Court Security Ad Hoc Committee October 5, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Judge DePanfilis convened the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

In attendance: Judge DePanfilis, Judge Calabrese, Judge Jalowiec, Judge Streit-Kefalas, Judge Marino, Judge Elkin, Anne Holihan, Alexis Lewis, Jackie Buckle, Tom Smith, Vincent Russo

Unable to attend: Judge Anthony, Judge Knierim

Security Assessments

The committee reviewed the 17 courts that have not had security assessments conducted by local law enforcement. Committee members divvied up the list and will contact the judge for each court to encourage completion of an assessment. Following is the list of committee members and the courts they will contact:

- Judge DePanfilis: North Central Connecticut, Region #14, Fairfield
- Judge Calabrese: Waterbury, Waterbury Regional Children's
- Judge Streit-Kefalas: East Haven – North Haven, Hamden – Bethany, Shelton
- Judge Marino: Niantic Regional
- Alexis Lewis: Meriden, Wallingford, Central CT Regional Children's
- Tom Smith: Greater Windsor
- Vincent Russo: Norwich, New London, New London Regional Children's'

Firearms in Courts

A judge contacted the committee with concerns about firearms in court offices. C.G.S. section 29-28 (e) states that a person with a pistol permit is not able to carry a firearm into a building when "the person who owns or excises control over such premises" has prohibited them.

Since the courts lack any security personnel or equipment, and therefore would be unable to enforce any effective ban, the committee decided that courts should handle these situations on a case-by-case basis and contact local police when a concern or threat arises.

Security Trainings

The committee instructed Vincent Russo to seek out a training that could be offered at a Probate Assembly continuing education seminar that follows up on the active shooter

trainings. He will contact DESPP and Judicial to inquire about a 30 – 45 minute session on de-escalation techniques for clerks and judges.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.