Judicial-Media Committee

Minutes of the meeting on December 2, 2013

<u>Members Present</u>: Judge David Gold, co-chair; Tom Appleby; Melissa Bailey, Judge James Bentivegna, Justice David Borden, Linda J. Cimino, Joe D'Alesio; Judge Robert Devlin Jr., Melissa Farley; Karen Florin; Judge Barbara Bailey Jongbloed; Morgan McGinley, Eric Parker, Chris Powell, and Judge Dawne Westbrook.

- *I.* Open meeting -- Judge Gold opened the meeting at 3 p.m.
- *II.* Approval of minutes -- Committee members unanimously approved the minutes from their meeting on April 10, 2013.
- III. <u>Updates</u> Committee members received updates on: the 2014 Law School for Journalists, the resolution of the overflow room proposal; and electronic records. The committee tabled its discussion of defining media until its next meeting.
- IV. New Business: Accessibility of Arrest Reports Karen Florin brought before the committee the situation that occurs when a speedy arrest occurs and a defendant makes bond, meaning that a judge does not make a finding of probable cause at an arraignment. When this happens, the arrest report is not available to the reporter through court because it is not made part of the court file. She wanted to know whether there is a way for the document to be available to the public.
 - In response, the committee established a work group to study the issue and return with its findings. Judge Devlin, Ms. Florin and Ms. Bailey all agreed to serve on the work group. In addition, the committee will include a representative from the prosecution, defense, state Victim Advocate's Office and Judicial Branch.
- V. <u>Informal discussion with Ed Mahony of The Hartford Courant:</u> Mr. Mahony spoke with the committee regarding his experiences covering the federal trial of Whitey Bulger in Boston.
- VI. Adjourn meeting The meeting adjourned at approximately 5 p.m.