

Tribal Court State Court Forum (TCSCF)

Quarterly Meeting Summary

6/16/2023

Hosted by Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

The purpose of the Tribal Court State Court Forum is to enhance tribal court and state court relationships, provide an opportunity to address issues arising from the courts' concurrent jurisdictions, collaborate on development and delivery of judicial education and training, recommend revisions to Minnesota's procedural rules of court, and work on issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

1. Welcome, Blessing, and Introductions

April McCormick gave a welcome and reflection on the Brackeen v Haaland decision which was announced this week.

Introductions of Forum members and special guests was led by Judge Brodeen. Justice McKeig, Judge Brodeen and Judge Wahwassuck gave a lovely good- bye and thank you to the service of Judge Reilly as she retires and leaves her service on TCSCF.

[Judge Reilly farewell.jpeg](#)

Agenda and Meeting Summary

Review and approval of March 31, 2023 meeting summary was moved by Justice McKeig and seconded by Judge Reilly. Motion passed

2. Jurisdictional Sharing of Collaborative Efforts

Judge Brodeen discussed The NNABA 50th Anniversary Celebration in New Mexico. Additionally, there was a review by Judge Wahwassuck of the Joint Jurisdictional Conference, which helped other courts set up joint jurisdictional programs.

Judy Peterson gave an update on the State Tribal Partnership Grant



Project Overview -
Purpose and Plans -

Judge Wahwassuck asked for any other collaborative efforts.

Judge Ringhand talked about Red Lake services and that they also have a new judge – Judge Leah Kingbird- for their Healing and Wellness courts via a grant. They are now working on space and staff. We will ensure she is added to TCSCF.

Other tribal collaboration – Brackeen v Haaland – all 11 tribes signed an amicus brief, and MIFPA in MN has been updated, which tribes and county attorneys worked together on.

3. An Overview of the Tribal Assistant Correction Agent Program

Lori Thompson, White Earth Court Administrator presented an overview of an agreement between White Earth and The Minnesota Department of Corrections on this unique collaboration



Tribal and State
Court Presentation

4. Place-based Advocacy and Judging in Rural Areas

Michele Statz, PhD presented on place-based advocacy in rural areas



Statz TCSCF Talk
2023.pptx

5. Updates and Future Plans

A discussion was held on location and topic ideas for the 9/22 meeting. Beltrami County/Bemidji is likely to be the host. Topic ideas included Justice Theissen, who is the liaison to the paralegal program, and Indian Legal Aid.