

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
November 29, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Judge Wright at 12:22 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of the September 20, 2016 Probate Assembly Meeting Minutes**
Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
No report.

5. **Committee Reports:**

Continuing Education – Judge Becker

No report.

Ethics – Judge Magistrali

No report.

Legislative – Judge Rowe and Judge Fox

The next meeting will be held December 14, 2016.

Nominating – Judge Marino

Three judges will be elected to the Executive Committee, if any judges are interested in serving, please contact Judge Marino.

Planning – Judge Brandt

No report.

Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock

Judge Berkenstock invited suggestions for new forms from the assembly.

Public Information – Judge Purnell

The new informational panels are available for use. The Consumer Protection Agency has new pamphlets for distribution that Judge Purnell believes are helpful.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Conservatorship Guidelines – Judge DeGennaro

The Committee requested input since the recent changes.

Court Security – Judge DePanfilis

No report.

Floating Clerks – Judge Berkenstock

No report.

Hospitality – Judge Yamin

The NCPJ conference in Charleston, S.C. was well attended. Judge Anthony finished his term as President. Judge Yamin was elected for a two-year term on the Executive Committee and she encourages all to attend the next meeting in Santa Fe, N.M. in May, 2017.

Judicial Selection Working Group – Judge Elkin

No report.

Statistics Committee – Judge Dorval

No report.

6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator – Judge Knierim

Judge Knierim spoke about the continued difficulty with the state budget, noting the \$1.5 billion deficit predicted for the coming year. He encourages all judges and court staff to continue to engage legislators on an ongoing basis to support the Probate Court system.

There will be a Legislative Committee meeting on December 14, 2016. The proposed legislation for the upcoming session has been drafted for their consideration including; whistleblower protection for court staff, giving guardians of the intellectually disabled limited financial powers, proposing placement of PCO's in courts not served by children's courts and cost recovery methods in conservatorship cases.

PCA has prepared a grant application for federal funds to develop a training program for conservators. It involves a two track approach. First, providing an online training program for family member conservators and second, a more intensive training program for professional conservators. Both programs would be online, self-directed studies. The plan is to have the training running by December, 2017.

PCA is using an independent contractor to build the online billing system for attorneys and conservators. The system pilot will be implemented in four courts this spring and if successful, in all courts by June, 2017.

Finally, Judge Knierim recognized that the implementation of Regulation 16 is going well and he appreciates the assistance that courts are providing.

7. Comments of the President-Judge

No remarks.

8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee

None.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad
Recording Secretary