

Proposed Changes to Draft Report  
Committee on Access to Meetings and Judicial Branch Administrative Records  
August 21, 2006

The Committee reached consensus on the following changes to the Committee report presented to the Task Force on August 10, 2006:

**Electronic or photographic access to meetings:**

- Practice Book § 1-10 be amended to permit broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of Judicial Branch meetings that are open to the public and scheduled in court facilities. Members of the media attending a meeting with equipment for the purposes enumerated above may only use such equipment in connection with the meeting. A marshal shall ensure that the equipment is being utilized in accordance with this rule.

A committee shall notify the administrative judge of the judicial district in which the court facility is located anytime a meeting is scheduled.

- Practice Book § 70-9 be amended to permit broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of Judicial Branch meetings that are open to the public and scheduled in court facilities. Members of the media attending a meeting with equipment for the purposes enumerated above may only use such equipment in connection with the meeting. A Supreme Court Police Officer or marshal shall ensure that the equipment is being utilized in accordance with this rule.

**Complaints received by the Judicial Branch regarding a particular judge:**

The Committee also believes that complaints that warrant administrative action, but do not rise to a level that is appropriate for a referral to the Judicial Review Council, such as letters of admonishment, should continue to be handled in a manner consistent with C.G.S. § 51-45a. As provided in that statute, any such action taken by the Chief Court Administrator shall become a part of any performance evaluation record of the judge, and shall be disclosed pursuant to statutes governing the release of performance evaluations.

**Closed Session:**

(c) Examples of a public session that may have a deleterious impact on debate or receipt of information, **and for which a closed session would be permissible under subsection (a)**, include, but are not limited to, situations where: (1) the information sought to be disclosed would invade “personal privacy” as that term has been construed in C.G.S. § 1-210(b), (2) disclosure or discussion of information would be likely to give a party to pending or impending litigation a procedural or tactical advantage, or (3) the members determine that their need for information is obtainable only on a promise of confidentiality and outweighs the public’s interest in attending the portion of the meeting at which the confidential information will be received or debated.