

**Regular Meeting of the
Executive Committee**

April 12, 2023

9:45 a.m.

Office of the Probate Court Administrator
186 Newington Rd.
West Hartford, CT 06110

Attendees: Judges Anthony, Brandt, Calabrese, Daly, Darby, Hoyle, Jalowiec, Maxham, McCaffrey, McGrath and Randich also Probate Court Administrator Judge Streit-Kefalas, Chief Counsel Heather Dostaler and Director of Financial Services Lisa Hansen.

1. Call to Order:

Judge Daly called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of March 8, 2023 was made by Judge Darby, seconded by Judge Brandt, and approved. Judge Calabrese abstained.

3. Correspondence:

Judges Daly and Streit-Kefalas reported no correspondence for the Assembly.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was circulated to all members with the agenda. Judge Randich reviewed the expenditures set out in the report. Judge Brandt moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Calabrese and unanimously approved.

5. Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Judge Brandt reported for Judge Lewis. The March Judges Institute at Quinnipiac University School of Law was well attended. The Elder Law section of the CBA is hosting a seminar on April 19th at UCONN Law School. Judges Lewis and Norris are panelists and the topic is Elder Abuse. Two hours of CLE credits will be given. The next committee meeting is on April 25, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA library. The next seminar is June 21, 2023.

Ethics

Judge Brandt held a committee meeting on March 23, 2023 and he reported it was well attended. Recent Judicial Council opinions were discussed.

Legislative

Judge Streit-Kefalas reported that the Probate “ops” bill is out of committee with the provisions we requested. It will now go to the House and Senate. The bill will likely not be presented for a vote until later in the session. The proposed health insurance bill has not been raised by the committee as yet. The eligibility to marry bill has received priority attention from the Bipartisan Women’s Caucus.

The Governor’s proposed budget reflects flat General Fund appropriations and extending the due date for Connecticut estate tax returns from 6 to 9 months. It will have a financial impact on our budget which needs to be considered.

The next Committee meeting is April 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Trumbull Probate Court.

Nominating Committee

No Report

Planning

No Report.

Procedures Review

Attorney Dostaler reported that the committee met on March 6, 2023 and continues to review forms. The next committee meeting is June 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at PCA Library.

Public Information

Judge Brandt reported that the next Committee meeting is May 5, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at PCA Library.

6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:

Judge Streit-Kefalas reported that PCA has hired Cynthia Wolfe Boynton as our Manager of Communications and Intergovernmental Relations who will begin on April 21, 2023.

Lisa Hansen, Director of Financial Services and Judge Streit-Kefalas presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. They answered questions from the judges and offered explanations for the projected numbers. No changes to the proposed budget were requested by the judges. The budget will be presented to Hon. Elizabeth A. Bozzuto, Chief Court Administrator by May 15, 2023 for her approval by June 15, 2023.

7. Comments of the President Judge:

Judge Daly commented that our court system is truly unique especially in light of our budget process.

8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee:

The judges discussed how to manage court hours when municipal buildings are adopting a 4-day work week.

9. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Judge Darby, seconded by Judge Brandt and unanimously approved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hon. Kathleen N. Maxham,
Recording Secretary