



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 21, 2010**

**PRESS ADVISORY:**

**Judicial Branch Commemorates ADA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Artwork by individuals with disabilities will be on display at the Middlesex Judicial District Courthouse starting Monday, July 26, 2010, through September 13, 2010, to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

An opening reception for the artwork is scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room, at the courthouse, located at 1 Court St., Middletown. The public is invited, and cameras will be allowed into the courthouse for this event.

“This commemoration is aptly named ‘Possibilities,’ to celebrate the potential for excellence within all of us and the strength of the human spirit,” Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers said. “To that end, the ADA ensures that people with disabilities have access to all the possibilities that life has to offer.”

As a result of the strategic plan implemented by Chief Justice Rogers, the Judicial Branch has implemented several measures to ensure equal access to all of its facilities. Among them:

- ADA coordinators are now available in every courthouse and facility. These coordinators provide assistance in obtaining everything from sign language services to assistive devices and CART, or Real Time Transcription;
- The Branch’s website, [www.jud.ct.gov](http://www.jud.ct.gov), now has a page dedicated to providing information about the ADA, including links to Branch ADA coordinators, lists of  
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## **2-2-2-2 ADA Commemoration**

auxiliary aids, directions and photographs of wheelchair-accessible entrances at courthouses;

- Magnifying glasses have been installed in all clerk's offices, Court Service Centers, Public Information Desks and law libraries.
- The Branch, with the assistance of the New England Assistive Technology Center at Oak Hill, is piloting the use of Microsoft Accessibility features on publicly-used computers in Court Service Centers at 90 Washington St. in Hartford and in New Britain Superior Court. The technology helps users with limited vision and mobility issues to easily navigate the Internet;
- The formation of an Access to Facilities Committee, which is charged with assessing signs at all Branch facilities and making recommendations to address and eliminate barriers that may impede entry to and movement within those facilities.

A sign language interpreter and materials in Braille and large print formats will be available during the commemoration. An audio description also will be available during the opening ceremony. Additional requests for accommodation may be sent to [ADA.Program@jud.ct.gov](mailto:ADA.Program@jud.ct.gov). Further information regarding the event, including where to park and directions, is available on the home page of the Judicial Branch website, [www.jud.ct.gov](http://www.jud.ct.gov).

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