

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2017

Attendees: Judges Wright, Keeney, Magistrali, Darby, Randich, Purnell, Daly, Becker, Schad, Probate Court Administrator Knierim and Attorney Tom Gaffey.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:51 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:**
Minutes from September 13, 2017 meeting approved.
3. **Correspondence:** None.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
The only expense in the budget is the cost of the September 20, 2017 educational seminar. Judge Magistrali noted that the cost of the room rental has doubled in the last year. There was also an increase in parking fees.
The Treasurer's report dated October 11, 2017 was approved.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - Continuing Education – Judge Becker
The next Judges Institute is scheduled for October 19, 2017. The joint CBA/Probate Assembly program is scheduled for November 29, 2017.
 - Ethics – Judge Magistrali
No report.
 - Legislative – Judge Fox and Judge Rowe
The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2017.
 - Nominating – Judge Marino
Judge Purnell presented the slate to be nominated.
 - Planning – Judge Brandt
No report.
 - Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock
Judge Wright reports that the Committee continues to meet monthly.
 - Public Information – Judge Purnell
No report.
6. **Comments of the Probate Court Administrator** – Judge Knierim

Judge Knierim reported that there is no update on the budget.

The Connecticut Supreme Court requested that PCA file an Amicus Brief in the matter of Valliere v. DSS. The matter concerns a conservatorship matter originating in the Meriden Probate Court. The Court issued a decree which was effectively ignored by DSS, that action was upheld by an agency hearing officer.

On appeal, the Superior Court upheld the validity of the Probate Court decree. DSS has appealed to the Supreme Court. Judge Darby assisted Judge Knierim and Tom Gaffey on the drafting of the Amicus brief. He reported that the real issue is the enforceability of Probate Court decrees.

eBilling went live in all Probate Courts on October 1, 2017. To date, all feedback has been positive. Judge Knierim reported that approximately 200 of 700 conservators/attorneys eligible to use the system have already utilized it.

The Conservator Guidelines Committee is diligently working on a draft of the new required conservator standards. Judge DeGennaro is the chair. The goal is to have the draft prepared in time for the members of the Assembly to review at the January 25, 2018 meeting.

Judge Knierim stated he met with a reporter from the Hartford Courant doing a story on the conservator system.

7. Comments of the President-Judge

No comments.

8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee

Judge Magistrali raised the issue of an influx of voluntary conservator applications being submitted for the purpose of appointing a conservator to become representative payee for Social Security payments. Other judges reported this is an ongoing issue that will create a significant budget issue for the Probate Courts.

9. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad
Recording Secretary