

**ATJ Commission Meeting**  
**September 22, 2023**  
**ATJ In-Person (with video appearance option)**

**Location: New Mexico State Bar, 5121 Masthead St. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109**

**12:00 – 2:30 pm**

**\*\*Video attendees should plan on joining the meeting at 12:30 p.m.\*\***

*In attendance:*

Twila Hoon Witz (AOC), Hon. Erin O’Connell (ATJ Co-Chair), Ernestina Cruz (ATJ Co-Chair), Aaron Holloman (AOC), Bella Zayani (NMLA), Beth Wojahn (AOC), Bette Fleishman (Pegasus Law), Caitlin Carcerano (SBNM), Cheryl Thompson (Metro Court), Dan Henry, DeAnne Romero (2<sup>nd</sup> JDC), Deian McBryde, Gary Housepian, Gary Vanlandingham, George Chandler, John Greacen, Juan Abeyta, Kasey Daniels (MMH), Kelly Sanchez, Kip Bobroff (Pueblo of Laguna), Lisa Giandomenico (2<sup>nd</sup> JDC), Mary Smith (CLS Commissioner), Hon. Mercedes Murphy (Chief Judge 7<sup>th</sup> JDC), Hon. Michael Aragon (4<sup>th</sup> JDC), Michael McGuire (Senior Citizen’s Law Office), Morgan Pettit, Natalie Meyers (State Bar), Peggy Cadwell (AOC), Ramon Maestas, Rebecca “Becky” O’Gawa (NMLA), Rudy Sanchez (DNA), Sarita Nair (DWS), Savanna Duran (USBC), Scott Cameron, Sireesha Manne (NM Center on Law and Poverty), Sonya Bellafant (NMLA), Tesha Henderson (AOC), Therese Yana (NADLC), Torri Jacobus (AOC), Hon. Zach Ives (COA), Verily Jones, and Winter Torres.

*Item 2: Minutes Approved from June 16, 2023*

- Zach Ives moved to approve minutes, and minutes were seconded. No objections. The minutes are approved.

*Item 3: Tulip Tree Final Report (Dan Henry and Gary Vanlandingham)*

- Dan and Gary prepared a final report and presented their report feasibility study for New Mexico's developing and enhanced legal assistance portal. Tulip Tree came to NM and interviewed twenty-five (25) stakeholders about the various ways that legal information/assistance has been provided to people over the years. Some key findings are that NM currently faces substantial access to justice barriers. Money is a big limitation of the portal, including staffing. Due to the size of NM, many lack access to technology, so the portal will need some assistance with individuals navigating the portal. The portal is a good idea, but it will need support to set up a development process. Stakeholders must be engaged in the process and continually meet, including marketing development and creating software for the portal. Another critical point will be the support, budget, annual operating costs, and getting staff to maintain and keep the portal current, and where to house the portal.

*Item 4: ATJ Subcommittees Reports*

- Juan Abeyta with the Communications Integration workgroup about the survey results from the State Librarians. A State Librarians conference will be held in November and Juan will be a presenter. Juan will take some ATJ literature to the conference to share with state librarians.

*Item 5: Other Business (Judge O’Connell and Tina Cruz)*

- Due to the time limitation not all ATJ Subcommittee were able to report out.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm