Minutes of the Meeting Legal Specialization Screening Committee June 3, 2016

On Friday, June 3, 2016, the Legal Specialization Screening Committee (LSSC) met in the Judicial Branch Legal Services' Conference Room at 100 Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT from approximately 2:00pm until 2:19pm.

Members in attendance were:

Attorney Robert Dwyer, Acting Chair Attorney Patrick Kennedy Attorney Rosemarie Paine (via telephone)

Also in attendance were Attorney Denise K. Poncini, Counsel, and Attorney Katharine Casaubon, Counsel, from the Judicial Branch Legal Services Office.

Members not present were:

Attorney Salvatore DePiano, Chair Attorney Jeffrey Low, Vice Chair

- 1. The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on December 17, 2014 and unanimously approved those minutes.
- 2. The Committee considered the Connecticut Bar Association's renewal application to certify lawyers as specialists in Workers' Compensation law in the State of Connecticut. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to forward the following Resolution to the Rules Committee:

The Legal Specialization Screening Committee recommends that the Connecticut Bar Association be approved for recertification as a certifier in the specialty area of Workers' Compensation law pursuant to its application dated January 28, 2016, because in the opinion of the Committee, it meets all of the criteria in the rules and as developed by the Committee to evaluate whether entities should be approved as certifiers, subject to the condition that, if approved, the applicant shall be required to notify promptly the Legal Specialization Screening Committee of any material changes in its methodology for certifying lawyers as specialists during the term of its approval.

- 3. The Committee considered several matters related to the Application for Authority to Certify Lawyers as Specialists (JD-ES-63). Attorney Casaubon offered a detailed explanation of all proposals concerning this form.
 - The Committee considered proposed revisions to this form to instruct applicants to submit their applications in accordance with the revised rule and regulation requiring electronic and hard copy submission. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to revise the form in accordance as proposed, to conform to the rule and regulation.

- b. The Committee considered the proposal to remove dynamic functionality from this pdf form, and to determine which questions will require additional space for the answer. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to remove the dynamic functionality from this form and further decided that, if any further space was required for any answers, applicants were free to attached additional exhibits or pages, which is what applicants do now, as answers to these questions tend to be voluminous.
- c. The Committee considered the proposal to destroy the printed "old stock" of out of date versions of this form and to maintain this form in an electronic, pdf version in the future. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to destroy old, out of date hard copies and to maintain this form in an electronic only format.
- 4. Attorney Poncini provided notice to the Committee that Legal Services has, on behalf of the LSSC, received notice of the name change of the National Board of Legal Specialty Certification, Inc. to the National Board of Trial Advocacy, Inc. This entity is authorized to certify in the fields of civil trial practice and criminal law. Attorney Poncini notified Committee members that she will note this name change on the LSSC portion of the Judicial Branch website.
- 5. Attorney Poncini provided notice to the Committee that another entity will have their authority expire later this year which may require another meeting to approve a renewal application in the next few months.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Poncini

Counsel, Legal Services