



## CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

### **Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee July 9, 2025 9:45 a.m.**

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

Attendees: Judges Barrett, Berkenstock, Brandt, Darby, Jalowiec, Lewis, Randich and Steck, Chief Counsel Heather L. Dostaler and Probate Court Administrator Beverly Streit.

**1. Call to Order:**

Judge Darby called the meeting to order at 9:56 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Minutes:**

A motion was made by Judge Lewis and seconded by Judge Barrett to approve the amended minutes of the June 11, 2025 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Correspondence:**

None.

**4. Committee Reports:**

Continuing Education

Judge Lewis expressed her appreciation to the speakers at the June 25, 2025 Continuing Education Seminar. It was well-attended. The next continuing education seminar will be on September 17, 2025 at CCSU. The committee is planning its Bench/Bar presentation for November. The next committee meeting will be on August 20, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Ethics

Judges Brandt reported that the next committee meeting will be September 18, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Legislative

No report.

Nominating

No report.

Planning

Judge Darby reported for Judge Anthony that the various sections of the drafted Bench Guide are being compiled and formatted for final review.

Procedures Review

Judge Berkenstock reported that the committee has not met since her last report. The next meeting for the committee is on September 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Public Information

No report.

Court Security

No report.

NCPJ

No report.

**5. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:**

Judge Streit reminded the judges of the CMS Basics Webinar later in the day. She encouraged all to attend.

Judge Streit reported that PCA is conducting the biennial court visits for 30 courts this summer into early fall.

She also reported that the Governor has issued the three writs for the special elections to be conducted for probate judge positions on November 5, 2025, for West Haven, Farmington Regional and Madison-Guilford. Judge George Baker recently began his term in Windham-Colchester for the retiring Judge John McGrath. Judge Carolanne Rowe has assumed the position vacated by Judge McGrath as Administrative Judge for the Northeast Regional Children's Probate Court.

Judge Streit reminded the judges of policy manual changes as of July 1<sup>st</sup> and the recent communication regarding invoices that must be addressed by year end in preparation for the launch of the new CMS in 2026.

Finally, she highlighted that the new legislative bill authorizing DDS to petition for guardianship with authority to manage finances became effective upon enactment. She encouraged courts not to send out requests for review assessments to DDS all at once to allow the department to complete them timely.

**6. Comments of the President Judge:**

Judge Darby commented on his approach to internal hires from within our system. A discussion took place among the judges about other's approaches and the likelihood for staff seeking positions within the system to progress professionally, for geographic convenience, or for other reasons.

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

None.

**8. Adjournment:**

Following the motion by Judge Randich and second by Judge Jalowiec, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Michael R. Brandt, Acting Recording Secretary