

These pending minutes have not been approved by the Utah Prosecution Council and are subject to change until approved and adopted by the Council.

Utah Prosecution Council Meeting
Wednesday – April 15th, 2026
West Training Room
College Dr

Pending Minutes

Present: Ed Montgomery, South Jordan City Attorney, UPC Chair (In person)
Chad Dotson, Iron County Attorney (In person)
Randall McUne, Cedar City Attorney (In person)
Stephen Foote, Duchesne County Attorney (In person)
Karyn Walker, Provo City Attorney's Office, UPAA Chair (In person)
Brett Robinson, Chief Policy Advisor, Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office
(*designee of Sim Gill, Salt Lake County District Attorney*) (In person)
Jeff Gray, Utah County Attorney (In person)
Aliisa Leon, Orem City Attorney (In person)
Troy Rawlings, Davis County Attorney (Remote)
Stuart Williams, Clearfield City Attorney (Remote)

Excused: Jess L. Anderson, Utah Commissioner of Public Safety
Sim Gill, Salt Lake County District Attorney
Derek Brown, Utah Attorney General
Stewart Young, Chief Criminal Deputy, Utah Attorney General's Office

Guests: Craig Peterson, Justice Director, Utah Attorney General's Office (*proxy for Stewart Young, Chief Criminal Deputy, Utah Attorney General's Office*) (In person)

1. WELCOME

- a. Council members were welcomed.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. Ed Montgomery motioned to approved the January 6, 2026 minutes. Stephen Foote seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. VOTE ON UMPA NOMINATION TO REPLACE SAMANTHA SMITH

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- a. Samantha Smith has taken a position with the Salt Lake County DA's Office.
- b. The council voted to replace Sam Smith with Alissa Leon as the UMPA representative. The motion passed unanimously.

4. FY26 BUDGET REVIEW

- a. Robert Church and Marilyn Lawson met with the Attorney General office's new budget officer last week to discuss UPC's budget.
- b. The Finance department has assigned an individual who works directly with UPC's budget; they oversee our budget, track our expenses, and help us with our grants.
- c. The person assigned to our budget indicated that UPC has expended 82% of its budget while being 75% through the fiscal year.
- d. According to our records, we appear to be on track.
- e. Bob asked whether the discretionary raises that were awarded by the legislature to the AGO were passed on to UPC. If not, that would account for some discrepancy between UPC's numbers and the AGO's numbers.
- f. Bob also asked if UPC were being charged for expenses that should not be charged to UPC; i.e. FileVine case management fees, etc. The AGO will look into that and report at the next finance meeting.
- g. Bob and Marilyn will be meeting with Finance again in a couple weeks to discuss any discrepancies with the budget.
- h. Moving forward, UPC will be meeting with Finance more regularly.
- i. Ed asked Bob his level of concern. Bob is bracing for the worst-case scenario to be safe.
- j. The worst-case scenario would be about \$40,000 over budget, or about \$120,000 more than last year because of the \$80,000 carry-over.
- k. Bob discussed looking for ways to cut the budget for next year, like not paying for Basic lodging.

5. JOHN R. JUSTICE

- a. John R. Justice hadn't been funded yet in January. Bob recently received an email saying it was funded. UPC doesn't know the amount awarded, but because of the delay, the grant is going to be funded later.
- b. Ed asked how much is awarded. Bob said that it varies but is typically around \$60,000 - \$90,000 a year. The max amount a person can be awarded during their lifetime is around \$10,000.

6. TRAINING COMMITTEE

- a. DV bootcamp in January went really well.

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- i. Trent Dressen discussed having a good mix of rural and urban counties, great faculty with a good spectrum of background, and a great location in Lehi.
 - ii. Tyson Skeen and Trent discussed alternating DUI and DV bootcamp every year. DUI bootcamp will be held in 2027 and DV bootcamp will be held in 2028.
- b. Visual Trial Skills
 - i. Continues to be successful. We had 10 people in our last class, which is our maximum.
- c. Spring Conference
 - i. Spring Conference starts tomorrow at the Provo Marriott hotel. Parking problems from last year have been fixed.
 - ii. Our highlight is Cristina Hudak-Rosander, who will be presenting on CE-CERT, which is about professional secondary trauma.
 - iii. Trent and Tyson will be presenting on the criminal legislative update.
 - iv. Michael Gadd and Chris Ballard will be presenting on the criminal case law update.
 - v. UPC is hosting a student networking social on Thursday evening.
- d. Regional Legislative Update
 - i. Tyson and Trent are starting regional legislative update next week and will mostly be done by the end of April.
 - ii. They are splitting up the non-local updates so they don't spend as many nights away from home.
 - iii. Matt Jansen is doing a legislative update for SBI's cold case. Trent is pretty certain that they do that every year, so people attending that update shouldn't affect our numbers for our regional legislative update.
 - iv. Tyson discussed finishing the legislative update before the laws go into effect for the first time ever.
 - v. Ed asked if UPC is overworking our resource prosecutors.
- e. UPAA
 - i. The UPAA Conference will be held June 10-12th in Cedar City.
 - ii. The UPAA board has one opening that they are waiting to fill in June. Edith Brown is also retiring so they will have two openings in June.
- f. Basic Prosecutor Course
 - i. Basic is going to be held in August 16- 21 in Logan.
 - ii. Bob discussed moving Basic to Murray to save money but is very hesitant.
- g. Fall Conference
 - i. Fall will be held September 23-25 in Bryce Canyon at Ruby's Inn.
- h. Advanced Trial Skills
 - i. To be held October 21-23 at the St. George Hilton Garden Inn.

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- i. UMPA
 - i. To be held November 5-6 at the Moab SpringHill Suites.
- j. Training Committee meeting
 - i. In Torrey on October 1st-2nd.

7. ePROSECUTOR

- a. Ronald Weight has been working on a major upgrade for eProsecutor.
- b. eFiling has slowed down because of the upgrade, which took longer than predicted to fix, but they are going to be more careful with upgrades in the future to prevent stuff like that from happening again.
- c. Ron is working on getting Kane County and South Jordan City running.
- d. Webpage migration has been a challenge and very difficult for Ron. If you have problems with the website, let Ron know so he can fix it.
- e. A few months ago, Ron found out that he needed to make the website ADA accessible. He has been working on making the website accessible, but it has taken a lot of his time.
- f. UPC is making sure that none of our images are copyrighted.
- g. Ron discussed making sure our presenters don't use any copyrighted materials if we are videoing them.
- h. Brett Robinson reminded the council that counties in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class are required to report to the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice interim committee on May 1st on HB 354 for the last calendar year.

8. PROSECUTOR, SUPPORT STAFF, AND VICTIM ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

- a. Kristy Klein has been chosen as the UPAA Assistant of the year. She is from Uintah County.
- b. UPC received very strong nominations for the Outstanding Prosecutor of the year, which included 3 city prosecutors and 8 county prosecutors.
- c. The committee ended up choosing Branden Miles from Weber County.
- d. This was our first year with the Victim Advocate of the year. We received twelve nominations. The committee chose Shelley Candelaria from Washington City Police Department.
- e. UPC has received a lot of support for giving an award to victim advocates.

9. RESOURCE PROSECUTOR REPORT

- a. SADVRP
 - i. Trent wants to start doing ODARA training within the next two quarters, which will be a half-day certification.
 - 1. He presented on ODARA the last Fall conference. An ODARA assessment provides a percentage likelihood of recidivism.

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- ii. Three-day advanced investigations course
 1. Doing one in Provo in August and at POST in October.
 2. Trent emphasized his appreciation for the AG's office and their support. Che Arguello presents for the HB200 advanced investigations course.

10. STUDENT OUTREACH

- a. UPC has been trying to encourage young law students to be interested in prosecuting. Bob has been to BYU and Utah and participated in a lunch with lawyers.
- b. Craig Peterson said that he hired one of the Utah attendees for a clerk position starting in June.
- c. Bob was also invited to participate in the public law event at BYU.
- d. Bob started a student email list so he can send out internship/externship announcements to the students. If your office has an opening, please let him know so he can send it out to the students.
- e. UPC will be hosting a student networking social on Thursday night starting at 5:30 PM.
 - i. Bob is hoping to make it an annual event.

11. OTHER

- a. Emma will be leaving UPC on June 18th. UPC has already opened up applications and has received about half a dozen.
- b. Interviews will be held on May 11th and 12th. The interview panel will include Bob, Marilyn, Trent and Tyson. Bob opened up the interview panel to anyone on the council that also wants to participate.
- c. UPC hopes to have her replacement start June 8th.

12. NEXT MEETING

- a. Thursday, June 25th @ 10:00 – 11:30 AM in Murray.

13. ADJOURN

- a. Ed motioned to adjourn. The motioned passed unanimously.