

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

June 14, 2018

1. **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Judge Wright at 12:28 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Led by Judge Keeney.

3. **Approval of the April 25, 2018 Probate Assembly Annual Meeting Minutes:**

Approved.

4. **Treasurer's Report:**

Judge Magistrali reported that the expenditures to date, in the amount of \$18,423.20, are for meetings and educational seminars. He also reported that there will be an approximate surplus of \$13,000.00 at the end of the fiscal year. These funds revert to PCA.

5. **Committee Reports:**

Continuing Education – Judge Becker

Judge Brandt reported that the meeting on September 18, 2018 will cover children's matters. The November meeting topic is decedent's matters.

Ethics – Judge Magistrali

Judge Magistrali reminded all to be mindful of the ethics requirements during this election cycle.

Legislative – Judges Fox and Rowe

Judge Fox reported that the Probate Court Operations bill passed in the last session.

Planning – Judge Brandt

No report.

Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock

No report.

Public Information – Judge Purnell

No report.

Hospitality – Judge Yamin

Judge Yamin reported that the NCPJ conference in San Diego went very well. The next NCPJ conference will be held November 14-17 in Hilton Head, S.C. and the Spring 2019 conference will be in New Orleans.

There will be a social event for judges and their guests on August 25, 2018 at the Sergio Franchi Memorial Concert in Stonington, CT. There will be a reception prior to the concert.

Statistics – Judge Dorval

An initial draft of the proposed changes to the weighted workload system was sent to all judges and staff in May, 2018. Judge Dorval asks for feedback.

Judge Purnell requested that PCA produce statistics for each court showing the effect of the proposed changes.

6. Remarks of the Probate Court Administrator:

Attorney Tom Gaffey announced that he will be retiring as of September 1, 2018.

Judge Knierim commended Tom's service to the probate system and stated it has been an "absolute privilege" to work with Tom these past years.

Judge Knierim reported that the budget that passed gives the probate system \$4.3 million for the next fiscal year and that the sweep of the probate fund balance was suspended. He reminded all that the system will need increased funding in the next budget cycle. Regretfully he reported that there are no salary increases for any judge or staff member in the next fiscal year.

The new Conservator Standards are available and are being distributed in print form today. The online training module will be released shortly, both in English and Spanish.

7. Remarks of the President Judge:

Judge Wright agreed that Tom Gaffey will be sorely missed by all. He also requested that the judges review their current committee appointments and fill out the form requesting any changes.

8. Other Business to come before the Assembly:

None

9. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad
Recording Secretary