

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

### **October 5, 2016**

Attendees: Judges, Wright, Berkenstock, Elkin, Brandt, Marino, Magistrali, Daly, DePanfilis, Streit-Kefalas, Randich, Calabrese, Schad, Keeney, Probate Court Administrator Knierim

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:48 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:**  
Minutes from September 14, 2016 meeting approved.
3. **Correspondence:** None.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**  
The State Auditor is performing an audit of the Probate Assembly for the years 2013-2015.
5. **Committee Reports:**
  - Continuing Education – Judge Becker  
The next seminar is scheduled for November 29, 2016 and will cover a variety of topics, including commitments for drug/alcohol addicted, bonds, guardians of estate and probable cause.
  - Ethics – Judge Magistrali  
The committee plans to address concerns over Rule 3.8 at the next meeting. Also to start to address the use of social media and listservs.
  - Legislative – Judge Mahon  
No report.
  - Nominating – Judge Marino  
There will be three openings on the Executive Committee in 2017.
  - Planning – Judge Brandt  
No report.
  - Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock

Public Information – Judge Purnell  
No report

Ad Hoc Committees:

- Conservatorship Guidelines – Judge DeGennaro  
No report.
- Court Security – Judge DePanfilis  
The committee is meeting today and plans to focus on three issues: security training, firearms and ensuring that all courts have had a security assessment performed.
- Floating Clerks – Judge Berkenstock  
No report.
- Hospitality – Judge Yamin

No report.

Judicial Selection Working Group – Judge Elkin

No report.

Statistics – Judge Dorval

No report. This is a new committee charged with creating a replacement for the weighted workload system.

6. **Comments of the Probate Court Administrator** – Judge Knierim  
Revenue for the system continues to be strong. This is a one-time phenomenon due to the period in which decedents' estate fees were not capped.

Two new judges will be joining the probate system as two judges, Judge Elkin and Judge Egan, are retiring,

There is a Judges Institute on October 19, 2016, with an emphasis on domestic violence training. Also roundtable sessions for staff will be happening in six locations around the state, primarily to discuss new legislation.

PCA will apply for a grant from the State Justice Institute to fund a conservator training program. It will be a web based program primarily for family conservators.

7. **Comments of the President-Judge**

No comments.

8. **Other Business to come before the Executive Committee**

Judge Elkin thanked all members for their support over the years as he approached his retirement. He also suggests obtaining a copy of the CBA presentation on Powers of Attorney and the new law that took effect on October 1, 2016.

9. **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad  
Recording Secretary