

# CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

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January 23, 2018  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
225 Spring Street, Room 204  
Wethersfield

### MINUTES

Attendees: Justice Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Isabel Alvarez, Samuel Bruder, Alison Chandler, Karen Chorney, Linda Cimino, Esther Harris, Cristina Johnson, Zarin Kapur, Philip Strambler, Ewa Wojewodzki, Shawna Woodard

#### Welcome and Approval of Minutes

The meeting commenced at 2:08 p.m. with welcoming remarks by Justice Richard A. Robinson.

Minutes from the meeting held on December 21, 2017 were unanimously approved.

#### Membership

- New member responses  
Of the 8 individuals waiting to hear about ACCC committee membership, 6 accepted the invitation to join and 2 declined (both noting schedule issues.)
- New member orientation  
An orientation session will be held for the 6 new members in February. The purpose of the session will be to orient them to the ACCC files, website, meeting dates, and initiatives.

#### ACCC Mission and Vision Statements Update

Justice Robinson reported that Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers approved the new ACCC Mission and Vision statements with very high praise for all of the committee's accomplishments.

#### ACCC Video Update

Karen Chorney reported that filming for the SJI-funded Cultural Competency Educational Video would be complete by the end of January. The first rough cut of the scenarios only will be ready for review by the end of February.

Karen also reported that, given the numerous hours of tape being edited, an extension of the grant would be requested to ensure adequate time to bring to fruition a product of the highest quality.

#### GAL/AMC Training Update

Per the request of The Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Children, the GAL/AMC training being developed for delivery on June 14, 2018 will focus on three specific areas of interest: (1) building cultural awareness, (2) understanding power and privilege, and (3) discipline in the context of culture.

Justice Robinson noted that the collaboration between judges and staff working together to develop curriculum is not a common occurrence, and he welcomed this opportunity. He requested that any member interested in developing the curriculum for this training should contact Shawna Woodard, who will schedule a first meeting with the group.

#### New Business and Announcements

- Michelle Alexander will be speaking at Central Connecticut State University on February 28, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. Contact Isabel Alvarez for tickets.
- Shaun King will be speaking at the UConn School of Law on February 22, 2018.
- The Committee viewed the final version of the Diversity Week promotional video, which is now posted on the internal website and the Branch's YouTube page. Justice Robinson noted he may want to show this video during his speaking engagements in other states to drive home the point that cultural competency and diversity training should be continuous.
- A subcommittee will be established to review and report back to the committee on cultural competency e-learning courses from other agencies that we may wish to seek copyright approval to offer via the LMS or link from our website.
- Justice Robinson reminded the Committee to consider the experts at local universities and colleges as possible Lunch and Learn speakers. Not every Lunch and Learn has to be a new program that is developed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.