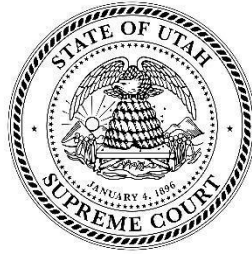


UTAH SUPREME COURT AD HOC COMMITTEE



REGULATORY REFORM

Nick Stiles, Co-Chair
Maryt Fredrickson, Co-Chair

Licensed Paralegal Professionals Working Group July 10,
2025

12:00 – 1:00

Education Room – Matheson Courthouse

Webex Link

[https://utcourts.webex.com/utcourts/j.php?
MTID=m048c6b3877ee24fe36c3929482ed28ab](https://utcourts.webex.com/utcourts/j.php?MTID=m048c6b3877ee24fe36c3929482ed28ab)

1. Welcome & Approval of Minutes (Tab 1)
2. Introduction of New Member
3. Report from Jon on communication with law firms about taking advantage of the LPP program.
4. Review Proposed Survey Questions (Tab 2)
5. Discussion on two outstanding questions.
 - a. Is the LPP program addressing A2J needs?
 - b. Is the current structure of the LPP program worthwhile for paralegals?
6. Action Items & Conclusion

TAB 1

Meeting Minutes

Utah Supreme Court's Ad Hoc Committee on Regulatory Reform

Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Workgroup.

June 12, 2025

12:00 – 1:00

Hybrid and In-person

Attendance In-Person: Nick Stiles, Marty Fredrickson, Ada Miller, Jon Wayas, Andrea,

Attendance Online: Lindsey Brandt, Judge Koch, Jackie Morrison, Emily Lee

Nick Stiles welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

Conversation about the national landscape:

Lindsey Brandt talked about Washington sunseting their program and still allowed them to practice. Rule 6 talking about clerkship and sitting for bar.

Jon Weyas said that Michigan has not launched but in the test phase. Said that DC also was looking into it.

Mr. Stiles said that maybe should look at the standards in Utah and see if they are too restrictive so that people do not think it is a viable option.

- Ms. Brandt said that there are a lot of limitations and so a lot of LPPs are at firms as paralegals and said it is unclear whether it is beneficial for these people to act as an LPP. Ms. Brandt thinks that there are barriers with how you practice in the program is a barrier to access to justice.
- Emily Lee reiterated this and said that when program started, they had been practicing as paralegals, so a lot of the talk was generated towards paralegals, but no marketing to consumers or the bar membership. Said program has stalled because of that. Room to grow the program practice wise, but there needs to be better education for consumers about what LPPs can do, and also to Bar membership so they know they can be useful to their practice. Ms. Lee said that growth should start with marketing, with how to get your LPP license, and then discuss expanding.
- Ms. Brandt said that consumers are hiring LPPs because they like their approach and want more handholding. Ms. Brandt said that people with money are pulling LPPs away from access to justice efforts.
- Andrea Donohue asked if there were interest surveys and Ms. Lee said there were.
- Jackie Morrison said she had talked to Michael Holberg who lives in SLC and suggested bringing him to a meeting or inviting him to the committee. Ms. Morrison said that we could start building out surveys and collecting data.

- Ms. Brandt said that paralegals like being paralegals and transferring to LPP work may not be incentivizing for them because lower pay rates as private LPPs. There may be value in tapping into people who have more of an interest of increasing access to justice.
 - o Ms. Morrison said that it is a market driven approach or solution and said that she does not think that the market is a driver because it is not getting us to where we want to go.
- Mr. Weyas said that the rules are set up that they have to be a paralegal first before becoming LPP's because you need substantive legal experience.
- Mr. Stiles said maybe talk to the bar and discuss having LPPs at firms billing hours.
- Ms. Lee discussed expanding the educational and experiential background to make it so it does not have to be just a paralegal degree to qualify. Ms. Lee also said that she and Jon could contact firms and make contact with those people.
- Ms. Brandt said that Laura Pinnick went to a firm and gave a presentation.
- Most LPPs are at small firms and one is a Ray Quinney
- Maryt Fredrickson said that way of entry might be too much and suggested the Ms. Lee flush that out.
 - o Ms. Lee said that whether we push the expansion of practice areas or push how many can get in first. The idea was that if we could get more people into the profession, it would be an easier sale to determine where the profession should go. Said hard to expand the practice with just a few LPPs. Argues that we need to look at who we are allowing into the profession. Plenty of room to work around those requirements
 - o Ms. Brandt said that LPPs are charging anywhere from \$100-250. Wants basic education for what the license is and here is how it works and teach it like you would a civil procedure class.
 - o Ms. Lee said that they discussed bringing some stuff in house to provide that training and education.
- Mr. Stiles said that there was a rule in Colorado that LPPs can do opening and closing statements, but not question witnesses.
 - o Ms. Brandt says that you can answer factual questions, so you can proffer the facts. Ms. Lee said that there has been some talk and it has been stalled, but thinks there is room to expand.
- Mr. Weyas said that there is not the best judicial education either and he hears different things from different judges. Rules have also changed a lot and some don't see the greater picture with the rules.
 - o A lot of rules are also broad enough that would include LPPs but also others, so it is hard for judges to know what can be included.

Ms. Lee said education wise, what the rule has done is a fantastic start and should look more into it. Ms. Lee believes there is a need for clarification about what LPPs can do, but there are

numerous ways they can extend their reach without causing problems with what the license is meant to do.

There was a discussion about when to meet with the Community Justice Advocate Workgroup.

Open to meeting with CJA's but worried about doing it right now and get their thoughts together.

Judge Koch asked why are LPPs not getting the clientele that was anticipated and how to change that. Ms. Brandt responded with her view.

Ms. Morrison said that LPPs are only interacting with people who know to go to lawyers in the first place, and the community needs to get word out to people who do not know that they are supposed to go to a lawyer.

Mr. Stiles asked the group about whether changing the name would be beneficial. The group discussed that idea. Mr. Weyas mentioned a national group that was looking at potential other names.

The meeting adjourned.

TAB 2

These are presented as initial draft questions. The actual questions will be presented in a google form for easy transmission, answer, and review. One note worth considering: should we also survey some members of the community to see why they are or are not utilizing LPPs?

Potential Survey Questions – Law Firms.

1. Have you considered adding Licensed Paralegal Practitioners (LPP) to your law firm?
2. Are there any concerns you have about adding LPPs to your firm?
3. Are you aware of what LPPs can do in and out of court?
4. If you have considered hiring LPPs and chose not to, what was your reasoning?
5. Would your firm be interested in increased education about LPPs?

Potential Survey Questions – Paralegals

1. Have you considered becoming an LPP?
2. If you have considered it and chose not to, what was your reasoning?
3. Are you aware of what LPPs can do in and out of the courtroom?
4. What type of organization do you work for? (Small firm, large firm, non-profit, government)
5. Do you think being a licensed paralegal practitioner is financially worth it?
6. LPPs' admissions are governed by [CJA 15-703](#). Are there any qualifications that discourage you from pursuing an LPP license?
7. Would you be interested in increased education about LPPs?