

**Minutes**  
Judicial-Media Committee  
September 24, 2012

Present: G. Claude Albert, Judge David Gold, co-chairs; Tom Appleby, Melissa Bailey, Judge Patrick Clifford, Joe D'Alesio, Judge Robert Devlin, Melissa Farley, Judge Mark Gould, Judge Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, Judge Douglas Lavine, Morgan McGinley, Attorney Alan Neigher, Eric Parker, Chris Powell, Tom Scheffey, and Judge Dawne Westbrook. Also present: staff liaison Rhonda Stearley-Hebert.

*I. Open meeting*

Judge Gold opened the meeting at 3 p.m.

*II. Minutes*

Committee members unanimously approved the minutes from their meeting of April 19, 2012.

*III. Discussion of possible rules proposal re: closed circuit video in an overflow room*

Members discussed Mr. Albert's recommendation that the Judicial-Media Committee recommend that the Rules Committee clarify Section 1-10B of the Practice Book, *Media Coverage of Court Proceedings, in General*.

The rule prohibits the broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of proceedings involving sexual assault. Committee members agreed that the rule should specify that a closed-circuit transmission by the Judicial Branch of any proceeding would not constitute broadcasting or televising. This change would make it possible for an overflow room to be used if necessary, according to committee members. Such a transmission would be controlled by the Judicial Branch and not be archived, Mr. Albert said.

Judge Clifford said he believes that the rule could be easily clarified; both he and Judge Gold agreed the decision would still be at the presiding judge's discretion.

Attorney D'Alesio said he believes it would be easier to change the rule's commentary, rather than the rule itself, to make clear that a closed-circuit video transmission of any court proceeding by the Judicial Branch is not considered broadcasting. He said he would look into whether his suggestion is the best way to bring the matter before the Rules Committee.

*IV. Update on e-filing*

Attorney D'Alesio updated committee members on e-filing developments.

V. Skye Discussion with Massachusetts court officials regarding their newly revised rules regarding electronic devices

Joan Kenney, public information officer for the Massachusetts state courts, spoke about the commonwealth's newly revised rules regarding electronic devices and definition of media. The rules now allow "citizen" journalists to bring cameras into court, and Ms. Kenney addressed this change at length. She also described the process that Massachusetts used in developing the recommendations. The new rules took effect just recently, she added.

In discussing the matter afterward, committee members agreed that a blogger should be added to the Media Subcommittee, which is reviewing Connecticut's definition of media with regard to who may bring a camera into a courtroom.

VI. Adjourn

Committee members scheduled their next meeting for January 14, 2013, at 3 p.m. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:25 p.m.