



# SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS

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## **SPECIALTY COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FRIDAY, MAY 1**

The first meeting of the legislatively-created Specialty Court Advisory Committee will be a phone conference on Friday, May 1, at 8:30 a.m. The purpose of the call will be to set and discuss the first in-person meeting, which will be sometime in May.

The Committee was created by Act 895 of 2015, known as The Criminal Justice Reform Act of 2015. The Act states that the “Committee is established to: (1) Promote collaboration and provide recommendations on issues involving adult and juvenile specialty courts; and (2) Design and complete the comprehensive evaluation of adult and juvenile specialty court programs....”

Members are Chairman Judge John Dan Kemp, 16<sup>th</sup> Circuit; J.D. Gingerich, Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts; Circuit Court Judge of Specialty Court Mary McGowan, 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit; Circuit Court Judge of Specialty Court Berlin Jones, 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit; Circuit Court Judge of Specialty Court Gordon Webb, 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit; District Court Judge of Specialty Court Chaney Taylor, Batesville; Circuit Court Judge of Juvenile Drug Court Troy Braswell, 20<sup>th</sup> Circuit; Sheila Sharp, Director of Arkansas Community Corrections; Patricia Nation, Director of Client Protection and Advocacy, Department of Human Services; Dr. Charlie Green, Director of the Division of Behavioral Health Services; Prosecutor Coordinator Appointee David Butler, 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District; Arkansas Public Defender Commission Appointee April Golden; Senate Pro Tempore Appointee; Rep. Camille Bennett, Speaker of the House of Representatives Appointee; and Steve Varady, State Drug Director.

The meeting, which is open to the press and public, may be accessed by dialing 1-877-402-9757 and use Access Code 3079073.