



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Regular meeting of the **Planning Committee**

November 6, 2023
9:30 a.m.

Held at the East Haven-North Haven Probate Court

In attendance: Chair – Judge Anthony, Members - Judges Brandt, Darby, Hoyle, Gentile and Probate Court Administrator Streit-Kefalas

I. Call to Order

Judge Anthony called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

II. Approval of the minutes from the October 21, 2019 and October 3, 2023 meetings

A motion was made by Judge Darby and seconded by Judge Hoyle to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2019 meeting. The motion passed with one abstention.

A motion was made by Judge Darby and seconded by Judge Hoyle to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Comments of the Chair

Judge Anthony reflected on the Probate Court's service to the state's residents through the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of virtual hearings via Webex. He also praised the Rules Committee in developing its current version of Rule 66 allowing virtual hearings to remain an option at the discretion of the judges. Judge Anthony expressed his concern for uniformity in how probate judges utilize Rule 66 and that the Planning Committee could address this lack of guidelines or standards.

IV. Discussion

The committee members discussed Judge Anthony's concern and suggestions. The committee agreed that there should be a bench guide for judges only to provide best practice suggestions based upon the case types and the particular motions or issues to be addressed. This could be a project

for the committee with members working individually on drafts of guides for the various case types.

Judge Anthony would address Childrens Matters and provide introductory language to the guide. Other case types were assigned:

Judge Brandt – Conservatorships

Judge Darby – Psychiatric Commitments/ Guardianship of Intellectually Disabled

Judge Hoyle – Decedent's Estates

The judges are to draft their respective sections and circulate prior to the next committee meeting.

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting of the committee will be January 22, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Haven – North Haven Probate Court.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael R. Brandt
Committee Member