## ADA Focus Group 1 – December 2, 2008

BARRIERS		IMPACTS	SUGGESTIONS
Need to eliminate physical barriers to processes, facilities and information	<ul> <li>Physical barrier – unconfident mobility skills combined with poor orientation</li> <li>Certain physical compliance, example, wheelchair ramps</li> <li>Physical disability – total blindness – how can this be accommodated for persons other than employees?</li> <li>Physical barrier – (no/little usable vision) inability to read/see necessary documents or exhibits</li> <li>Physical disability – if persons with blindness must travel one or more times to Judicial Branch locations, can you assist with directions</li> <li>Physical barrier – lack of usable vision – getting into Judicial Branch locations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Public unsure of where they are going – could lead to reluctance to take part</li> <li>Building entrance does not guarantee complete access</li> <li>Inability to participate – documents, files, etc. not available to all; cost; thorough directions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Train marshals to assist staff (when necessary) as escorts for I.v or blind individuals = BESB/help could</li> <li>Reassess buildings/facilities</li> <li>Using modern technologies to make programs, facilities and information (in-person and online) accessible</li> <li>BESB has techies that can advise</li> </ul>
Need to train and educate judges and staff on the ADA	<ul> <li>Attitudes of staff</li> <li>No advisement of disability rights by court</li> <li>Ignorance (a) staff, (b) public/users</li> <li>Stereotyping (a) staff, (b) public/users</li> <li>Complacency staff</li> <li>Direct discrimination staff/judges</li> <li>ADA coaches – not allowing ADA coaches to help disabled</li> <li>Permission by the judicial top individual</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Feeling disrespected</li> <li>Not aware of rights = due process</li> <li>Frustration; faulty judgment</li> <li>Impact (negative) on your mental health affects family members</li> <li>Ineffective communication between court and person with disability</li> <li>No "buy-in" by staff at all levels</li> <li>Poor treatment;</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Provide sensitivity training to CJ and down</li> <li>ADA compliance and implementation training</li> <li>Identify disability at earliest point</li> <li>Training judges on ADA</li> <li>Allow ADA coaches to provide meaningful communication</li> <li>Non-discrimination policy</li> <li>Training staff</li> <li>Training GALs non-</li> </ul>

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BAI	RRIERS	IMPACTS	SUGGESTIONS
	<ul> <li>No ADA training of court staff</li> <li>Sensitivity training of court staff and judges</li> <li>GAL training with regard to ADA</li> <li>Denial of appointment of GAL's or attorneys for disabled party</li> <li>Communication psychiatric</li> <li>Verbal abusive behavior by judges – don't consider your hidden disability</li> <li>Rights of children of special needs families - association</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>discrimination; frustration; faulty judgement</li> <li>Lack of respect by judges/court staff – feeling of misunderstanding</li> <li>No meaningful rights</li> <li>Feeling rushed and not understood = no full participation</li> <li>Disrespect; inability to participate; fear</li> <li>Not being treated equally (children/families)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>discrimination policy</li> <li>Modify and integrate settings</li> <li>Sensitivity training, more open courts – cameras in court rooms</li> <li>Recognition of accountability/creation of policy</li> </ul>
Need to improve compliance with ADA	<ul> <li>Not compliant with Title II</li> <li>No definition of liability</li> <li>No ADA coordinator at courthouse</li> <li>No notification written</li> <li>Integrated settings for hearings</li> <li>Effective communications non- existent in courts</li> <li>No written grievance procedure</li> <li>Title I compliance (some)</li> <li>Requirement court contractors, lawyers – Title II and Title III</li> <li>Barriers to child custody – denial of rights due to disability</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No rights available</li> <li>Staff unaware of accommodations that must be provided</li> <li>Persons with disabilities not fully informed because no ADA coordinators</li> <li>(Insufficient) notification</li> <li>Lack of communication</li> <li>Unsure where to turn to file grievance</li> <li>No rights available</li> <li>Denial of rights due to disability</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recognition of compliance</li> <li>Training, follow policy, creation of policy</li> <li>Create or designate ADA coordinators</li> <li>Create standardized postings</li> <li>Modify your process in courtrooms – modify with regards to disables interest</li> <li>Modify your process in courtrooms – modify with regards to disables interest</li> <li>Modify your process in courtrooms – modify with regards to disables interest</li> <li>Post/create grievance procedures</li> <li>Recognition of compliance</li> <li>Recognition of party a an equal party</li> </ul>

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Need to improve effective communication about ADA rights	<ul> <li>Substance abuse issues of litigants covered under ADA</li> <li>Assistant Attorney General's involvement in magistrate matters</li> </ul>		

• Training Recommendations were fulfilled under the Suggestions section