

**SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS**

**No.**

**Opinion Delivered July 19, 2007**

IN RE: ARKANSAS SUPREME  
COURT COMMITTEE ON  
SECURITY AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS

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**PER CURIAM**

The Arkansas Task Force on Court Security was created to examine court security in Arkansas and to make recommendations to the Supreme Court. *See In re: Adoption of Recommendations from the Arkansas Task Force on Court Security*, \_\_\_\_ Ark. Appx. \_\_\_\_ (February 1, 2007). In February, we responded to certain of the recommendations submitted by the Task Force, including the adoption of minimum guidelines for court security and emergency preparedness, and discussed the current state of court security and the need for improvements. *Id.* We are pleased to acknowledge the General Assembly's response to other recommendations of the Task Force in passing The Court Security Act (Act 576 of 2007), which created the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Director of Security and Emergency Preparedness within the Administrative Office of the Courts, created a court security grant program to provide funds to cities and counties to implement local security and emergency preparedness plans for circuit and district courts, and established standards for persons serving as court security officers.

One of the Task Force's recommendations, which was previously deferred, was the creation of the Supreme Court Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness. The purpose of the committee is to recommend and evaluate uniform state policies on court security and

emergency preparedness and assist local courts in drafting and implementing local plans. Today, we adopt this recommendation, create the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness, and appoint the initial members. The structure of the committee is as follows:

**Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness**

A. The Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness shall consist of 17 voting members, appointed as provided herein. All subsequent appointments of voting members shall be for a term of three years. A voting member may be appointed to serve no more than two successive three-year terms.

B. Should any vacancy in the term of a voting member occur, the appropriate appointing authority shall appoint a successor voting member who shall serve the remainder of the term. Any member whose term shall expire shall continue to serve until his or her successor is appointed.

C. The Arkansas Supreme Court shall appoint 15 members of the committee and the Speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Arkansas Senate shall each be entitled to appoint one member of their respective chambers to serve as members of the Committee.

The initial members of the committee and their terms of office are as follows:

Circuit Judge Jim Hudson of Texarkana (Chair) (September 30, 2010),

Sheriff Keith Bowers of Batesville (September 30, 2010),

Mr. Larry Burris, Chief Court Bailiff, of Fort Smith (September 30, 2008),

Hon. Sonny Cox, Arkansas County Judge (September 30, 2008),

Mr. Eddie Davis, Arkansas Supreme Court Police Chief (September 30, 2009),  
Circuit Judge Tim Fox of Little Rock (September 30, 2008),  
Ms. Pat Hannah of the Workers' Compensation Commission (September 30, 2009),  
Hon. Mike Jacobs, Johnson County Judge (September 30, 2010),  
Mr. David Maxwell, Director, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management  
(September 30, 2010),  
Mayor James Morgan of White Hall (September 30, 2008),  
Ms. Vicki Rima, Garland County Circuit Clerk (September 30, 2008),  
District Court Judge David Saxon of Fort Smith (September 30, 2010),  
Circuit Judge Hamilton Singleton of Camden (September 30, 2009),  
Mayor Tommy Swaim of Jacksonville (September 30, 2009), and  
District Court Judge Cheney Taylor of Batesville (September 30, 2009)

We thank each of these members for their willingness to serve as charter members of this undertaking. In addition to these members, we request the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to appoint one member of their respective chambers to serve on the committee.