

**Georgia Commission on Child Support
Low-Income Deviation Work Group
Tuesday, September 21, 2021**

Meeting Summary

The Low-Income Deviation Work Group (“Work Group”) of the Georgia Commission on Child Support held this meeting via videoconferencing using Zoom. Elaine Johnson, Executive Program Manager for the Commission, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Eight Work Group members as well as the six guests attended this open meeting. Staff Attorney, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, and Program Coordinator, Latoinna Lawrence, also served as staff for the meeting. Work Group members in attendance were:

Audrey Bergeson	Erica Thornton
Byron Cuthbert	Sabrina Rivers
Deborah Johnson	Jamie Rush
Kenneth Sleets	Liz Schriber

Staff attorney, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, confirmed that a quorum of 7 of the 12 Work Group members was present. Work Group member, Jamie Rush, moved to approve the minutes of the Work Group meetings held on 8/10/2021 and 8/27/2021. Work Group member, Sabrina Rivers, seconded that motion. A voice vote was held and that motion passed unanimously with no abstentions. Deborah Johnson joined the call after the vote on the motion to approve minutes was held.

Work Group member, Liz Schriber, shared her screen and made a presentation explaining her idea that a tool should be added to the calculator to allow people to go step by step to determine whether they should request a low-income deviation.

Work Group member, Ryan Bradley, was slated to make a presentation, but he is on sick leave.

Elaine Johnson asked whether anyone had any ideas to improve the instructions about the low-income deviation in the calculator. No ideas were offered.

Deborah Johnson suggested enhancing the child support calculator with something like the self-employment calculator that elicits information that could then be considered by the court when determining whether to apply the low-income deviation. Ms. Johnson stated that litigants know that they are struggling financially, but do not know what to do about it. She agreed to make a presentation about her idea at the next meeting.

Audrey Bergeson suggested adding a pop-up box at the non-specific deviation asking the party whether the deviation was being request for low-income reasons.

Elaine Johnson noted that Ryan Bradley and Deborah Johnson would present their ideas at the next Work Group meeting which will be on 10/19/2021 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.