

Child Support Guidelines Committee

Date: 3/24/2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.

Meeting location:

Kansas Judicial Center

Attendees:	Y	N		Y	N
Hon. Keven O’Grady, chair	X		Marc White	X	
Hon. Constance Alvey	X		Richard Samaniego	X	
Hon. Eric Godderz	X		Ryan Brady		X
Charlie Harris	X		Sara Beezley	X	
Sherri Loveland	X		Marcie Martinez	X	
Doni Mooberry	X		Susan Mayer	X	
Michelle Slinkard	X		OJA Staff:		
			Amy Raymond	X	

Minutes

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| 1 | Welcome |
| 2 | <p>Approve Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February meeting minutes approved |
| 3 | <p>Economist report – Guest – Dr. Jodi Pelkowski</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In preparing her report she followed the approach used in previous versions of the KSGL as developed by Dr. William Terrell She noted that 41 states use the income shares approach but different approaches are used In her proposed tables she carried over the Dissolution Burden previously used. She pointed out that she used a revised Dissolution Burden on the revised tables. She noted that Marc Lino had not updated his economic calculations since 2015 but is anticipated to do so in the next year. She indicated she had based her calculations on the 2020-2021 National Expense Survey She does not recommend going to two age categories on the tables. She presented a table that compares the 2019 table amounts for 1,2,3 child households, with child support amounts for Kansas without adjustments and with adjustments, with several other states. Her conclusion was that as a policy matter the committee might want to use the revised chart so that the increase in the child support amounts is not such a big percentage jump. She indicated that in making her revised table she did not feel limited to keep the increases below 10% She indicated that as compared to other states the KSGL tables almost always are higher than the surrounding states. For the April meeting, she will prepare a set of tables the incorporates the Betzen formula which she indicated would probably yield results that are lower than the Kansas amounts without adjustments and the amounts shown on her revised table amounts. She indicated that she would recommend increasing the cap of the tables to \$17500 or \$18000 combined gross monthly income. She indicated that she selected those amounts as being about halfway above the current cap and \$20000. She indicated that the extended formula calculations shown on the tables will be revised on the final tables. She was asked to determine what percentage of Kansas couples have a combined monthly income in excess of \$18,000 combined monthly gross income which she will provide at the April meeting |

Minutes

- In response to Judge K. O’Grady, she confirmed that the committee had previously tweaked downward the amount shown on the tables to keep us below or close to 10% increase as a policy decision, she did not feel that we were compounding or doubling the previous downward revision if we use the revised tables she has presented.
- S. Loveland expressed concern that the 10% rule should not be a fixed limit. She advocated for a more flexible approach. C.Harris expressed concern that raising the percentage would punish the custodial parent by making it harder to get into court and any vague formula would result in increased litigation. Dr. Pelkowski indicated that in making her revised calculation table, she did not feel limited by the 10% rule.
- She presented a slightly revised version of C. Harris’s revision of the Cost of Living Differential appendix. Because members had not had a chance to review her revisions, the matter was passed the April meeting.
- She pointed out that the reason the percentage of increase varies on each table and between tables is because of different spending patterns between ages and differences in spending patterns

4 Review Section II

- Move to April meeting due to time

5 Review Section III

- Move to April meeting due to time

6 Review Section IV

- Move to April meeting due to time

7 Other items for discussion

- The committee discussed C. Harris’s revised version of the percentage of bonus formula language. While the committee generally approved the concept, a number had concerns about payments being direct and not thru the KPC. Dr. Pelkowski indicated she thought the percentage of bonus approach is appropriate without commenting on the mechanics. C. Harris will make further revisions and submit for discussion at the April meeting.
- S. Loveland presented a revised version of the Direct Expense definition section. After discussion, the committee requested that A. Raymond revise the language to incorporate the list of direct expenses from the shared expense plan. There also discussion of removing “shall” and insert “generally” or just leave out a term. A. Raymond will make the revisions and it will be discussed at the April meeting.
- M. Slinkard and S.Loveland raised the problem with the EPT which can result in a \$0 or less than \$0 child support obligation for a person with a high income but whose income is less than the other parent. After discussion, it was requested that Dr. Pelkowski see if she can come with a solution to the problem. The consensus of the committee was that they had not intended a 0 or less than 0 result when the EPT was originally adopted.
- The April meeting will be at the Judicial Center in Topeka and will start at 9:30 am and continue into the afternoon so that the committee may remain on schedule.

Next Meeting**Date:** 4/28/2023**Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**Meeting location:** Kansas Judicial Center