

**Minutes  
Public Service and Trust Commission  
October 30, 2007**

The Public Service and Trust Commission met at the Courtyard by Marriott at Cromwell located at 4 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell, CT on October 30, 2007 from 3:05 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.

Those in attendance: Hon. Alexandra DiPentima (Chair), Magistrate Sandra Sosnoff Baird, Hon. Robert E. Beach, Jr., Hon. John D. Boland, Joseph F. Camilleri, William H. Carbone, Hon. Patrick L. Carroll, III, Atty. Joseph D. D'Alesio, Hon. Nina F. Elgo, Atty. Melissa Farley, Hon. Roland D. Fasano, Hon. James T. Graham, Ms. Lisa Holden, Atty. Norman K. Janes, Hon. Clarence J. Jones, Atty. Kevin T. Kane, Justice Joette Katz, Ms. Caren Kittredge, Hon. Sandra Vilardi Leheny, Hon. Douglas C. Mintz, Atty. Joseph Mirrione, Atty. William H. Prout, Jr., Hon. Barbara M. Quinn, Hon. Kevin A. Randolph, Hon. Antonio C. Robaina, Atty. Kenneth B. Rubin, Hon. William B. Rush, Atty. Michael T. Ryan, Atty. Mary Sommer Sandak, Hon. Joseph Shortall, Thomas A. Siconolfi, Atty. Carolyn Signorelli, Atty. Toni M. Smith-Rosario, Atty. Robert Stillman, Hon. Hillary B. Strackbein, Atty. Frederic Ury, Atty. Dawne G. Westbrook, Mr. Alex Wood, and Atty. Jennifer Zito.

The meeting was called to order by Judge DiPentima at 3:05 p.m.

1. The first agenda item was the approval of the minutes from the meeting of September 27, 2007. Upon motion and second, the minutes were unanimously approved.
2. The next agenda item was a review of the Survey Questionnaire. Judge DiPentima reported that the Steering Committee considered all the comments and suggestions from the Commission. In doing so, she learned that Jury Administration sends out a survey to jurors. Since many of the concerns and questions raised involved jury accommodations, it was decided that the juror survey would be revised to incorporate those kinds of questions. That survey, as it is developed, will be shared with the Commission.

Atty. Farley reported that suggestions and comments were compiled and reviewed by the Steering Committee. Among other revisions, questions on security were added for all participants, and provisions were made for obtaining feedback on discrimination issues. The Branch is working with The Center for Research & Public Policy to develop a representative pool of respondents. The intent is to have the survey completed and results available for the next meeting of the Commission in December.

3. The third item on the agenda was a status report on the information-gathering phase and an overview of the entire process. An overview had been sent to the Commission members, containing a timeline and a breakdown of the various components of this process. Judge DiPentima went through the overview. She noted that in addition to the survey, approximately 83 focus groups encompassing judges, staff, and external community, legal, and advocacy groups are planned. To date, 40 focus groups have been conducted. The majority of these focus groups will be completed by the end of November. Public hearings are scheduled on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Supreme Court courtroom in Hartford, and on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfield Judicial District Courthouse in Bridgeport. Any Commission member interested in attending the hearings may contact Judge DiPentima.

In the third phase of the process, the Steering Committee will analyze the information collected from the survey, focus groups, and public hearings. Committees will be formed based on this analysis so that they may begin their work of developing outcome goals, strategies, and activities at the Commission's third meeting on December 11, 2007. The Commission will then develop the vision for the Judicial Branch, refine its mission statement, and begin to address the activity portion of the strategic plan.

4. The next item on the agenda was the Commission Focus Groups. Atty. D'Alesio explained that each group would identify trends, impacts, and strategies to address these impacts. Each group would have facilitators and would meet for approximately two hours before reconvening and sharing briefly the results of the session.
5. The Commission then broke out into three focus groups before returning to report on the major trends that each group had identified in their session. The information gathered from these three focus groups will be combined with the results of the other focus groups and given to the Steering Committee for analysis.

Judge DiPentima thanked the Commission for their participation and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.