

**CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES
CONFERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS**

Resolution 7

To Commend the Members and Staff of the Conference of Chief Justices Civil Justice Improvements Committee for Their Work to Produce Recommendations to Improve Civil Justice in State Courts as Set Forth in the “Call to Action: Achieving Civil Justice for All”

WHEREAS, civil litigation in the United States is a matter of high importance to protect access to justice, public trust and confidence, and the constitutional role of the courts; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 the Conference of Chief Justices adopted Resolution 5, to establish a Civil Justice Improvements Committee charged with: (1) developing guidelines and best practices for civil litigation based upon evidence derived from state pilot projects and from applicable research, implemented rule changes, and stakeholder input; and (2) making recommendations as necessary in the area of case flow management for the purpose of improving the civil justice system in the state courts; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Justice Improvements Committee, after two years of intensive deliberations, made principled and practical recommendations to restore faith in the civil justice system by reducing cost and enhancing its fairness and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators adopted Resolution 8 (2016) to: (1) strongly endorse the Recommendations of the Civil Justice Improvements Committee as set out in the “Call to Action: Achieving Civil Justice for All”; (2) encourage their members to consider the “Call to Action: Achieving Civil Justice for All” as a worthy guide for their own state endeavors to improve the delivery of civil justice for all; and (3) encourage each state to develop and implement a civil justice improvements plan to improve the delivery of civil justice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators express their thanks, gratitude, and admiration for the careful and thorough work of the Civil Justice Improvements Committee members and staff, whose names are listed in the attachment, to fulfill its charge pursuant to Resolution 5 establishing the Civil Justice Improvements Committee.

Adopted as proposed by the CCJ Civil Justice Improvements Committee at the CCJ/COSCA Annual Meeting on July 27, 2016.

CCJ Civil Justice Improvements Committee & Staff

Hon. Thomas A. Balmer, Chair
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Oregon

Hon. Jerome Abrams
District Court Judge, Dakota County, Minnesota

Thomas Y. Allman
*Executive Vice President & General Counsel
(Ret.)
BASF Corporation*

Hon. Jennifer D. Bailey
*Administrative Judge, Circuit Civil Division
11th Judicial Circuit of Florida*

Daniel J. Becker
*State Court Administrator
Utah Administrative Office of the Courts*

Kim Brunner
*EVP & General Counsel (Retired)
State Farm Insurance Companies*

Colin F. Campbell
Attorney-Osborn Maledon

Sherri R. Carter
*Court Executive Officer/Clerk
Superior Court of California, Los Angeles
County*

David E. Christensen
Attorney-Christensen Law

Michael V. Ciresi
Attorney-Ciresi & Conlin, LLP

Thomas M. Falahee
Asst. General Counsel, Ford Motor Company

Hon. Daryl L. Hecht
Justice, Supreme Court of Iowa

Hon. Nathan L. Hecht
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Texas

Hon. Steven M. Houran
*Superior Court Judge, Strafford County, New
Hampshire*

Wallace B. Jefferson
*Attorney-Alexander. Debose, Jefferson &
Townsend*

Hon. Eileen A. Kato
District Court Judge, King County, Washington

David G. Leitch
Global General Counsel, Bank of America

Hannah Lieberman
*Executive Director, Neighborhood Legal
Services Program*

Donna M. Melby
Attorney-Paul Hastings, LLP

Tommy D. Preston, Jr.
*Director, National Strategy & Engagement,
Boeing*

Hon. Chase T. Rogers
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Connecticut

Professor Linda Sandstrom Simard
Suffolk University Law School

Todd A. Smith
Attorney-Powers, Rogers, and Smith, PC

Larry D. Thompson
Attorney-LD Thompson Law Group

Ex-Officio

Mary McQueen
President, National Center for State Courts

Rebecca Love Kourlis
*Executive Director, Institute for the
Advancement of the American Legal System
(IAALS)*

Federal Courts Liaison

Hon. Richard W. Story
Judge, United State District Court, N.D. Georgia

ABA TIPS Section Liaison

Robert S. Peck
President, Center for Constitutional Litigation

Staff

Hon. Gregory E. Mize, Reporter
Judicial Fellow, NCSC

Paula Hannaford-Agor
Director, Center for Jury Studies, NCSC

Scott E. Graves
Court Research Assistant, NCSC

Shelley Spacek Miller
Research Analyst, NCSC

Corina Gerety
Director of Research, IAALS

Brittany Kaufman
Director, Rule One Initiative, IAALS