

In the Iowa Supreme Court

**In the Matter of Establishing the
Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure
Review Task Force and
Appointment of Members****Order**

Before the adoption of the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure, civil procedure in Iowa was governed by a complex body of statutes, common law rules, and local court practices. In 1937, the U.S. Supreme Court first adopted the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the federal courts. Seeing the need for its own comprehensive rules, in April 1941, the Iowa Supreme Court appointed an advisory committee to draft proposed rules and present them to the court. Various drafts of rules were sent out for public comment and presented to the court from November 1941 through the end of 1942. The final rules were submitted to the general assembly in 1943 and became effective in July.

The supreme court has the authority to amend existing rules and adopt new rules of civil procedure subject to the rulemaking procedures in Iowa Code section 602.4202. In the years since their adoption, certain rules were substantively amended in piecemeal fashion, but there has never been a comprehensive review of the civil rules' substance and style as a whole. The court believes it is the appropriate time for a comprehensive review of the rules.

A comprehensive review by a task force of judges and attorneys will ensure that the rules as revised:

- Promote greater procedural efficiency and fairness.
- Are easier to read and understand.
- Reflect judicial interpretations and current practice.
- Incorporate modern technologies.
- Remain substantively neutral.

The court establishes the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure Review Task Force and appoints the following persons to serve on the task force:

- Honorable Matthew McDermott (chair), Justice, Iowa Supreme Court, Des Moines

- Honorable Sharon Greer (co-chair), Judge, Iowa Court of Appeals, Marshalltown
- Honorable Gina Badding (co-chair), Judge, Iowa Court of Appeals, Carroll
- Honorable David Odekirk, Judge, First Judicial District, Waterloo
- Honorable Bethany Currie, Judge, Second Judicial District, Marshalltown
- Honorable Dick Davidson, Judge, Fourth Judicial District, Clarinda
- Honorable Marc Elcock, Magistrate, Fifth (5B) District, Osceola
- Anne Sheeley, Clerk of Court, Fifth Judicial District, Des Moines
- Sara Oden, Clerk of Court, Eighth Judicial District, Centerville
- Anthony Gaughan, Professor, Drake Law School, Des Moines
- Jason Rantanen, Professor, University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City
- Kim Baer, private practice attorney, Des Moines
- Tim Bottaro, private practice attorney, Sioux City
- Steve Drahozal, Assistant State Public Defender, Dubuque
- Katie Graham, private practice attorney, Des Moines
- John Gray, private practice attorney, Sioux City
- Susan Hess, private practice attorney, Dubuque
- Daniel Johnston, Assistant Attorney General, Ames
- Todd Lantz, private practice attorney, Des Moines
- Rob Livingston, private practice attorney, Council Bluffs
- Christine Luzzie, Litigation Director Emeritus, Iowa Legal Aid, Iowa City
- Kellie Paschke, private practice attorney, West Des Moines
- Matt Preston, private practice attorney, Cedar Rapids
- Tim Semelroth, private practice attorney, Cedar Rapids
- Martha Shaff, private practice attorney, Davenport
- Anjie Shutts, private practice attorney, Des Moines
- Eashaan Vajpeyi, private practice attorney, Waterloo
- Janece Valentine, private practice attorney, Fort Dodge

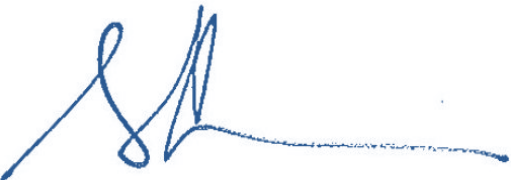
The following persons will staff the task force, assisting with its work:

- David Denison, Staff Attorney, Iowa Supreme Court, Des Moines
- Andrew Wendel, Law Clerk for Justice McDermott, Des Moines
- Katie Foley, Law Clerk for Judge Sharon Greer, Des Moines
- Hazel Ward, Law Clerk for Judge Gina Badding, Des Moines

Task force members may be reimbursed for necessary and reasonable travel expenses according to Iowa Court Rules 22.16 through 22.21.

Dated this 17th day of September 2024.

The Iowa Supreme Court

By: 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice