

SUPREME COURT OF OKLAHOMA

Creation of the Task Force on the Uniform Representation of Children and Parents in Cases Involving Abuse and Neglect

2019 OK 53 · Decided July 22, 2019

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma established a Task Force on the Uniform Representation of Children and Parents in abuse and neglect cases. The order specifies the Task Force's duties, membership, meeting schedule, reimbursement provisions, and deadlines for interim and final reports.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Oklahoma
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Chief Justice Gurich; Vice Chief Justice Darby; Justice Winchester; Justice Edmondson; Justice Colbert; Justice Combs
JURISDICTION	Oklahoma
DECIDED	July 22, 2019
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Administrative order of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma establishing a task force and appointing its members.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Administrative order establishing a Supreme Court task force; no adjudication of a private dispute.

TOPICS

family law procedure parental rights family law civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

family law juvenile law court administration

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Supreme Court of Oklahoma should establish a task force under its general administrative authority to develop recommendations concerning uniform representation of children and parents in abuse-and-neglect cases.

2. Which individuals and organizations should be appointed as voting and non-voting members of the task force and what assignments and reporting deadlines should govern its work.

HOLDINGS

1. Pursuant to its general administrative authority and in order to implement SCAD-2014-06, the Supreme Court of Oklahoma established the Task Force on the Uniform Representation of Children and Parents in Cases Involving Abuse and Neglect.
2. The court appointed the members identified in the order, specified voting and non-voting membership, directed the chair to convene the task force, and required interim and final reports by February 1, 2020, and December 1, 2020, respectively.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Oklahoma Supreme Court determined that a task force was needed to study models of legal representation for children and parents in abuse-and-neglect proceedings. The task force was directed to assess training, compensation, practice standards, evaluation processes, appellate advocacy, and related matters affecting the rights of children and parents.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma issued the order pursuant to its general administrative authority and to implement SCAD-2014-06. The order created the Task Force on the Uniform Representation of Children and Parents in Cases Involving Abuse and Neglect, appointed voting and non-voting members, and directed the task force to submit interim and final reports.

DISPOSITION

other