

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

## January 9, 2019

Attendees: Judges Wright, Streit-Kefalas, Jalowiec, Riordan, Magistrali, Blick, Randich, Berkenstock, Daly, DeGennaro, Brandt, Forgione, Becker, Ganim, Schad, Probate Court Administrator Knierim and Chief Counsel Bonnie Bennet.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:49 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:**  
The minutes from the November 14, 2018 meeting were approved.
3. **Correspondence:**  
None.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**  
Judge Magistrali reported that current expenses are \$7431.50 leaving a balance of \$27,508.50. Treasurer's report approved.
5. **Committee Reports:**
  - Continuing Education  
Judge Becker reported there is a Judges Institute on January 17. The committee plans to separate most future educational programming into separate sessions for judges and clerks. There will be some joint meetings.
  - Ethics  
Judge Magistrali plans to address social media issues with the committee. There will be a short presentation at the March meeting.
  - Legislative  
Judge Knierim presented the Probate Court Operations bill for approval of the Executive Committee. Motion to approve the bill passed.
  - Nominating  
No report.
  - Planning  
Judge Forgione reported that the committee is meeting on January 25 to discuss unsupervised probate. Judge DeGennaro suggested developing a pamphlet that the current system is largely unsupervised already.
  - Procedures Review  
Judge Berkenstock reported that the committee continues to work on changes.
  - Public Information  
Judge Blick reported that the committee is meeting on February 6. Discussion over various types of public presentations made by judges.
  - Hospitality  
No report.
  - Conservatorship Guidelines

Judge DeGennaro reported that there has been positive feedback on the new online trainings.

Floating Clerks

No report

Statistics

No report.

**6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator**

Judge Knierim announced that sadly Vin Russo will be leaving PCA, he is hoping to hire a replacement by March 1.

The new legislative session starts today. PCA has discussed the budget with the Office of Fiscal Analysis and will be meeting with OPM and the new governor.

The eFiling project is progressing well and the pilot will be launched as scheduled. There was discussion over the use of individual juris numbers in the new system.

The automated CMS reminder alerts for decedent estates will be launching in March. Judge Knierim encourages all courts to use the new reminder systems. Amy Benjamin is available to come to courts to assist with implementation.

**7. Comments of the President-Judge**

Judge Wright thanked all for their kind wishes during his recuperation.

**8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee**

Judge Forgione brought up the issue of medical records being subpoenaed to the courts. There will be a presentation on the issue at the March meeting and the May clerk roundtables.

Judge Streit-Kefalas serves on the DCF HEART team dealing with child trafficking. She is willing to share any information she receives in that role with the Assembly. A suggestion was made to offer trainings to attorneys dealing with these issues.

**9. Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad  
Recording Secretary