Pat Buonodono stated that since the social security and Medicare remained the same that no changes were necessary for the Excel calculator. Gender neutral language for the Excel calculators will be delayed until after the release of the web calculator.

b. Updated calculator training(s)

Pat Buonodono stated that the Commission staff will be at the Superior Court Judges Conference in Athens on January 19 and 20 as well as in Savannah for a training on January 22, 2016.

V. Close of meeting and scheduling of next meeting

The next meeting will be held Friday March 4, 2016 at 2:00 pm.