

## CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

June 15, 2021

Present: Hon. Cynthia Becker, Chair, Hon. Michael Brandt, Hon. Domenick Calabrese, Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Hon. Mark DeGennaro, Evan Brunetti, Staff Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm by Judge Becker.

The two upcoming webinars were discussed. The first is Incomplete PC-200 applications to be held on June 23 and the second is Workplace Violence Training to be held on June 29. For the time being, these are the last of the remote seminars as we hope to be able to return to in-person seminars in September.

### September Seminar

The first in-person seminar will be September 14, 2021 at the Farmington Club. The seminar is tentatively scheduled to begin at 1:00 and is expected to last until just after 4:00, giving three hours of CLE credit. The topics will be mostly related to Children's matters and will include presentations on Marriage of a Minor, Did You Know segment and Managing Ex Parte Communications. The last matter will qualify for ethics credit. After a break, a presentation will then be given on the newly enacted Parentage Act.

Following the seminar, there will be the quarterly Probate Assembly meeting, as required by statute. Following the Probate Assembly meeting, there will be a social event with light offerings.

### Judges Institute

The Committee then discussed the Judges Institute presentation expected to be held on October 26 at the CBA building in New Britain. The seminar will include a detailed presentations on will contests, including the requirements for a valid will, what is needed for a will to be admitted over a challenge, how to handle a will copy where the original cannot be located, how to address inconsistencies in the will such as scrivener's errors or self-made changes by the testator, undue influence, lack of capacity and the evidentiary issues involving all of the same. Discussion will also include the impact of not admitting a will, reviving a prior will and how to structure possible settlement. As part of the presentations, the panel will also discuss Hearing Management issues.

A second section of the Judges Institute will be on new legislation, most likely presented by the PCA staff attorneys and outside speakers. There will be a section on the Parentage Act, as well as other new legislation affecting probate.

A third component will hopefully address when and how to recuse yourself as a judge. It is expected that this portion will include an ethics component.

### November Joint PC/CBA meeting

Judge Lewis reported regarding some of the discussion between the bar association and probate in planning the bi-annual, joint seminar in November. The newly enacted Parentage Act will be part of the presentation as it has wide ranging implications. In addition, it is expected that there will be a portion regarding the impact of covid on our proceedings. This presentation may also be considered part of the ethical requirements. Atty. Brunetti indicated that they are meeting again on July 8, 2021 to further develop topics.

#### Future Topics

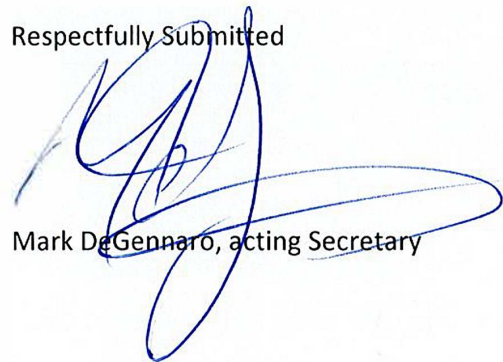
The committee discussed the need for a better explanation of the Uniform Trust Code and how it impacts our courts and where we are to have jurisdiction.

It was also discussed that for the 2022 Children's matters seminar, further review of overlapping jurisdiction could be explored, as well as the implications of the new legislation mandating that state agencies honor our decrees and how that may apply to DCF. It was also discussed that someone from DCF might present to give us insight on how they want to interact with the courts.

Judge Lewis also noted that since 2022 is an election year, the January seminar should contain a reminder on campaign ethics.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm. The next meeting was scheduled for July 20, 2021 at 1:00 pm through WebEx.

Respectfully Submitted



Mark DeGennaro, acting Secretary