



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Regular Meeting of the Ethics Committee

December 7, 2023
9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

In attendance: Judges Brandt, Darby, Gardner-Riordan, Hoyle, McGrath, Norris and Probate Court Administrator Streit-Kefalas.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. Approval of minutes of the September 14, 2023 meeting

Judge Garner-Riordan made a motion to approve the minutes. Judge Darby seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Discussion of Judicial Ethics

The discussion opened with a recognition that Attorney Christopher Hug had assumed his role as attorney for the Council on Probate Judicial Conduct.

Judge Brandt reviewed a recent Superior Court Judge's request for an informal opinion concerning his attendance at a law firm sponsored event. A discussion followed. Judge Brandt will send that informal opinion out via email to the Probate Judges for their review and consideration.

The committee members had a lengthy discussion about how to address motions to disqualify. It seems to be a topic of interest and should be addressed in an educational seminar.

Judge Brandt and Judge Hoyle will be presenting on Ethics at the January 2024 Continuing Education Seminar and hope to initiate a discussion on the topic.

The committee agreed to a new meeting schedule of three meetings per year, to be held at 3:00 p.m. at the Probate Court Administrator's Office on March 6, 2024, June 5, 2024 and December 4, 2024.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael R. Brandt
Committee Chair