

## **Minutes**

### **Committee on Court Recording Monitors and Court Reporters**

**March 15, 2010**

**1:00 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 Monday, March 15, 2010.

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

The meeting was called to order at 1:20 PM by Justice Katz.

1. The minutes of the February 4, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. The committee continued its process of addressing the issues it identified during the affinity diagram exercise. During the meeting on February 4, 2010, the committee decided that it needed additional information regarding how the record is made. Attorney Hartley prepared a document detailing how the record is made by court reporters and by court recording monitors using analog cassette tape recording and digital audio recording. A discussion ensued on the prepared document.
3. During the discussion on Attorney Hartley's document, a discussion ensued on how the United States Supreme Court has transcripts on their website on the same day that oral argument is heard and the federal court system's use of PACER.
4. A discussion ensued regarding how many transcripts are created a year. The committee reviewed a document that had been previously provided by Mr. Maher and Attorney Hartley. Mr. Maher and Attorney Hartley will provide updated numbers for the next meeting. Staff will provide statistics regarding the average number of appealable orders each year.
5. A question arose regarding the recommendations contained in the report from the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) entitled "Digital Recording: Changing Times for Making the Record." Staff will contact COSCA to ascertain why they made the qualification for the recommendation entitled "Digital Recording Implementation." Staff will ask Ms. Shirley Sambrook to contact the National Court Reporters Association to have a member speak at the committee's next meeting.

6. The committee continued its discussion on how the record is accessed. Regarding the question of should the public be allowed to listen to audio recordings, the committee answered in the affirmative. The committee, however, recognized that there would be staffing issues with this.
7. The committee next discussed who orders transcripts. Overwhelmingly, transcripts are ordered by judges, lawyers or the parties to the case. Occasionally, other stakeholders, such as the media, will order transcripts.
8. The committee briefly discussed the recommendation from the Judicial Media Committee regarding the tape recording of court proceedings for the purposes of note taking. This recommendation was referred to the committee by Chief Justice Rogers.
9. A discussion ensued regarding real time reporting.
10. The committee discussed three potential pilot programs: (1) permitting attorneys and/or parties to purchase a disc containing that day's proceedings; (2) permitting a select number of individuals from the public to access the audio recording captured on FTR; and (3) the use of real time reporting for capital cases.
11. The Committee agreed to meet next on April 19, 2010 at 2:00 PM in the fourth floor conference room at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.