

Minutes

Committee on Court Recording Monitors and Court Reporters February 4, 2010 2:00 PM

225 Spring Street Wethersfield

The Committee on Court Recording Monitors and Court Reporters met in the fourth floor conference room at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, on Thursday February 4, 2010.

Committee members in attendance: Justice Joette Katz (chair), Mr. Claude Albert, Hon. Marshall K. Berger, Jr., Atty. Peter Dreyer, Atty. Scott Hartley, Ms. Caren Kittredge, Mr. James Maher, Atty. Richard O'Connor, Ms. Shirley Sambrook, Atty. Lauren Weisfeld, and Atty. Harry Weller

The meeting was called to order at 2:09 PM by Justice Katz.

1. The minutes of the January 4, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. The committee continued its process of addressing the issues it identified during the affinity diagram exercise. The committee first addressed "what is the record?" Following an extensive discussion, the committee unanimously agreed on the following statement: "For the purposes of this committee's charge, the record is the official memorialization of what occurs during official court proceedings."
3. The committee next addressed "who owns the record?" Following discussion, the committee unanimously agreed that the public owns the record.
4. The committee next addressed "who has custody of the record?" Following discussion, the committee unanimously agreed that the record is created, maintained and administered by the Judicial Branch.
5. The committee next addressed what technologies are currently used to make the record. The methods currently used to make the record are (1) stenographic machines and software, (2) digital audio recording (FTR), and (3) analog recording (tape). In addition to the technology, the notes taken by the reporter or monitor are used in making the record.
6. The committee next addressed how the record is made. After discussion, it was decided that additional information was needed. This issue will be addressed at the next meeting.
7. The committee next discussed how the record is maintained. Attorney Hartley described how the record is maintained for each of the three different

technologies: stenographic machines, digital audio recordings and analog recordings.

8. The committee next discussed how the record is accessed. For the public or parties to the case, the general rule is that the record can only be accessed by purchasing the transcript. For the bench, the general rule is that the record can be accessed by either purchasing the transcript, listening to the audio recording or asking for a read-back.
10. Ms. Sambrook will contact the National Court Reporters Association to have a member speak at an upcoming meeting.
9. The Committee agreed to meet next on March 15, 2010 at 1:00 PM in the fourth floor conference room at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.