



## CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

### Meeting of the Continuing Education Committee

**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

### MINUTES

Present: Hon. Michael Brandt; Hon. Mark DeGennaro; Hon. Martin Landgrebe; Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Chair; Hon. James Steck; Attorney Evan Brunetti; and Attorney Francesca Knerr.

The meeting was called to order at 9:44 a.m.

The January 24<sup>th</sup> Judges Institute was well attended and very informative.

The committee discussed a brief update on the upcoming seminar on March 14, 2024

- Case law update
- Informational presentation on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the court system
- Informational presentation on Supportive Decision Making

The remainder of the meeting focused on discussion of the content of potential programs for the 2024 seminars:

#### June 26, 2024

- Judicial Branch Situational Awareness Training, including de-escalation techniques
- Review of Probate and Superior Court appeals process
- Potential presentation from the Connecticut State Library and Archives regarding the agency, probate records and related records topic
- Potential presentation for an in-depth review of discovery in Probate Court proceedings, particularly regarding various subpoenas in probate
- Firearms rights: the loss and restoration of firearms rights, NICS requirements

#### September 18, 2024

- Reinstatement of parents in guardianship hearings
- UCCJEA
- Overlapping jurisdiction and differences between Superior Court (Juvenile, Family, etc.) and Probate Court potentially coordinating with CBA Sections

#### October 23, 2024/November 20, 2024 Annual Legislative Update

- "New" Probate Rules of Procedure (target July 2024 revisions)
- Interviewing techniques (targeted selection)
- Overlapping jurisdiction within the State (between Probate Courts)
- Judges' favorite statutes: potpourri of judges presenting and discussing their favorite probate statutes

Potential topics for future meetings include:

- Forensic accountings
- DDS placement and other emergency hearings
- Panel discussion on generating respect in the courtroom
- Disqualification process and Rule 15
- Complaints before the Council on Probate Judicial Conduct
- General history of Connecticut Probate
- Impact of secondary trauma on judges, clerks, and parties appearing in the court
- Resources available from the Victim Services Advocate, Office of the Child Advocate and Health Care Advocate
- Identifying abuse with focus on: minors, trafficking and domestic abuse, elders
- Retirement and maximizing benefits; challenges facing retirement, such as special elections for judges

The next meeting will be held in-person on April 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting schedule for the rest of 2024 is as follows: June 5, August 21, October 16, and December 18. All meetings will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Office of the Probate Court Administrator, Library.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus of all members at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hon. Jeannine Lewis  
Committee Chair