

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee July 14, 2022

Office of the Probate Court Administrator
186 Newington Rd.
West Hartford, CT 06110

Attendees: Judges Anthony, Berkenstock, Brandt, Daly, Darby, Gardner Riordan, Lewis, Maxham, McGrath, and Wright and also Probate Court Administrator Judge Streit-Kefalas and Chief Counsel Heather Dostaler.

1. Call to Order:

Judge Daly called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022 meeting was made by Judge Lewis, seconded by Judge Brandt, and unanimously approved.

3. Correspondence:

Judges Daly and Streit-Kefalas reported no correspondence for the Assembly.

4. Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Judge Gardner Riordan reported that the next Committee meeting is in August and the next seminar will take place with the next Assembly meeting on September 21, 2022. The committee is seeking sites for the meeting. The seminar is slated to cover children's matters including name changes of minors, parentage claims as well as an ethics panel and Amy Benjamin's "Did you Know?" program.

Ethics

No Report

Legislative

No Report from the committee.

Judge Streit-Kefalas commented that the next session is the long session. Please submit any requests for statutory changes to the Committee or PCA.

Nominating

No Report

Planning

No Report. Judge Anthony is awaiting direction from the Executive Committee.

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Procedures Review

No Report. Judge Berkenstock indicated that the next committee meeting is September 12, 2022.

Public Information

No Report. The next Committee meeting is August 23, 2022.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Conservator Guidelines

No Report.

Hospitality

No Report. Judge Streit-Kefalas commented that the ice cream social after the Assembly meeting on June 22nd was sparsely attended. The committee will explore other options.

Court Security

Judge Calabrese forwarded a report that was read by Judge Daly. The last Committee meeting was May 16th. The committee discussed that only 14 courts had sent in a security assessment in the past 2 years. Committee members will now call the non-participating courts to remind them to have the assessment performed and to submit a report. They also discussed topics for a future seminar. Judge Calabrese reported openings on the Committee and requested any judge or clerk in the system to join.

5. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:

Judge Streit-Kefalas reported that:

- a. PCA will be receiving delivery of the hardware to implement hybrid hearings. The IT Department is currently conducting site visits to ensure that each of the court's technology is up to date and able to manage the new system. The Probate Courts in Connecticut appear to be on the forefront of implementing hybrid technology as compared to the national trend. Judge Streit-Kefalas urged all judges to adhere to new Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure.
- b. The updated edition of the Probate Court Rules of Procedure has been distributed to most courts. Attorneys and others can order a book through the Commission on Legal Publications and instructions are on our website.
- c. Merit adjustments appeared in staff paychecks today.
- d. A public hearing was conducted on July 8, 2022 by the Council on Probate Judicial Conduct in connection with the complaint made by Judge Streit-Kefalas against Judge Mariano. The Council has 15 days to render a decision. The judges had a discussion of the procedures of the Council if a complaint has been made.

6. Comments of the President Judge:

Judge Daly apologized for missing the last Assembly meeting due to illness. She reported that the response from judges on the request to join committees has not been as strong as she had hoped. She commented that she is aware of how busy our

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courts are but requested all judges to volunteer for a committee.

She inquired as to whether the August meeting should be cancelled. After discussion, she then entertained a motion to cancel the August 2022 Executive Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee:
none

8. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Judge Gardner Riordan, seconded by Judge Darby, and unanimously approved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hon. Kathleen N. Maxham,
Recording Secretary