

Minutes
Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and
Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters
May 7, 2019

The Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters met in Courtroom 400 of the Hartford Judicial District Courthouse located at 95 Washington Street, Hartford, CT, on May 7, 2019.

Those in attendance: Judge Michael Albis (chair); Ms. Liza Andrews, Policy Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Judge Edward Graziani; Attorney Susan Hamilton (designated by Attorney Christine Perra Rapillo); Attorney Justine Rakich-Kelly; Attorney Danielle S. Rado; Mr. Stephen B. Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section, Department of Public Health; Attorney Mark Korber; and Attorney Byran Cafferelli

Absent: None

Also in attendance were Attorney Michael Bowler, Statewide Bar Counsel; Attorney Nancy Porter, Judicial Branch Legal Services; Attorney Damon Goldstein and Mr. Samuel Bruder from the Judicial Branch's Court Operations Unit.

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 PM by Judge Albis.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Liza Andrews and seconded by Justine Rakich-Kelly to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 26, 2019. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were approved.

II. Changes to the Active List of Persons Qualified to Serve as a GAL/AMC

a. Attorney Jill Blomberg

Attorney Blomberg was removed from the active list because she did not respond to an email sent to her on November 15, 2018. Attorney Blomberg emailed a request to be reinstated to the active list on April 2, 2019. Attorney Blomberg meets all the requirements of Practice Book Section 25-62.

After a brief discussion by the participating Committee members, Danielle S. Rado moved, and Justine Rakich-Kelly seconded, that Attorney Blomberg be reinstated to the active list. The Committee approved her reinstatement by a 9-0 vote.

b. Judge Thomas Colin

Judge Colin was removed from the active list because he was serving as a judge of the superior court. Judge Colin emailed a request to be reinstated to the active list on April 6, 2019. Judge Colin meets all the requirements of Practice Book Section 25-62.

After a brief discussion by the participating Committee members, Justine Rakich-Kelly moved, and Danielle S. Rado seconded, that Judge Colin be reinstated to the active list. The Committee approved his reinstatement by a 9-0.

c. Attorney Kate Zarro

Attorney Zarro was removed from the active list because she did not respond to an email sent to her on November 15, 2017. Attorney Zarro emailed a request to be reinstated to the active list on April 26, 2019. Attorney Zarro meets all the requirements of Practice Book Section 25-62.

After a brief discussion by the participating Committee members, Danielle S. Rado moved, and Susan Hamilton seconded, that Attorney Zarro be reinstated to the active list. The Committee approved her reinstatement by a 9-0 vote.

d. Attorney Michael Meehan

Attorney Meehan was removed from the active list because he did not respond to an email sent to him in 2015. Attorney Meehan emailed a request to be reinstated to the active list on May 7, 2019. Attorney Meehan meets all the requirements of Practice Book Section 25-62.

After a brief discussion by the participating Committee members, Liza Andrews moved, and Susan Hamilton seconded, that Attorney Meehan be reinstated to the active list. The Committee approved his reinstatement by a 9-0 vote.

III. Process and Removal of Individuals from List of Persons Qualified to Serve as GAL/AMC

The Committee discussed the Draft Removal Process by Complaint with agreement on the overall process. A revised draft of the removal process will incorporate the changes the Committee agreed upon. The revised draft will be circulated in advance of the next meeting in preparation for additional discussion at the next scheduled meeting. A draft complaint form with instructions was also circulated and discussed, with the Committee in agreement to the overall language and format.

IV. Schedule of Future Meetings

The next meeting for the Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters will be June 4, 2019 at 2:00 PM. The meeting will be held in

the Hartford Judicial District Courthouse located at 95 Washington Street, Hartford, CT, with the room to be determined.

Judge Albis adjourned the meeting at 3:55 PM