

**Connecticut Judicial Branch  
Law Library Advisory Committee  
March 24, 2017**

The Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Advisory Committee met on May 20, 2016 at the Quinnipiac University School of Law, 370 Bassett Road, North Haven, Connecticut, in the Lynne L. Pantalena Law Library conference room SLE 211A.

Present

Hon. Douglas C. Mintz, Chair  
Hon. James W. Abrams, Vice Chair  
Hon. Melanie L. Cradle  
Hon. Kevin C. Doyle  
Hon. Jane B. Emons  
Hon. Erika Tindill  
Atty. Michael R. Brandt  
Atty. Adam J. Cohen  
Ms. Ann DeVeaux  
Prof. Darcy Kirk

Absent

Atty. William H. Clendenen, Jr.  
Ms. Teresa Miguel-Stearns  
Atty. Eamonn S. Wisneski

Other Attendees

Ms. Ann H. Doherty

Judge Mintz chaired and called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

**I. Introduction of members**

The members in attendance introduced themselves, since several members were recently appointed to the Committee.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the May 20, 2016 meeting were approved.

**III.** Two separate resolutions were presented and passed by unanimous vote acknowledging the many years of Advisory Committee service of S. Blair Kauffman and William Yelenak.

**IV. Law Library Operations**

**Budget** – Ann Doherty reported that the FY18 Law Library Services budget projections for electronic and print materials were submitted to Judicial administration. The proposals were calculated, taking into account contract and subscription increases.

**Staffing levels** – Ann reported that two law librarians retired in 2016. The Rockville librarian retired as of June 30<sup>th</sup> and the Putnam librarian retired as of August 31<sup>st</sup>. Ann stated that both libraries have been kept operating by assigning coverage days to existing staff, and curtailing the hours and days of operation for the Rockville and Putnam libraries, and for the libraries providing rotating staff.

**Library Operations** - Ann discussed the re-configuration of the Putnam Law Library, the closure of the Willimantic Law Library, the removal of stored volumes from the courthouse at 121 Elm Street, New Haven, and the future move of the Litchfield Law Library to the Torrington Courthouse.

**Law Library Services – Activities – Ann Doherty reported the following:**

**ATJ Workgroup Training** – Two presentations have been offered to date discussing the resources and services of the Judicial Branch law libraries and the court service centers. A repeat of one program is planned for early April 2017, which will offer guidance to public librarians on how to conduct a reference interview when dealing with the law and legal issues.

**CLA Conference** – The Access to Justice Workgroup on Libraries submitted a program proposal to the Connecticut Library Association’s annual conference planning committee. The proposal was selected. On May 4, 2017, a program entitled “*Courting the Public Librarian – Building Partnerships with the Legal Community*” will be presented by Jeff Dowd, Supervising Law Librarian, Dawn La Valle, State Library, Krista Hess, Judicial Program Manager, and Kate Frank, New Haven Legal Aid Association. The panel will discuss the Access to Justice movement and why public librarians are essential partners in that initiative. Anne Rajotte, UConn Law Reference Librarian, will be the panel moderator.

**Newslog** – The Newslog is a feature offered on the Law Library Services web site. Individuals subscribe to the service and receive daily email notices on topics of interest.

**Live Chat** – The law libraries are participating in a pilot of “live chat” – real time response to reference questions.

**V. Strategic Plan Implementation Report**

Ann reported that the Supervising Law Librarians and staff continue to work on assigned Strategic Plan goals. Each supervisor reported the progress to date by staff on their respective assigned goals. Ann reviewed the Implementation Progress Report, dated March 2017. A discussion was had concerning the need to make additional outreach efforts to the bench and bar to provide notice of services available through the law libraries.

Judge Mintz proposed that a resolution of the Law Library Advisory Committee be prepared by Ann to recognize the outstanding dedication, continuing service, and tireless efforts of the Judicial Branch Law Librarians to assist all patrons seeking understanding and knowledge of the law and law-related information. The Committee passed the resolution by unanimous vote.

**VI. Future meetings and adjournment**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 20, 2017. The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.