

**MINUTES**  
**Connecticut Judicial Branch**  
**Law Library Advisory Committee**  
**October 17, 2008**

The Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Advisory Committee met on Friday, October 17, 2008 at the Quinnipiac University School of Law Library, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut in the law library conference room, LL241.

Present

Hon. Joseph P. Flynn, Chair  
Hon. Jon C. Blue  
Hon. Theodore R. Tyma  
Hon. Peter E. Wiese  
Mr. William H. Clendenen, Jr.  
Ms. Ann DeVeaux  
Mr. Blair Kauffman  
Ms. Darcy Kirk  
Mr. William P. Yelenak

Absent

Hon. William J. Lavery  
Hon. O. James Purnell, III  
Mr. Robert Cooney

Other Attendees

Ms. Faith P. Arkin  
Ms. Maureen D. Well

The chair of the committee, Judge Flynn, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**I. Approval of Minutes.**

Minutes from the March 14, 2008 Law Library Advisory Committee meeting were approved.

**II. Survey for Judges and Family Support Magistrates.**

The committee discussed a draft survey regarding law library services. The original intent was that it be sent to judges and family support magistrates to solicit feedback about library services, such as their frequency of use, rating, and suggestions for improvement. It was recommended that the survey be revised to include a ranking question in order to determine which library service is most important to the user. It was also suggested that library books be categorized so that judges could also rank their importance. After further discussion, it was determined that the survey should be reexamined. There was a motion to table the survey. The motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Seminar for New and Experienced Attorneys.**

Ms. Well provided a report on the 2008 *Connecticut Legal Research and Courthouse Resources for New and Experienced Attorneys* seminar being offered this year in three judicial district locations: Rockville, Danbury and New Haven. This is the third year that the program has been offered; four training sessions were scheduled during the first year, and three sessions in the second year. It was noted that the programs are generally held in the jury assembly room and attendees have been a mix of newly admitted attorneys, experienced attorneys and paralegals. The seminars have been modified each year to reflect changing resources and services. Evaluations have consistently been quite positive. More than 200 individuals registered for the seminars in 2008.

### **IV. Strategic Plan for the Judicial Branch.**

Ms. Arkin provided a brief overview of the *Strategic Plan for the Judicial Branch* and the *Implementation Plan*, particularly as it impacts the operations of the law libraries. Ms. Well reviewed various initiatives of the law libraries which are either in place or are in the planning stages that support the goals of the Strategic Plan as it pertains to “Self-Represented Parties” and “Expectations of the Public.” It was suggested that Ms. Well contact Peter Arakas, General Counsel, LEGO Systems who is chair of the James W. Fellows program which is part of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. The idea was to explore whether there might be financial support from the Fellows program for law library initiatives.

### **V. Operations Update.**

Ms. Well provided a report on the status of the operations of the Law Library System. It was noted that the law libraries are almost at full staff. There is only one part-time law library position not filled; a new law librarian was hired for Stamford; and one librarian is on a medical leave of absence. If an early retirement package is offered in 2009, it could have a significant impact on law library staffing levels. The law libraries are extremely fortunate that there was a 3.7% increase in the materials’ budget for FY09, recognizing that the cost of publications continues to rise each year. Also, Ms. Well highlighted various marketing initiatives including the handout prepared for the CBA annual meeting, the new 2009-2010 calendars, and new information available at the law library website.

### **VI. New Business.**

Under new business, Judge Flynn noted that the Appellate Court is exploring changes to the Appellate rules regarding the filing of electronic briefs. On the Judicial Branch website, there is a link that takes the user to the CBA website that has a number of Supreme Court Briefs on-line. It was also noted by one of the members that the LLMC (Law Library Microform Consortium) announced that it has launched a project to digitize the Records and Briefs for the highest courts of California and New York. It hopes to include all fifty states at some future point.

The topic of "Records and Briefs" is to be added to the next agenda of the Law Library Advisory Committee. One member inquired whether the Branch has considered making the law libraries wireless. Further information will be reported to the committee at the next meeting. The last issue raised was a request by one member to reinstate the hard bound volumes of *Shepard's Citations* for the *U.S. Supreme Court Reports* for three of the largest libraries: Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport. It was requested that the cost for these publications be obtained to determine whether they could be reinstated.

**VII. Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen D. Well  
Secretary