

**Minutes of the  
Modifications for Pandemic/Extraordinary Circumstances Ad Hoc Committee  
September 2, 2020**

Attendees: Judge Dorval, Chairman; Judge Greene, Judge Darby, Judge Wright, Judge Blick, Judge Brandt, Judge Randich, Judge McGrath, Judge DeGennaro, Judge Baram, Judge Beverly Streit-Kefalas, PCA Administrator; and Attorney Bonnie Bennet, PCA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Judge Dorval at 1:09 pm.

**TOPIC: Educational Requirements**

Judge Dorval addressed the content of the letter of Judge DeGennaro as it related to educational requirements of all probate judges.

After extensive discussion, Judge Greene made a motion which was seconded by Judge McGrath that:

This committee recommend to the Executive Committee at its November, 2020 meeting that the Executive Committee request of the Judicial Education Standards Committee a blanket exemption for all judges from the continuing education requirements, up to a total exemption of 15 hours of continuing education for this year.

All Committee members voted in favor of the Motion. Judge Streit-Kefalas, as a member of the Judicial Education Standards Committee, abstained.

**TOPIC: REGULATION 18/Hours worked by Judges and time off credit of hours for time other than sick, vacation or holidays**

Judge DeGennaro requested a clarification of Regulation 18 (A) (3) subsection (a) as it related to those circumstances in which Judges are to receive work credit for time off due to snow days, Covid and power outages as the regulations only refers to time off for sickness, vacation and holidays.

Judge Streit-Kefalas stated that Policy 902 does get triggered when there are unusual circumstances for courts to be unable to open and that alternative locations are set up for continuity of operations.

After extensive discussion, Judge Greene made a motion which was seconded by Judge DeGennaro that:

This topic be tabled for future discussion.

All Committee members voted in favor of the Motion.

**TOPIC: Weighted Workload (1) related to Covid pandemic influencing reduction in WWL credits and (2) Standards for allocation of WWL hours**

Judge DeGennaro stated there are 5 or 6 or so Judges who are compensated based on weighted work load and who are currently being compensated at a higher band due to the workload being greater than what is allocated for their district population. He stated due to the Covid pandemic, these courts may have been hindered from being able to produce work to maintain the currently higher compensation band through no fault of their own.

Judge DeGennaro suggests that something be established so that those judges are not financially hurt due to the Covid pandemic which has curtailed the courts from being able to conduct business as usual.

Judge DeGennaro also suggested that the manner in which weighted workload is allocated under our regulations.

Judge Streit-Kefalas stated she felt that a statutory change would be needed to modify the basis on which judges are compensated.

It was the consensus of the committee that since two of the judges who are compensated based on weighted workload had to leave the meeting in the midst of this discussion, that discussion should be continued until the next meeting of the Committee so that more information and greater input could be obtained.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the committee was set for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 1:00 pm via Webex Video conferencing.

After motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane S. Blick*

Diane S. Blick, Judge  
Litchfield Hills Probate District, PD #24