

**(DRAFT) Minutes
Public Service and Trust Commission
Pro Bono Committee
Subcommittee on Metrics
April 26, 2011
2:30 PM**

**Teleconference
225 Spring Street, 2nd Floor, Room 206
Wethersfield, CT**

The Pro Bono Committee Metrics Subcommittee held a teleconference on April 26, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. at 225 Spring Street, 2nd floor, room 206, Wethersfield, CT.

Members participating via telephone: Hon. William Bright (chair), Attorney Catherine Mohan, and Attorney Barry Hawkins.

At 2:39 p.m. Judge Bright called the meeting to order.

1. The minutes of the March 15, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. A discussion was held on issues identified at the March 15, 2011 meeting with regard to mandatory self-reporting of pro bono activities. Attorney Mohan contacted the Freedom of Information Commission (FOIC) on the issue of maintaining anonymity of information regarding individual attorney's pro bono activities. Attorney Mohan reported that if information on pro bono activities is to be obtained through the annual attorney registration process, it will be necessary to confer with FOIC information technology staff in order to determine if the portion of the registration form containing that information can be kept confidential while the other portion remains public. Also, it may be necessary to add language to the attorney registration form indicating that the pro bono information is being obtained for a limited purpose. Judge Bright and Attorney Mohan will schedule a meeting with FOIC staff to address the issue of anonymity.

It was noted that there currently is a bill in the legislature regarding attorney malpractice insurance which, if passed, will require a change to the current attorney registration form, just as collecting pro bono information would require. It was agreed that form changes to add pro bono information could not be done at the same time as form changes resulting from the pending bill due to time constraints and other issues.

The question of whether a mandatory self-reporting requirement needs to be implemented by legislation or by rule was raised. It was suggested that it may require legislation and an exemption from the Freedom of Information Act.

Judge Bright reported that he spoke to the Tolland County Bar Association after the March 15th meeting and no problems are anticipated with moving forward on mandatory self-reporting. Judge Bright will address this topic again at a meeting of the Council of Bar Presidents in order to get more feedback.

Attorney Hawkins reported that there is no push back from the Connecticut Bar Association Board of Governors on this issue.

Next steps identified were to continue to obtain feedback from the Bar on mandatory self-reporting and conferring with FOIC on the feasibility of keeping any pro bono information on the attorney registration form confidential.

3. The next meeting will be May 24, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.