

Ethics Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 10, 2017

Place: PCA Library

Attendees: Judge Michael F. Magistrali, Judge Philip Wright, Judge John McGrath, Probate Administrator Paul Knierim, Atty. Thomas Gaffey.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion followed to address feedback from members of the Probate Assembly concerning Rule 3.8 of the Code of Probate Judicial Conduct adopted by the Assembly on January 26, 2016. Rule 3.8 generally prohibits a probate judge from accepting appointment as a fiduciary in any probate court, with certain limited exceptions. The rule submitted to the Assembly for adoption was amended at the January meeting to expand the list of exceptions originally proposed by the Committee. The consensus of the committee was that no further expansion of the list of exceptions was advisable at this time and that the rule should remain as is.

The committee agreed that guidelines on a probate judges' use of social media would be of benefit to the Assembly members. Judge Magistrali volunteered to draft guidelines for circulation to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:05 p.m. No date was set for another meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Michael F. Magistrali