

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 9, 2015

In attendance: President Judge Elkin, Judges Brandt, Caruso, DePanfilis, Forgione, Greene, Keeney, Landgrebe, Magistrali, Mahon, Purnell, Randich, Schad, Streit-Kefalas, Wright, and Probate Court Administrator Knierim and Attorney Thomas Gaffey

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

2. Approval of the November 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The approval of the minutes was tabled until next Executive Committee Meeting.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence.

4. Treasurer's Report

Judge Magistrali reported that he authorized the expenditure of the Probate Assembly's share in the meeting and lunches at the joint meeting with the Connecticut Bar Association on December 2, 2015. He also received the refund on the bond from The Hartford and the Probate Assembly's separate books are now closed.

5. Committee Reports

Continuing Education

Judge Elkin reported that the Judges Institute is scheduled for March 9, 2016 and asked if the Executive Committee meeting can be changed to March 2, 2016. Also, the Annual Meeting at the Supreme Court will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, and he asked if the Executive Committee April 13 meeting should remain as scheduled. The consensus of the Executive Committee members was that the meetings should be March 2, 2016 and April 13, 2016.

Ethics

No report.

Legislative

Judge Mahon reported that a packet of legislative proposals were emailed to the judges. He asked that the judges review the proposals and contact him or Vin Russo to discuss any suggestions.

Nominating

No report.

Planning

No report.

Procedures Review

No report.

Public Information

Judge Purnell reported that the Committee will hold a meeting after the holiday season.

Ad Hoc Committees

Conservatorship Guidelines

Judge Elkin passed on the report because the Committee's recommendations would be discussed as a separate agenda item.

Court Security

No report.

Floating Clerks

No report.

Hospitality

No report. Judge Yamin is planning a spring event.

Judicial Selection Working Group

The Committee is scheduled for a meeting on February 18, 2016 in Hamden.

6. Proposed revisions to Regulation 16, Compensation of Conservators

Discussion about the proposed revisions to Regulation 16 began. Judge Streit-Kefalas requested that the Conservatorship Guidelines Committee make a presentation to the entire Assembly and that the Assembly have an open discussion. The Committee felt that it was important to get feedback from lawyers and judges in light of the varying opinions expressed by Executive Committee members. Judge Elkin indicated that he would speak with Judge DeGennaro, the Chair of the Conservatorship Guidelines Committee, to see if the Committee could prepare a presentation on its recommendations for the January 26 Assembly meeting.

7. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator

Judge Knierim passed on his comments due to the lengthy discussion over the Conservatorship Guidelines Committee's recommendations.

8. Comments of the President-Judge

Judge Elkin passed on his comments due to the lengthy discussion over the Conservatorship Guidelines Committee's recommendations.

9. Other business to come before the Executive Committee

Revised Code of Probate Judicial Conduct

The judges discussed the proposed revisions to the Code of Judicial Probate Conduct. Many proposed revisions led to discussion among the judges. No vote was taken on the proposed revisions.

Other business

Judge Greene led a discussion of continued safety and security concerns at the Probate Courts. He made the suggestion that the Planning Committee possibly address the topic in the future.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded. Meeting closed at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Brandt
Executive Secretary