

Minutes

Connecticut Judicial Branch

Access to Justice Commission

Subcommittee on Legal Aid/Civil Representation

March 27, 2012

2:00 pm.

Teleconference

**225 Spring Street, Room 206
Wethersfield, Connecticut**

The Subcommittee on Legal Aid/Civil Representation met via teleconference at 2:00 p.m. on March 27, 2012.

Committee members in attendance: Judge William Bright, Co-chair; Attorney Steven Eppler-Epstein, Co-chair; Attorney Eric George, Roberta Palmer, and Dean Jeremy Paul.

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m.

1. The subcommittee began the meeting with a discussion of the project to be undertaken by the University of Connecticut School of Law (UConn). Dean Paul expressed his belief that Professor Levin would be willing to be involved with assistance from Yale and Quinnipiac Law Schools as well.
2. The subcommittee discussed the need to have further guidance from the full commission with respect to its charge. It was decided that the subcommittee chairs would prepare a request to be forwarded to the commission.
3. The subcommittee agreed that the first step to be undertaken with respect to the UConn project should be a discussion with Professor Levin as well as Dean Saxton at Quinnipiac and Dean Post at Yale. A meeting should then follow. Dean Paul suggested that the project might be more effective through the use of research assistants rather than having a class or seminar devoted to the topic.

4. Judge Bright outlined his thoughts concerning the disconnect between the services that lawyers are willing to provide and the number of people who either cannot afford legal services or choose not to retain legal counsel. He agreed to outline more specifically his thoughts and circulate them to the members of the subcommittee.

5. The subcommittee had a brief discussion on the Access to Justice (ATJ) initiatives in other states and the need to categorize the status of ATJ in Connecticut.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.