

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Michael R. O'Neal at 3:30 p.m. on January 27, 2003 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Tim Owens - Excused
Representative Rick Rehorn - Excused
Representative Dale Swenson - Excused
Representative Dan Williams - Excused

Committee staff present:

Jerry Ann Donaldson, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
Cindy O'Neal, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

District Court Judge Nancy Parrish

Chairman O'Neal announced that the committee would be receiving a State of the District Courts by Judge Nancy Parrish. She commented that all courts in the state face the same problem, budget cuts. This effects the non-judicial personnel which are essential to keeping the courts running smoothly.

Caseloads continue to increase but the staff has not and therefore the courts are not keeping up with the caseload. One example was the protection from stalking petitions have risen since July 2002 to 1,000. The Protection from Abuse petitions have also increased, both due to the new law that took effect July 1, 2002.

The committee requested information on how the lack of funding and increased caseloads have affected the turnaround time of civil filings.

Chairman O'Neal appointed a sub-committee on **HB 2032 - Amendments to the Kansas Eminent Domain Act**: Representative Patterson, Chairman; Yoder, Goering, Pauls, Crow.

Representative Long made the motion to approve the committee minutes from January 15, 2003. Representative Pauls seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The committee meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for January 28, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. in room 313-S.