

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

August 13, 2025
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
CSSD, 45 Winding Brook Drive, Room 220, Glastonbury, CT

MINUTES

Attendees: Judge Norma Sanchez-Figueroa (Chair), Troy Brown, Brian Hill, Meghan Korn, Daisy Rosado-Hack, Derik Rodriguez, Michael Snyder, Philip Strambler, Lia Cestaro, and Patrick (PJ) Deak

Absent: Isabel Alvarez, Spiro Uyar, Shawna Woodard

Judge Sanchez-Figueroa called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

The meeting minutes from the May 21, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

ACCC Membership Subcommittee

The committee agreed that the ACCC Chair and Director of DEI will be sending out the announcement soliciting new ACCC membership applications for September 8, 2025. Subcommittee members will receive and review the applications quarterly and then bring the recommendations to the larger committee. New member processes are almost finalized; the next steps are that the subcommittee will create the language for an automated response via an email notice.

ACCC Internal Website

The subcommittee reviewed both the internal and external ACCC website and recommended that the internal ACCC website be redirected to the internal Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion site where all internal information will be housed. The external ACCC website will still be available for the public to review agendas and meeting minutes.

Diversity Week 2025

Troy Brown reported that the keynote speaker for opening day is confirmed: Justice Melissa Long from Rhode Island Supreme Court. To accommodate her schedule, the opening day program will be held in the afternoon from 12:00pm. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, October 27th. A pre-registration notice will be sent to employees who have attended the ceremony in the past. Sessions from Tuesday through Friday will follow the previous Diversity Week format, offering experiential learning, classroom, and virtual sessions.

The committee is in contact with Chief Court Administrator Judge Bozzuto and Deputy Chief Court Administrator Judge Ficeto regarding judges attendance at Diversity Week.

The committee discussed alternative options in the event that the Legislative Office Building (LOB) space is unavailable for Diversity Week opening day.

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Troy Brown)

- A new DEI unit Administrative Trainee, Supreeth Koneru, began in July.
- A recommended candidate for Program Manager for Access to Justice/DEI is anticipated to start September 19, 2025.
- The DEI Unit continues to conduct training; however, enrollment and attendance have been low. Some sessions have been canceled due to low enrollment, and there have also been instances where employees registered but did not attend.
- DEI Focus Groups began in April with 62 sessions scheduled across the state. Of these, 36 have occurred while 22 were canceled due to low enrollment.
- Upcoming Cultural Recognition Events include Hispanic Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Month.
- The DEI Unit recently facilitated the “American Dream” training for the DHMAS Multicultural Advisory Committee and is planning additional trainings for DDS and the Office of the Public Defenders

New Business

None

Announcements

None

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency will be on September 17, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. virtually on Teams.

The meeting adjourned at 3:23p.m.