



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

1. Call to Order:

Judge Darby called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Judge Daly led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes of the June 25, 2025 Probate Assembly meeting were approved following proper motion and vote.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Judge Randich provided the Treasurer's Report for the full fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. He noted an amendment to the expenses incurred in the 2nd quarter of Fiscal Year 2025 to include a seminar deposit expense. The Treasurer's Reports as presented were approved following proper motion and vote.

5. Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Judge Lewis expressed her appreciation to the speakers for the day's presentation. She informed the Assembly that the Judges Institute would feature retired Superior Court Judge Agati to present on mediation. Attorney Eric Rothauser will speak on the ADA and there will be a presentation on citations and serving as an acting judge in another court. The committee is also planning the Bench/Bar presentation for November. The next committee meeting will be on October 15, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Ethics

Judge Brandt reported that the next committee meeting will be September 18, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the PCA Library. The committee will be presenting on decorum and professionalism with Statewide Grievance Counsel at the joint Bench/Bar seminar on November 19, 2025.

Legislative

Judge Fox reported that there will be a committee meeting on December 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in Trumbull. He also explained that the working group on conservatorships created out of recent legislation had met and would be moving forward as part of the statutory mandate.

Nominating

Judge Anthony is the newly appointed Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

Planning

Judge Hoyle is the newly appointed Chairperson of the Planning Committee. The Committee's bench guide on in-person/remote hearings is being compiled and formatted for final review.

Procedures Review

Judge Berkenstock was not present. Judge Randich reported that the committee did not have a quorum at the last meeting. The next meeting for the committee is scheduled for December 1, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the PCA Library.

Public Information

No report.

Court Security

Judge Hoyle reminded the judges of the efforts by George Fernandes on upgrading and overseeing the installation of improved security systems in the Courts.

NCPJ

No report.

Bylaws

Judge Brandt reported that the committee will be organizing and making some updates to the Probate Assembly Bylaws.

5. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:

Judge Streit encouraged new judges to join the various committees as an important part of the system. She informed the Assembly that the Rules Committee continues to meet and work on revisions to the Probate Court Rules of Procedure. The legislature will be reopening talks about the state budget and her office will continue to communicate its concerns about the reduced budget amount slated for the Probate Courts. Judge Streit also reported that there will be three special elections on November 5, 2025, including West Haven, Farmington Regional and Madison-Guilford. Finally, Judge Streit updated the Assembly on the Section 7 Working Group's first meeting held on September 15th and broadcasted by CT-N. Judges Carchia, Labriola, and Shepard are part of that committee, and the group will benefit from their experiences and perspectives.

6. Comments of the President Judge:

Judge Darby informed the Assembly that he had attended the Working Group's first meeting. He was impressed by the different perspectives and is hopeful that the group will present some helpful changes to conservatorships.

He also encouraged new judges to participate in the Assembly Committees.

7. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee:

None.

8. Adjournment:

Judge Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Judge Shepard. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hon. Michael R. Brandt, Acting Recording Secretary