

**Colorado Supreme Court
Rules of Juvenile Procedure Committee
Meeting Minutes: April 3, 2026**

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, the Colorado Supreme Court Rules of Juvenile Procedure Committee was called to order by Chair Judge Craig R. Welling at just after 9 a.m. via videoconference.

The following members were present at the meeting: Judge Craig R. Welling, chair; David P. Ayraud; Jerin T. Damo; Traci Engdol-Fruhworth; Nathan Fall; Magistrate Randall Lococo; Angela Rose; Zaven Saroyan; Lisa Shellenberger; Anna Ulrich; Pamela Gorden Wakefield; and Abby Young.

Non-voting members: Justice Richard L. Gabriel, liaison justice; Andy Rottman; and J.J. Wallace were also present.

The following members were absent from the meeting: Judge Karen Ashby; Judge Priscilla J. Loew; Judge Ann Meinster; Judge Pax Moultrie; Professor Colene Robinson; and Judge Theresa Slade.

The following materials were distributed for the meeting:

1. 2/2/2026 draft meeting minutes
2. Memo from Magistrate Lococo

II. Announcements from the Chair's Report

A. Welcome Nathan Fall

The chair officially welcomed Nathan Fall, a new member, to the Committee. The other Committee members also each introduced themselves.

B. Minutes

The 2/2/2026 meeting minutes were approved without amendment.

C. Subcommittee Issues

III. Present/New Business

A. Issues Raised

A member raised an issue, passed along from a judicial officer. In the judge's courtroom, the RPCs and GALs are complaining that they do not receive updated discovery materials. The judge raising the issue did not feel the rule required updating discovery. Several members weighed in and a consensus was reached that the judge is reading the rule correctly. The intent of the committee was to make it a continuing duty to *correct* discovery but not provide ongoing discovery. An attorney in private practice noted that, when she made a recent discovery request, the department asked if it was a one-time request or a continuing request, which she thought was a nice way to clarify matters at the front end.

Judge Welling also asked about the law enforcement reports issue raised at the last meeting. Members indicated that it was still an issue and that there is no uniformity. For example, in the same county, a municipal PD may provide reports, but the sheriff's office will not. Another member believed that costs are also influencing the issue because agencies incur charges for documents.

IV. Old Business

B. Annual Review Subcommittee

This is the former drafting subcommittee reconstituted to review the feedback received about the rules. The issues identified were:

- 1) Law enforcement reports (David Ayraud will do some follow-up to see if this is a statewide issue).
- 2) Clarification about handwritten DHS notes (Z Saroyan will do some follow-up on this one).
- 3) C.R.J.P. 4.27(b)(4): Motion to withdraw for respondent parent counsel. Many judges were taking the part requiring a hearing and advising the client literally and seemed stuck on what to do if the client doesn't appear for the hearing. Clarification that written advisement and/or addressing it at the next hearing for no-show clients may be a useful clarification.
- 4) C.R.J.P. 4.15: Create a new UCCJEA form for D&N cases. [JDF 404](#) is confusing and some people believe the ICWA section on there is sufficient and it's not.
- 5) Clarifying "first appearance" language of 4.15: it's not clear whether the advisement is required at the shelter hearing and/or at the actual first advisement hearing.

6) Adopting Crim. P. *Batson* rule for the C.R.J.P.

Chair asked if there were other issues. No member indicated a need to examine other issues.

The committee agreed that two principles should guide the approach to reviewing the rules: 1) if it's not broke, don't fix it and 2) distinguish between anecdotal issues (one offs in one courtroom or district) that do not need addressing and systemic problems, which may need addressing.

C. ICWA Review

Judge Moultrie thanked the members of the ICWA subcommittee, Zaven Saroyan, Lisa Shellenberger, Jack Thorpe, and Judge Emily Lieberman for their work on coming up with the new ICWA rule. The committee voted and approved the rule unanimously. Justice Gabriel will assist in facilitating references to ICWA in the other applicable rule sets.

Members indicated that there may be a need for future ICWA rules, including an amendment to expert disclosure rules for QEWs in ICWA cases. But, for now, the subcommittee is taking a wait and see approach.

D. Truancy Rules

The group decided to take a break to refresh themselves and their perspective. The group is now back to meeting. They are digesting the feedback and took a step back to look at their overall goal to make sure the draft is achieving that goal. They have had one meeting now and four more are on the books. They hope to have an updated draft for the June C.R.J.P. meeting. Subcommittee members continue to applaud Abby Young's leadership. Magistrate Lococo offered feedback acknowledging that there are conflicts in this area, but he doesn't want those conflicts to derail the idea of rules. The subcommittee members indicated that the feedback was helpful.

E. Batson

The committee continues to deliberate on the issue. A county attorney questioned whether this is an issue in D&N cases. A member related that it came up once in 25 years. Another member, who tracks COA cases (both the non-published and published) said that it's come up twice in the last four years, so characterized it as an occasional issue. A judicial officer recalls that the starting point was whether to refer to the criminal rule, do our own thing, or do nothing. Justice Gabriel recounted the history of the rule

change for the criminal rules committee. The issue was referred to the drafting subcommittee (n/k/a annual review subcommittee). The chair noted that if anyone was interested in this particular issue, they are more than welcome to join the annual review subcommittee.

V. Future Meetings

The next meeting is June 5th at 9 a.m. via videoconference.

Additional meetings are scheduled for the first Friday of even months: August 7th; October 2nd; & December 4th.

VI. Adjourn

The committee meeting adjourned just before 10 a.m.