

THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER:  
ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

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WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia is committed to a court system which is fair, accessible, efficient, and accountable; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Court as a public institution to ensure that it effectively meets the needs of the citizens whom it serves;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Chief Justice appoint an Access to Justice Commission and direct that it:

- (1) Examine, identify, and analyze various barriers West Virginians face when using our legal system;
  - (2) Devise, coordinate, and oversee a strategic plan for a statewide, integrated, non-duplicative legal services delivery system, responsive to the identified needs;
  - (3) Promote understanding of the importance of equal justice and of the problems many West Virginians face in accessing our civil justice system;
  - (4) Secure involvement and commitment on the part of attorneys and the judiciary toward expanding access to justice, and help develop the capacities of future leaders of access to justice efforts in our state;
  - (5) Enhance West Virginians' understanding of our legal system, and of their fundamental legal rights and responsibilities through providing public legal education, and addressing and improving the public perception and public trust and confidence in the court system;
  - (6) Provide a mechanism for serving as a clearinghouse for communication and information dissemination about justice issues in West Virginia;
  - (7) Assist in the procurement of stable funding and other resources to support access to justice, and work to maximize wise and efficient use of available resources;
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