

Public Service and Trust Commission
Juror Security Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Juror Security Subcommittee was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014 in Conference Room 133 at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, CT.

Members Present: Esther Harris (Chair), Judge Brian Fischer, Melanie Kerr, Robin C. Smith, Roy Smith, Buffy Irizarry, Ines Nieves, Kevin Grosse, Jeffrey Getz, and Kimberly Symmes.

Members Not Present: Attorney Raymond Hassett and Richard Loffredo.

The following issues were discussed by attendees:

1. Reviewed and approved minutes from 08/19/2014.
2. The Chief Court Administrator's office was presented with the action plan items and it was concluded that the priority regarding juror security should be juror parking. The Waterbury, Bridgeport, and New Haven courts have been identified as the first courts that should be reviewed for better parking. More information is needed to come up with ideas to improve the parking situations at these courthouses.
3. There is paid private parking across from the Bridgeport courthouse on 1061 Main Street. There is also parking nearby the criminal court in Bridgeport located on Golden Hill St. It was mentioned that other courthouses have arranged parking at private or municipal lots. Judicial pays for jurors to park there at a discounted rate. Robin Smith will follow up on other possible parking in Bridgeport and find out who owns the private lot across from 1061 Main Street. Melanie Kerr will also contact facilities to find out if there is a reason the other lots are not being used for juror parking and how much we pay for jurors to park at other private lots. Ms. Kerr will also try to arrange having a staff member from facilities at the next meeting.
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4. A shuttle for jurors could improve the parking situations for jurors at the Bridgeport and New Haven courthouses. Shuttles are being utilized at other courthouses. For example, the New Haven Court offers jurors a shuttle to their cars after a verdict is made and the Stamford Court provides a shuttle from the court to the train station for employees. It was suggested to look into how these shuttles operate, at what times, and the cost to run them. Roy Smith will follow up with Stamford for information on how their shuttle operates.
5. There may be employee parking spaces that are not being utilized at the courthouses, such as Waterbury. It was suggested that information be gathered as to how many criminal trials there are per year. This information may be useful in determining how many spaces would need to be available to trial jurors on an average day. Esther Harris will gather information on the number of criminal trials for the three court locations and the possibility of designating trial juror parking spaces. Esther will also follow up with the Waterbury Court to verify whether there is employee parking that is not being utilized.

6. Introduction of New Members.
7. Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.
8. The next meeting date will be emailed to members.