

CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

Regular Meeting of the **Executive Committee**

December 10, 2025 9:45 a.m.

Office of the Probate Court Administrator

186 Newington Rd. West Hartford, CT 06110

Attendees: Judges Anthony, Berkenstock, Brandt, Darby, Hoyle, Jalowiec, Lewis, McCaffrey, Randich; Chief Counsel Heather L. Dostaler; and Probate Court Administrator Beverly Streit.

1. Call to Order:

Judge Darby called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Judge Randich and seconded by Judge Hoyle to approve the November 12, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Correspondence:

None.

4. Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Judge Lewis expressed her appreciation to the judges who presented at the November Bench/Bar seminar. She reported that the next Continuing Education Seminar will be January 28, 2026. The details are still being finalized, but there will be a presentation on Campaign Ethics, Retirement for Judges and Title XIX. The next committee meeting will be on December 17, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Ethics

Judges Brandt reported that the committee will present at the January 28, 2026 Judges Institute on Campaign Ethics. The next committee meeting is March 26, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Legislative

Judge Streit reported that the Legislative Committee will meet on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at the Trumbull Probate Court.

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Nominating

No report.

Planning

Judge Hoyle reported that the next meeting is on May 18, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA library.

Procedures Review

Judge Berkenstock reported that Procedures Review Committee met on December 8, 2025. The next meeting is on March 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Public Information

No report.

Court Security

Judge Hoyle reported that the next meeting of the Court Security Committee will be May 11, 2026.

Bylaws

Judge Brandt reported that the committee met and will present its recommendations to the Executive Committee at its January 2026 meeting. The Committee will have to schedule a special meeting to finalize its recommendations to be made to the Executive Committee.

NCPJ

Judge McCaffrey reported that the fall conference in Texas was a success. Retired Connecticut Probate Judge James Purnell was elected as the Association's President. The spring conference will be in Williamsburg, Virginia from May 6 to May 9. The fall conference will be in Hilton Head from November 11 to November 14, 2026.

5. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:

Judge Streit informed the Committee that the 2026 schedule of meetings and educational events has been published. She encouraged the members to schedule their meetings in the CMS calendar.

Judge Streit reported that the office hired Attorney Rochelle Duyan as Program Manager, External Affairs. She was introduced to the Committee members.

Judge Streit expressed her appreciation to Judges Darby, Barrett, and Randich for conducting the public hearing on the Revisions to the Probate Court Rules of Procedure.

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She also announced that the Budget Committee had approved the three percent (3.0%) COLA for staff commencing in 2026.

Judge Streit shared that she has reported a number of situations to the Auditors of Public Accounts regarding conservator billings. She reminded the judges to ensure careful review attorney and conservator billing and to make sure that all required reports are also timely filed by these parties.

Judge Streit reported that there are a few pieces of legislation that her office will be monitoring and working with various state agencies in the upcoming short session of the legislature.

6. Comments of the President Judge:

Judge Darby reviewed the status and procedures for the Working Group on Conservatorship.

7. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee: None.

8. Adjournment:

Judge Anthony made the motion to adjourn. Judge Jalowiec seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Michael R. Brandt, Acting Recording Secretary