

**COMMITTEE
ON THE
JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROGRAM**

**SUBCOMMITTEE
ON THE
IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXISTING SYSTEM
FOR
EVALUATION OF TRIAL JUDGES**

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 -- 2:00 p.m.

**Superior Court, One Court Street, Middletown
Room 607L**

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 5, 2009 MEETING
- II. INTRODUCTION: USES OF INFORMATION GATHERED, IN LIGHT OF CONN. GEN. STAT. SEC. 2-40A
- III. ATTEMPT TO REACH CONSENSUS ON:
 - A. Additional Evaluators
 1. PJ's (Consensus Achieved -- YES)
 2. AJ's (Consensus Achieved -- NO)
 3. Court Staff (Consensus Achieved -- YES)
 4. Litigants
 5. Self-Represented Litigants
 6. Probation Officers
 7. Family Relations Officers

8. Other
- B. Revisions (If Any) To Present Attorney Questionnaire (Rev. 3/07)
1. Adequacy of Questions
 - a. Too Few / Too Many?
 - b. If Too Few, What Additional Areas of Inquiry?
 2. Information About Respondent
 - a. Too Little / Too Much
 - b. If Too Little, What Additional Data?
 - i. Outcome Favorable / Unfavorable?
 - ii. Previously Evaluated Same Judge?
 3. Addition of Comments Section?
 4. Addition of “Recommended For Assignment To Complex Litigation”?
 5. STATISTICAL RELIABILITY (require two returns from same matter before using?)
- C. Revisions (If Any) To Present Juror Questionnaire (Rev. 3/95)
1. Too Few / Too Many Questions?
 2. If Too Few, What Additional Areas of Inquiry?
 3. Additional Information About Respondent (*e.g.*, Previous Jury Experience)?
 4. Addition of Comments Section?
 5. STATISTICAL RELIABILITY.
- D. Distribution Of Questionnaires
1. Uniform Distribution Rules in All J.D.’s
 - a. Whose Responsibility?

- b. How Enforced?
 - 2. After Hearings of *less* Than One (1) Hour?
 - 3. After Settlement Conferences?
 - 4. After Mediations?
 - 5. On Complex Litigation Docket, After Settlement Or Other Disposition of Case Before Trial Is Commenced
 - 6. Other sources of information, such as writing?
- E. Anonymity Issue
 - 1. Adequacy of Present Procedures
 - 2. If Inadequate, What Additional Procedures?
 - 3. Greater Publication to Evaluators of Procedures to Preserve Anonymity to Increase Comfort Level?
 - 4. Other
- F. Feedback to Judges
 - 1. Reduce Minimum Number of Complete Questionnaires Required For Compilation and Feedback (Presently 25; Only Chief Court Administrator Can Override)
 - 2. Feedback of Evaluation Data Required When X Questionnaires Completed or Y Months Pass From Last Feedback, Whichever Comes First
 - 3. Use of Mentor Meetings Whenever Feedback Provided
- G. Use of Independent Observer/Evaluators
 - 1. Who (*e.g.*, JTR, Retired Trial Lawyers, Others)
 - 2. When (*e.g.*, Once Per Year? More? Less?)
 - 3. What (*e.g.*, Questionnaire? Narrative Report? Both?)

IV. ASSIGNMENT

V. NEXT MEETING