

Minutes

Public Service and Trust Commission
Committee on the Utilization of Judge Trial Referees
Policy Subcommittee

September 13, 2010
3:00 PM

The Policy Subcommittee of the Committee on the Utilization of Judge Trial Referees met at 3:00 PM in the chambers of the Hon. Marshall K. Berger, Jr., at 95 Washington Street, Hartford.

Subcommittee members in attendance: Hon. Arnold W. Aronson, Hon. Marshall K. Berger, Jr. (chair), Hon. Deborah Kochiss Frankel, Hon. Linda K. Lager, Hon. William J. Lavery, Hon. Aaron Ment, Hon. Joseph H. Pellegrino, Hon. William L. Wollenberg

The meeting was called to order by Judge Berger at 3:02 PM

1. Judge Berger welcomed the members of the subcommittee.
2. The minutes of the June 14, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Judge Berger spoke about how the proposed redesignation process recently worked in his Judicial District. A discussion ensued regarding some of the shortcomings that the proposed policy did not address. The issue of creating a transitional period for a Judge Trial Referee who is not redesignated was raised.
4. A discussion ensued regarding the various proposals that were drafted. Following the discussion, the subcommittee voted 7-1, with Judge Wollenberg dissenting, to forward the proposal submitted by Judge Aronson, as amended, to the full committee.
5. The subcommittee discussed drafting a new policy requiring the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, an Administrative Judge or a Presiding Judge to inform a judge trial referee as soon as reasonably possible if they receive an adverse complaint about a judge trial referee and that complaint has been substantiated.
6. The subcommittee discussed adopting a general policy statement stating: "The Judicial Branch recognizes the value of the services of judge trial referees and will provide support to the judge trial referees to enable them to serve in a meaningful way." The subcommittee decided that this language will be incorporated in its report to the Chief Court Administrator.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM

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