

**Minutes of
Identity Theft Committee
November 8, 2006**

The Identity Theft Committee met at 99 East River Drive, East Hartford, in Room 707 on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 from 1:20 PM to 4:00 PM.

Those in attendance: Judge Berger, Judge Blawie, Judge Carroll, Mr. Callahan, Atty. D'Alesio, Atty. Fisher, Judge Gruendel, Judge Lavery, Professor Marsh, Det. Peterson, Judge Pellegrino, Judge Pittman, Atty. Roberts, Det. Sabetta, Atty. Shay, Atty. Stillman, Atty. Ury, Mr. Weinstein, and Atty. Yen.

Judge Pellegrino called the meeting to order at 1:20 PM. He welcomed the committee members and after introductions of the members, explained that the committee had been convened by Judge Lavery, the Chief Court Administrator, as a follow up to recommendations from the Public Access Task Force, to address the issue of identity theft in connection with court records. Judge Lavery also welcomed the committee.

Next, Detective Peterson of the Fairfield Police Department and Detective Sabetta of the State Police gave a presentation on identity theft. The presentation provided information about the nature of the crime, the variety of methods by which it is accomplished, and several ways by which individuals could reduce their risk of identity theft.

Next, Atty. Livesay from Legal Services presented information on privacy and security issues arising from public access to court files. The presentation included an overview of what other states have done to define and protect personal identifiers in court files.

Atty. D'Alesio then discussed the current status of electronic filing of court records in Connecticut, including a presentation on information that can be found in court documents that are currently accessible to the public. Examples of both manually filed and electronically filed court documents containing personal information were shown.

Judge Pellegrino then opened a discussion concerning the direction and focus the committee might take. The suggestion was made that the committee review what other states are doing since many, if not all, states are facing the same types of issues. A discussion then ensued regarding what types of information and documents the court collects in a file, whether all of those items (including exhibits) are essential to the file, how long the files are retained, how accessible the files are, whether on paper or electronically, and what kind of requests for access to documents online the courts currently experience. After extensive discussion, it was determined that the committee would review the work of other states, go over the recommendations of the Task Force, review the documents the court requires and the forms used by the courts, review the current retention schedule for files, and look at the technology that is available to assist in protecting sensitive information. It was also suggested that the committee identify information that should be protected early in the process in order to make the task of the committee more manageable. Mr. Callahan suggested checking the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act for assistance in "scoping down" the information.

The next meeting of the committee will be December 8, 2006 at 1:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.