

## **Probate Court Rules Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Office of the Probate Court Administrator  
186 Newington Road  
West Hartford, Connecticut

The meeting was convened at 3:10 p.m. by Judge Paul Knierim, Probate Court Administrator and Chair.

Other members in attendance: Attorney Molly Ackerly, Attorney Bonnie Bennet, Attorney Thomas Gaffey, Attorney Karen Gano, Attorney Paul Hudon, Attorney Christopher Hug, Attorney Patricia Kaplan, Judge Brian Mahon, Judge John McGrath, Mr. Stephen Pednault, CPA, Attorney Carmine Perri, Ms. Sondra Waterman, and Judge Steven Zelman.

Also in attendance: Attorney David Biklen, Committee Reporter

Members not in attendance: Attorney Douglas Brown, Professor Jeffrey Cooper, Judge Michael Darby, Ms. Suzette Farrar, Judge Gerald Fox, Jr., Judge Robert Killian, Jr., Attorney Gabriella Kiniry, Attorney Andrew Knott, Attorney Greta Solomon, Judge Beverly Streit-Kefalas, Mr. Arthur Teal, and Judge Claire Twerdy.

### **Remarks of the Chair**

Judge Knierim welcomed the committee. Before turning to a discussion of the proposed rule changes since the January 2014 meeting, Judge Knierim underscored that helping judges, staff and practitioners master the rules is an ongoing priority for the system. In addition to numerous seminars over the past several years, two newly instituted educational opportunities focus on the rules. First, a "Rule Note Moment" will briefly highlight some key rules issues at each Probate Assembly seminar. Second, a 90 minute workshop with court staff will accompany each statutorily required court visit.

### **Approval of the Minutes of January 16, 2014**

The minutes of the January 16, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

### **Discussion of Proposed Rule Changes**

Judge Zelman, Judge Mahon and Judge Knierim presented the proposed rule revisions as recommended by Subcommittee I, II and III, respectively, since the January 16, 2014 meeting of the full committee.

After review and discussion of the revisions, the committee voted to approve all the recommended changes to Rules 1, 5, 8, 13, 18, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 40, 44, 45, 47, 61, 67 and 72, which were presented today and at the committee's January 16, 2014 meeting.

**Other Business**

Judge Knierim outlined the process for finalizing the proposed revisions. A working group will edit the drafts and add historical notes over the summer and circulate complete draft among committee members when finished. Judge Knierim asked that members hold September 4, 2014 for a tentative meeting if needed to discuss issues with the drafting. The Probate Assembly will review the proposed revisions on September 17, after which the Supreme Court will publish the proposal in the Law Journal and conduct a public hearing. The revisions, if approved, will be effective July 1, 2015.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.