

**Georgia Child Support Commission
Technology and Calculator Subcommittee
Regina Quick, Esq., Chair
Friday, October 18, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

The Technology and Calculator Subcommittee of the Georgia Child Support Commission held a hybrid meeting on October 18, 2024, taking place at the State Bar of Georgia in Atlanta and via Zoom Webinar. Four (4) Subcommittee members attended. The Subcommittee members in attendance were:

Regina Quick Esq., Chair
Jacqueline Fortier

Anna G. Bolden, Esq.

Judge Warren Davis

Program Manager, Kurt Bryan, and Staff Attorney, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, served as staff for this meeting. Several members of the public also attended this open meeting via Zoom.

Chair Quick opened the meeting at approximately 2:00 p.m., welcoming everyone in attendance. Introductions were made of those attending online. The previous Technology and Calculator Subcommittee meeting was held June 12, 2024.

Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez stated that a quorum was reached, as four of the five Subcommittee members were present. Chair Quick noted that minutes from the June 12, 2024, Subcommittee meeting had been previously distributed to all members. No corrections to those minutes were requested and they were unanimously approved.

Kurt Bryan provided an update regarding the implementation of Senate Bill 454. Two scheduled changes took place at midnight on July 1, 2024, which were the updating of the basic child support obligation table and implementation of the Veteran's Affairs benefits credit. Staff has updated the training materials to address these changes and provided special training for many stakeholders, including DCSS, the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution, the Georgia Association of Black Women Lawyers Family Law Section, and Superior Court staff attorneys. In addition, the calculator enhancements previously approved by the Commission including changes to Schedule B to add clarity to the instructions when adding a pre-existing order to the worksheet, and the addition of Juvenile Court case styling, were also successfully implemented on July 1, 2024.

As to new business, Kurt Bryan provided an update on the calculator modernization project. The deployment is set for late 2024. The AOC IT department is currently testing modules from the vendor and sharing the details with staff. Technical testing should end by the end of October 2024, then Commission staff will test for functionality in November. By late November, staff will send the new calculator out to a small set of stakeholders, including this Subcommittee, for testing. A question was asked by a guest if the new calculator would account for parenting days and include an input for such. Kurt clarified that until January 1, 2026, the

current child support calculator will not include a tool to count parenting days, nor the parenting time adjustment. Once the new calculator launches, staff will start working on the implementation of the parenting time adjustment, to be found on Schedule C in the child support calculator per Senate Bill 454.

Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez spoke on the parenting time formula tool. Jacqueline Fortier suggested posting the parenting time formula tool on the calculator login page. Kurt Bryan advised this can and will be done. There were discussions about the need for clearer and affirmative encouragement from the Commission for the use of the parenting time formula tool. Chair Quick suggested sending out an additional email blast to stakeholders in December to include a link to the tool and the informational video created by Judge Williford and Katie Connell. Chair Quick also discussed making a recording of the upcoming ADR Institute training that will be presented by staff on November 21, 2024. As for the anticipated parenting time *calendar* tool, discussion revolved around the importance of such a tool and the need for more training and education. A family law attorney, Russell Taylor, offered his web-based parenting time calculator for consideration. Chair Quick directed staff to distribute several parenting time calendar tool options to the Subcommittee, and ultimately for the Commission, to review.

Katie Connell, Kurt Bryan, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, and Chair Quick held an in-depth conversation about child support calculator enhancements. The question of whether findings of fact on Schedule E in the calculator should be a required field was discussed. A consensus was reached that the findings of fact should remain a required field. Katie suggested working on a design change that includes auto populating the calculator field for uninsured healthcare expenses. The pros and cons of this were discussed by the Subcommittee, and it was noted that while the field could default to using the pro rata shares, the field would need to remain editable for users. Staff will work with Chair Quick on updating language for the calculator that would include this suggested change and send the proposal to the Subcommittee for an e-vote on whether to introduce this change to the full Commission at a later date. Regina noted that the calculator would need to include statutory language explaining that the parties may deviate from the pro rata shares amount.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.