



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF THE
PROBATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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Regular Meeting of the
**PA 25-48 § 7 Conservator Compensation
Working Group**

Monday, September 15, 2025
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Office of the Probate Court Administrator
186 Newington Road, West Hartford, 06110

Minutes

The meeting was convened at 2:02 p.m.

Members in attendance: Chair Hon. Beverly K. Streit; Attorney Matthew V. Barrett; Hon. Americo Carchia; Attorney Vincenzo Gallo; Hon. David K. Labriola; Mag Morelli; Attorney Rebecca L. Rigdon; and Hon. David C. Shepard.

Members absent: none

Convene Meeting and introductions

Judge Streit thanked the members for their attendance and participation. Judge Streit also took a moment for introductions.

- *Mag Morelli, President, LeadingAge Connecticut*, on behalf of nursing homes, as defined in section 19a-563 of the general statutes.
- *Attorney Vincenzo Gallo, Gallo & Associates LLC*, an attorney having expertise serving as conservator.
- *Hon. David C. Shepard, Judge of Probate for the Simsbury Regional Probate District*, also an attorney having expertise serving as conservator.
- *Hon. David K. Labriola, Judge of Probate for the Region 22 Probate District*
- *Hon. Americo Carchia, Judge of Probate for the New Haven Probate District*, and an attorney having expertise serving as conservator.

- *Attorney Matthew V. Barrett, President / Chief Executive Officer for the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities / Connecticut Center for Assisted Living*, on behalf of nursing homes as defined in section 19a-563 of the general statutes.
- *Attorney Rebecca L. Rigdon, Staff Attorney for the Department of Social Services* on behalf of the Commissioner of Social Services.

Overview of PA 25-48 § 7

Pursuant to Section 7, “the Probate Court Administrator shall convene a working group consisting of Probate Court judges, the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee, representatives of nursing homes, as defined in section 19a-563 of the general statutes, and attorneys having expertise serving as conservators, to study and provide recommendations on the issues facing conservators in the Probate Court system, including, but not limited to, delay of payments, fee waiver requirements and compensation levels. Not later than January 15, 2026, the Probate Court Administrator shall report on the results of the study in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary. Such report may include legislative recommendations relating to Probate Court procedures and the topics that were included in the study.”

Judge Streit discussed a short history of the Probate Courts and their involvement with conservatorships and advancements, including the comprehensive statutory revisions in 2007 to ensure protection of due process rights, highlighting the mandatory Standards of Practice for Conservators and available online training tools.

Attorney Evan C. Brunetti, Deputy Director of External Affairs for the Office of the Probate Court Administrator, provided a presentation on the current laws and regulations relevant to conservator compensation in Connecticut.

After the presentation, the members began discussions on the statutory scope and charge from PA 25-48 for this working group. All members offered observations and put forth concerns surrounding the challenges faced by conservators. Moreover, the members had an exchange of perspectives for each of these observations and concerns. The members identified challenges in the following primary areas:

- Issues creating chilling effects on Conservator recruitment and retention
 - Example, fee and payment structure
 - Example, quality of life balance
 - Example, risk of liability and litigation
- Barriers for requesting or granting a waiver of court fees and eligibility for state-paid fiduciary
 - Example, form challenges, information gaps, timelines
- Barriers in evaluating compliance with regulations in order to facilitate proper payment of conservator fees from public funds
- Fiscal and budget challenges in implementing incentives for Conservator recruitment

- Fiscal and budget challenges in implementing incentives for Conservator retention

Essentially, the next meeting of the working group will take primary areas and specifically identify and address those overall barriers and thus focus on increasing the availability of conservators.

Schedule of future meetings

The next meeting of the Section 7 working group will be October 20, 2025 at the Office of the Probate Court Administrator, 186 Newington Road, West Hartford, CT 06110 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Minutes and agenda of this working group will be posted to CTProbate.gov website.

It is noted, future meetings of the Section 7 working group are proposed to be held November 17, 2025 and December 15, 2025, both at the Office of the Probate Court Administrator, 186 Newington Road, West Hartford, CT 06110 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Attorney Vincenzo Gallo motioned to adjourn.

Hon. David C. Shepard seconded the motion.

All members voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.