

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 9, 2016

In attendance: Judges Mahon, Becker, Berkenstock, Brandt, Calabrese, DePanfilis, Forgiione, Greene, Keeney, Landgrebe, Lomme, Wright and Probate Court Administrator Knierim and Attorney Gaffey.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:48 am.

2. Approval of the October 5, 2016 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Judge Elkin. It was seconded by Judge Calabrese. The minutes of the October 5, 2016 meeting were approved.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence.

4. Treasurer's Report

No report.

5. Committee Reports

Continuing Education – Judge Becker

The next educational seminar is scheduled for November 29. It will again be a dry run to prepare for next year's tracking of continuing education hours for the Connecticut Bar. There will be a committee meeting following the Executive Committee meeting to begin to plan topics for the 2017 seminars.

Judge Elkin asked about the \$50.00 bill that he received to attend the November seminar as a retired judge. Judge Knierim explained that PCA felt that it would be a fee to cover expenses. He felt it was reasonable and less than the cost of a CBA seminar for those retired judges who were still in practice. Judge Mahon thought that the Judges Association could discuss covering the fees through the Judges Association.

Ethics – Judge Magistrali

No report.

Legislative – Judge Rowe and Judge Fox

No report. Judge Mahon and others reported the results of the state elections.

Nominating – Judge Marino

No report.

Planning – Judge Brandt

No report.

Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock

Judge Berkenstock reported that she will hold a committee meeting on November 28. There will be new clerks joining the committee. She encouraged any input from the judges or their clerks. A discussion took place as to some of the details in the forms as being too detailed or complicating the drafting of the decrees. There may need to be some additional coordination between the forms and the Information Technology Department to simplify the process.

Public Information – Judge Purnell

No report.

Ad Hoc Committees

Conservatorship Guidelines

No report.

Court Security

Judge DePanfilis reported that a few courts had still not provided a written security assessment. He will continue to pressure those courts to do so.

Floating Clerks

No report.

Hospitality

No report.

Judicial Selection Working Group

Judge Elkin indicated that the committee would not be meeting until next year.

Statistics

New committee has been established. Judge Dorval will chair the committee.

6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator

Judge Knierim announced the results of the probate judge elections. Judge Owen Eagan will succeed Judge Elkin as the probate judge in West Hartford. Judge Dan O’Grady will re-join the system as the probate judge in Northern Fairfield County. New judges training has started.

The Conservatorship Guidelines committee will meet next week. The Elder Justice Coalition of the Department of Aging and other groups are helping develop training for conservators. The plan would be to have a version for family member conservators and a more in-depth version for professional conservators.

Judge Knierim is working with OPM on cost recovery for conservator compensation.

Judge Knierim encouraged the judges to reach out to legislators after the election to begin to reestablish communication for the upcoming legislative session.

7. Comments of the President-Judge

Judge Mahon informed the committee members that he is preparing the Executive Committee meeting schedule for 2017 and will try to hold them on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 9:45.

8. Other business to come before the Executive Committee

None

9. Adjournment

Motion was made by Judge Keeney to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Judge Wright. Meeting closed at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Brandt
Acting Recording Secretary