



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee October 11, 2023 9:45 a.m.

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

Attendees: Judges Anthony, Brandt, Ceneviva, Daly, Gardner Riordan, Hoyle, Lewis, Maxham, Osterndorf, Randich and also Probate Court Administrator Beverly Streit-Kefalas and Chief Counsel Heather L. Dostaler.

1. Call to Order:

Judge Daly called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 meeting was made by Judge Gardner Riordan, seconded by Judge Hoyle and unanimously approved.

3. Correspondence:

None.

4. Treasurer Reports:

Judge Randich presented the Treasurer's reports for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 and the first quarterly report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Judge Hoyle moved and Judge Ceneviva seconded a motion to approve both reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Judge Lewis reported that the September 20th seminar was well attended and impactful. The next seminar will be a Judges Institute on October 25th at Central Connecticut State University. A panel of judges will be presenting on address parties with limited English proficiency. There will be a legislative update as well as a discussion on jurisdiction and tools for judges as managers. The committee is working on the joint Probate Assembly and Connecticut Bar Association "Bench/Bar" seminar for November 14th at the Aqua Turf. Topics to be covered are Capacity, Accountings, Elder Abuse, Trust Modification, and Fiduciary and Attorney Fees. The committee's next meeting will be on October 18, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library. All suggestions for educational topics are welcome.

Ethics

Judge Brandt reported that the Committee met on September 14, 2023. Campaign ethics were discussed. The Committee will be disseminating some suggestions on this topic. The Council on Probate Judicial Conduct has retained Attorney Christopher Hug as its counsel. The next meeting of the Ethics Committee is December 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Legislative

No Report

Nominating

No Report.

Planning

Judge Anthony reported that there was no quorum at the meeting on October 3, 2023. The next meeting will be on November 6, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at a site to be determined. The committee will be discussing guidelines for remote and in-person hearings.

Procedures Review

No Report. The next meeting is December 4, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Public Information

No Report. The next meeting is December 1, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in the PCA Library.

Security

No Report.

6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:

Judge Streit-Kefalas reported on the following:

- a. The Rules Committee has been meeting at Quinnipiac University School of Law and will be finalizing and revising the Rules of Procedure for a proposed effective date of July 1, 2024.
- b. Clerks Roundtables throughout the state are in full swing. Judges are encouraged to attend.
- c. Court visits are wrapping up.
- d. The NCPJ conference is set for 11/15/2023 in Florida. It will be the last conference with Judge Yamin as President and judges are encouraged to attend.

7. Comments of the President Judge:

Judge Daly commented on the said state of world affairs with the conflict between Palestine and Israel.

She inquired about the correct procedure to be taken by courts when a decision has been appealed. Judge Streit-Kefalas explained the statutory requirements to be taken by appellants. Heather Dostaler requested that courts notify the PCA Law Department when an appeal has been taken so the appeal may be monitored. It was suggested that appeals and any stay of the probate proceedings would be a good future topic for continuing education.

8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee:

Judge Lewis reported that she attended the last CAPC meeting on the Essex Steam Train. The speaker was excellent and attendees appeared to have an enjoyable evening.

9. Adjournment:

Judge Randich moved and Judge Lewis seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Hon. Kathleen N. Maxham, Recording Secretary