

**Georgia Child Support Commission**  
**Statute Review Subcommittee**  
**Kathleen Connell, Esq., Co-Chair**  
**Hon. Connie Williford, Co-Chair**  
**Friday, April 21, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Summary**

The Statute Review Subcommittee (“Subcommittee”) of the Georgia Child Support Commission (“Commission”) held this meeting via Zoom Webinar. Eight (8) Subcommittee members attended the meeting. The Subcommittee members in attendance were:

Kathleen “Katie” Connell, Esq.	Hon. Connie Williford	Mara Block, Esq.
Pat Buonodono, Esq.	Hon. Lisa Colbert	Byron Cuthbert, Esq.
Jason Naunas, Esq.	Christina Scott, J.D.	

Executive Program Manager, Elaine Johnson, Staff Attorney, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, and Program Coordinator, Latoinna Lawrence, served as staff for this meeting. Several members of the public also attended this open meeting.

Co-Chair Judge Connie Williford opened the meeting, requested to start with the presentation on parenting time from Dr. Jane Venohr, suggested to allow that presentation to proceed for as long as needed, and suggested rolling over all other agenda items not discussed to a future meeting. Staff member Latoinna Lawrence did not review the Zoom rules for this meeting due to general awareness of procedural rules from prior meetings and time constraints.

A quorum of eight (8) Subcommittee members was confirmed. Co-Chair Katie Connell noted that the minutes of the Subcommittee’s February 24, 2023, meeting were previously distributed. No edits to those minutes were requested. Subcommittee member Pat Buonodono moved to approve those minutes, Subcommittee member Mara Block seconded that motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Dr. Jane Venohr of the Center for Policy Research, Inc. in Denver, Colorado started her presentation on accounting for parenting time when calculating child support with a review of the deliverables required of her by her contract. In doing so, she noted several things, including: Arizona and Kentucky use a method similar to Georgia’s suggested, but never legislatively-adopted, “Schedule C” and that method is the “simplest;” many states require “court-ordered” parenting time before any adjustment/deviation is allowed; she believes Georgia needs a formula for both Parenting Time and the Low Income Deviation to foster consistency and predictability; there are pros and cons to accounting for parenting time through an “adjustment” as opposed to a “deviation” and she will review all of those; she wants to discuss further Georgia’s statutory terminology of “Custodial Parent” and “Noncustodial Parent” noting that there is no perfect terminology and will offer ideas from other states; most states neighboring Georgia use the cross-credit method to account for parenting time; determining a parenting time deviation amount by netting out the final child support amount (“Line 13” of Georgia’s child support worksheet) is “egregiously” inappropriate; she wouldn’t suggest netting out the parents’ BCSO amounts either, but that would be less egregious than netting out the parents’ final child support amounts.

Next, Dr. Venohr spoke at length from a document that she had prepared for this meeting. That document will be available on the Child Support Commission's website under "Business of the Commission."

There was no new business noted.

The Subcommittee's upcoming meetings will all be via Zoom at the following dates/times:

- May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
- July 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m.
- August 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.
- September 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

This meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.