

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

September 16, 2020
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Video-Conference

MINUTES

Attendees: Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Isabel Alvarez, Troy Brown, Samuel Bruder, Sandra Cardone, Patrick (PJ) Deak, Juanita Halepas, Esther Harris, Zarin Kapur, Meghan Korn, Ines Nieves, Daisy Ortiz, Felix Rodriguez, Philip Strambler, Spiro Uyar, and Shawna Woodard

Guest: Lia Cestaro

Absent: Juana Brown, Cristina Johnson, Michaelangelo Palmieri, and Ewa Wojewodzki

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

The ACCC congratulated Chief Ines Nieves on her retirement from the Judicial Branch effective September 30, 2020.

The minutes from the July 15, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Diversity Week 2020

Felix Rodriguez reported that the Subcommittee continues to meet once per week. They sent the ACCC a draft copy of the flyer with the keynote speaker information and the agenda for the remainder of the week. The keynote speaker hopes that at least 100 employees will participate in the opening session to be held virtually. Most of the events will be held in the afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to allow for greater participation. Marketing is very important and frequent emails to staff because we do not know who is in the office or checking emails regularly. We will send instructions to attend the classes via Microsoft Teams.

ACCC Response to Current Events

Chief Justice Robinson reported that these are pending items as he must speak with Chief Court Administrator Judge Carroll in more depth. The committee recognizes that, when the time comes, we may need to revise some items, particularly the ACCC Statement so the message is relevant when it is distributed.

New Business

Troy Brown presented Lia Cestaro for consideration as a new member of the ACCC. Lia is the coordinator for the CSSD Multicultural Affairs Unit. She addressed the committee and excused herself for a member vote. The ACCC unanimously approved her membership.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.