

Arizona Commission on Access to Justice
SRL-LJC Workgroup
NOTES
August 10, 2017
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Present: Judge Anna Huberman (chair), Mike Baumstark, Pamela Bridge
Telephonic: Judge Janet Barton, Judge Thomas Berning, Millie Cisneros, Paul Julien
Guest: Scott Davis (Maricopa County Justice Courts)
AOC Staff: Theresa Barrett, Julie Graber

Matters considered:

1. Welcome and opening remarks

The August 10, 2017, meeting of the SRL-LJC Workgroup was called to order by Judge Anna Huberman, Chair, at 2:02 p.m.

2. Status of Rule Petitions

• **R-16-0040 – Rule Petition regarding Mandatory Eviction Forms**

The workgroup considered several options on how to move forward considering the legislation passed prohibiting mandatory forms in eviction actions, including doing nothing, arguing for a separation of powers, excluding the notices and focusing on the complaint, summons, and judgment pleadings, and asking the Supreme Court to approve the forms and notices as discretionary. Discussion ensued and the workgroup agreed to proceed with posting the notices and pleadings as recommended forms on the eviction page on the Judicial Branch website, tracking the number of webpage hits and form downloads, and reporting back to the Supreme Court on whether the recommended forms provide added value to users.

- Pamela Bridge volunteered to draft language to include in the rule.

• **R-17-0020 – Rule Petition regarding Stipulated Judgments in Eviction Actions**

Staff reported that the Reply was filed on July 7, 2017, and the rule petition will be considered by the Supreme Court at its August Rules Agenda.

3. Eviction-Related Projects

• Enhance eviction webpages into subject matter pages in both English and Spanish

Staff redesigned the Judicial Branch's eviction page into a subject matter page with tiles linking to Legal Info Sheets, forms, resources, authorities, fee waiver and deferral forms, and the Spanish page (Acción de Desalojo). The workgroup considered whether to include additional forms and instructions from Mohave County Justice Court to the English page since these forms are already posted on the Spanish page. Further discussion is needed.

• Review and revise Legal Info Sheets: Eviction Actions

Staff presented the newly branded Legal Info Sheets to the workgroup, which use images to improve readability based on the content provided by CLS's informational documents. The workgroup liked the use of images to enhance the content in both the print and webpage versions. The documents will be translated into Spanish once they have been reviewed and approved by the workgroup.

- Judge Huberman volunteered to share the Legal Info Sheets with the Arizona Landlord Tenant Attorneys Association to obtain additional feedback.
- Review Judge Huberman's eviction script
Judge Huberman reviewed a script that she drafted that could be used in an eviction video. The workgroup agreed that eviction videos would provide an added value for users and should meet the following requirements:
 - focus on specific questions
 - have a neutral message
 - be short
 - be understandable for the audience
 - easily updatable
 - easy to translate

Since members reported ongoing efforts developing videos, staff will distribute an inventory of the proposed eviction video production list that identifies topics and sets priorities to avoid duplicating efforts between groups. The production list combines information from a previous sub workgroup's informational documents, draft scripts, as well as information from Maricopa County Justice Courts' website.

- Judge Huberman will share a power point presentation that she uses as part of an eviction class.
 - Pam Bridge reported that CLS has law students available who could assist.
 - Paul Julien volunteered to help.
 - Scott Davis, Public Information Officer from Maricopa County Justice Courts, reported that a new workgroup has been created that will be developing videos.
- Review informational documents regarding evictions
The workgroup discussed repurposing the content of the informational documents in the eviction videos.

4. Discuss next Access to Justice meeting report

Next steps:

The next workgroup meeting will be in October. A Doodle request will be sent to workgroup members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Next SRL-LJC Meeting: TBD