

CASA Commission Information

State Statues:

16-2-51. Court appointed special advocates grant program established. The court appointed special advocates grant program is hereby established. Under the grant program, the commission shall award grants to entities within the state of South Dakota that are recognized by the National CASA Association, Incorporated, as administering CASA programs. Grants may also be awarded from money in the fund to the South Dakota CASA Association. Grants shall be awarded to support the development, growth, quality, and continuation of CASA programs in South Dakota.

16-2-52. Court appointed special advocates fund established--Use of fund. There is established within the state treasury the court appointed special advocates fund to be administered by the Unified Judicial System. Money shall enter the fund as provided in § 23-3-53 and through contributions, grants, settlement funds, payments ordered by the court, interest received on moneys in the fund, and any other fees and moneys collected for the purposes of §§ 23-3-52, 23-3-53, and 16-2-50 to 16-2-54, inclusive. Money in the fund shall be used for the purpose of funding and administering the grant program. Any expenditure from the fund shall be paid on warrants drawn by the state auditor on vouchers approved by the state court administrator of the Unified Judicial System.

16-2-53. Court Appointed Special Advocates Commission established--Membership--Terms--Reimbursement. There is created the Court Appointed Special Advocates Commission to make awards through the grant program and to perform related functions as provided in §§ 23-3-52, 23-3-53, and 16-2-50 to 16-2-54, inclusive. The commission is administered and staffed by the Unified Judicial System and consists of five residents of the state, appointed to three-year terms. The commission shall include one member appointed by the Governor with experience in the duties of investigation of child abuse and neglect, one member appointed by the Governor who is a current or former South Dakota legislator, one member appointed by the Governor who has experience in issues of child abuse and neglect in a tribal setting, one member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who has a background in judiciary or legal services with experience and knowledge in abuse and neglect court proceedings, and one member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who has experience with providing treatment services to children who are victims of abuse and neglect. The commission shall meet as necessary to carry out its functions. Each member of the commission shall be paid mileage at the same rate as allowed for state employees and shall receive per diem compensation and allowable expense reimbursement in an amount set pursuant to § 4-7-10.4 for time spent attending commission meetings. However, no per diem may be paid to any commission member who is a state employee.

Commissioners:

1. Kathleen Trandahl, Circuit Judge, Commission Chair
2. Kristie Fiegen, PUC Commissioner
3. Karen Jeffries, CRST Children's Court Judge
4. Kimberly Max, Court Services Officer
5. Jaime Hybertson, DSS- CPS