Minutes Workgroup on Family Rules November 19, 2008

The Workgroup on Family Rules met in room 607L at the Middlesex Judicial District Courthouse located at 1 Court Street, Middletown, CT on November 19, 2008.

Those in attendance: Hon. Lynda Munro (Chair), Hon. Holly Abery-Wetstone, Hon. Sandra Sosnoff Baird, Hon. John Boland, Attorney Steven Dembo, Hon. Anne Dranginis, Attorney Gaetano Ferro, Hon. Steven Frazzini, Attorney Constance Frontis, Attorney Johanna Greenfield, Attorney Maureen Murphy, Attorney Thomas Parrino, Hon. Elliott Solomon.

Also in attendance were Attorneys Joseph Del Ciampo and Nancy Porter from the Judicial Branch's Legal Services Unit.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Judge Munro.

I. Review and approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the workgroup held on October 29, 2008 were approved unanimously by the members of the workgroup who were in attendance.

After review and approval of the minutes, Judge Munro asked the group if they would be willing to serve as members of the Family Commission with a few added members. The members of the Workgroup in attendance agreed to so serve.

II. Continue review of automatic orders

25-5(b)(1) through (8) of the re-drafted proposed automatic orders are unanimously adopted by the group. Regarding (c) of the re-draft, Judge Boland will rework the language.

III. Continue review of family rules

Questions that arose in the November 17th Family Support Magistrate Subcommittee meeting regarding rules 25-30 and 25-11 were discussed.

Regarding 25-30, it was the sense of the group that family matters and family support magistrate matters should have the same financial affidavit form and not two different forms.

Regarding 25-11 there was discussion regarding special defenses. In a "straw vote" the majority opinion was that something is needed for prenuptial agreements, but perhaps a notice might be enough. Judge Solomon and Attorney Dembo will put a draft together for the group to review. The members of the group more interested in seeing something more specific regarding special defenses will also put a draft together for the group to review.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at Middlesex Superior Court, 1 Court Street Middletown, CT (subject to members' availability—members will check their schedules and contact Judge Munro if they are unable to make it that day).

Judge Munro adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.