

UTAH SUPREME COURT AD HOC COMMITTEE



REGULATORY REFORM

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

Licensed Paralegal Professionals Working Group

June 12, 2025

12:00 – 1:00

Education Room – Matheson Courthouse

[Public Virtual Link to Join Meeting](#)

1. Welcome
2. Additional Topics or Stakeholders to Consider (TAB 1)
3. Open Discussion - Compare/Contrast other jurisdictions to identify pros/cons of alternative structures (Tab 2)
4. Joint Meeting Request with Community Justice Advocates Working Group
5. Action Items & Conclusion

TAB 1

List of Committee Members

L. Monte Sleight
Judge Koch
Jacqueline Morrison
Michael Barnhill
Jon Wayas
Emily Lee
Lindsey Brandt

Current Scope

Licensed Paralegal Practitioners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research other states' successful LPP programs and identify best practices.• Identify barriers to entry (time and cost, dearth of available training, absence of alternative paths to qualify for exam, lack of awareness of the program, etc.)• Identify barriers to practice (rule limitations on the scope of practice, challenges establishing or running a practice, public mistrust, competition in the Sandbox, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a recommendation for:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. increasing the number of LPPs who have the training and skills to provide competent representation, and2. expanding the number of consumers served by LPPs.• Draft proposed rule changes, if any.

TAB 2



Memorandum

To: Utah Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on Regulatory Reform,
Licensed Paralegal Professionals Working Group

Date: June 9, 2025

Subject: Preliminary Resource List

States with LLP Programs¹	Regulatory Rules for the State
Arizona: Legal Paraprofessionals (LPs)	<u>A.C.J.A. § 7-210</u>
Colorado: Licensed Legal Professionals (LLPs)	<u>Colo. Rev. Stat. § 13-93-(301-14)</u>
Minnesota: Legal Paraprofessionals (LPs)	<u>Mn St Sup Prac Rule 12</u>
New Hampshire: Legal Paraprofessionals (LPs)	<u>NH R S Ct Rule 35</u>
Oregon: Licensed Paralegals (LPs)	<u>Rules for Licensing Paralegals</u>
Utah: LPPs	<u>U.C.J.A. Rule 14-802</u>
Washington: Limited License Legal Technicians (LLTs)	<u>WA R ADMIS APR 28</u>

¹ Other states have considered or are considering similar programs. An updated list and interactive map with additional detail (reports, recommendations, legislation, etc.) is maintained by IAALS and can be found [here](#).

Other Resources:

1. Michael Houlberg, *Texas Strives to Help Low-Income Individuals with Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals and Licensed Court-Access Assistants Proposal*, INST. FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE AM. LEGAL SYS. (Aug. 27, 2024).
 - a. In late 2024, Texas paused its plan in response to public comment and legislative opposition, although the legislature concurrently considered a bill mirroring the Texas Supreme Court's program. Details about the 11th-hour suspension of the program can be found [here](#).
2. Michael Houlberg & Natalie Anne Knowlton, *Allied Legal Professionals: A National Framework for Program Growth*, INST. FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE AM. LEGAL SYS. (June 2023).
3. Keith Swisher, *Death and Ethics: Suffocating or Saving Nonlawyer Practitioners with Lawyer Ethics*, UCLA L. REV. DISCOURSE (Jan. 26, 2023).
 - a. This article evaluates barriers within regulatory, ethics, and licensing rules for nonlawyer practitioners, inclusive of LPPs.
4. Michael Houlberg & Janet Drobinske, *The Landscape of Allied Legal Professional Programs in the United States*, INST. FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE AM. LEGAL SYS. (Nov 2022).
5. Nat'l Center for State Courts & State Justice Inst., *An Evaluation Framework for Allied Legal Professional Programs: Assessing Improvements in Access to Justice* (May 2021).
6. Zachariah DeMeola, *Limited Legal License Programs Are Important to Opening Access, But They Need to Be Unencumbered*, INST. FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE AM. LEGAL SYS. (Oct. 25, 2019).
 - a. This advocates against high barriers to entry and identifies other think tanks studying the issue.
7. Stephen R. Crossland & Paula C. Littlewood, *Washington's Limited License Legal Technician Rule and Pathway to Expanded Access for Consumers*, 122 DICK. L. REV. 859 (2018).
 - a. This 2018 article evaluates the creation of Washington's program and its features but predates the termination of that program.
8. Rebecca M. Donaldson, *Law by Non-Lawyers: The Limit to Limited License Legal Technicians Increasing Access to Justice*, 42 SEATTLE UNIV. L. REV. 1 (2018).
 - a. This article highlights some of the pitfalls of LPP programs and the inability of LPPs to impact the low-income justice gap due to pricing models.