



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Meeting of the **Ethics Committee** April 16, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Office of the Probate Court Administrator

Present: Judges Michael R. Brandt, Elisa H. Bartlett, Michael Dolan, Clifford P. Hoyle, and Jeannine Lewis. Also present: Probate Court Administrator Beverly K. Streit.

1. Call to Order:

Judge Brandt called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Judge Hoyle and seconded by Judge Lewis to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2025 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion:

Judge Brandt summarized the Ethics Committee's activities over the past year. Committee members, along with other judges, presented on the Code of Probate Judicial Conduct, Courtroom Decorum, Campaign Ethics, and Ex Parte Communications. He also reviewed several recent ethics decisions from other states.

Judge Bartlett discussed the types of challenges brought before the Council of Probate Judicial Conduct. The Committee and Judge Streit agreed that sharing suggestions, relevant published decisions, and periodic reminders with Probate Judges could help reduce the number of complaints filed.

An ethics presentation is scheduled for the October 2026 Judges Institute. Judge Brandt will notify Committee members once the Continuing Education Committee finalizes the topics and presentation format.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

4. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Michael R. Brandt
Committee Chair