

Regular Meeting of the Public Information Committee

December 6, 2024 1:30 p.m.

In attendance: Judges Wexler, Brandt, DeMoura, Deneen, Gentile, and Labonte, and PCA Deputy Director of External Affairs Evan Brunetti.

1. Call to Order

Judge Wexler called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2023 meeting by Judge DeMoura and seconded by Judge Wexler. The motion passed.

3. Old Business/New Business

Judge Wexler asked the committee members what adjectives they would use to describe the Probate Courts. The adjectives were: responsive, accessible, user-friendly, impactful and fast. The group spoke about the distinctions between the Probate Courts and Superior Courts, but also emphasized that most residents do not realize what the Probate Courts do.

We discussed our efforts to educate the public about the Probate Courts. Judges spoke about speaking at senior centers, public events, non-profit organizations and even teaching an adult education course on probate. Judge Wexler described her newsletter.

The committee resolved to provide quarterly templates to all judges of the Probate Assembly so that they can publish their own newsletter, add an article to a community newsletter, publish an article in a local paper or create their own communication to constituents. Judge Wexler will circulate the first template in early 2025 to the committee members to provide feedback before emailing to all judges.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michael R. Brandt Committee Member