

**Bench-Bar
Centralized Small Claims Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2008 – 2:00 p.m.**

The Centralized Small Claims Committee was formed to study the small claims court and to make recommendations for its future success. In its endeavor to make positive changes, the Committee will be reviewing Practice Book Rules, recommending uniform practices throughout the state and considering legislative changes. It is anticipated that the Committee's work will result in a positive and substantial impact on the attorneys and litigants accessing our courts.

Members in Attendance:

Honorable Barbara M. Quinn, Chief Court Administrator, Honorable Patrick L. Carroll, III, Deputy Chief Clerk Administrator, Honorable Clarence J. Jones, Honorable James W. Abrams, Attorney Joseph D. D'Alesio, Attorney Nancy L. Kierstead, Attorney Maureen P. Finn, Attorney Natalie K. Erickson, Magistrate Elaine Braffman, Magistrate Sydney W. Elkin, Magistrate Joseph J. Patchen, Magistrate Michael Ross, Attorney Marshall R. Collins, Attorney Joanne S. Faulkner, Attorney Kevin R. Hennessy, Attorney Karen Lahey, Attorney Adam Olshan, Attorney Robert L. Peat, Attorney Raphael Podolsky, Attorney Sarah Poriss, Attorney William G. Reveley, Attorney Kenneth Rozich, Attorney Richard A. Terry

Agenda:

Welcome

Honorable Barbara M. Quinn, Chief Court Administrator

Opening Remarks

Judge Clarence Jones, Chairperson

Overview on establishment of Centralized Small Claims

Nancy L. Kierstead

Goals of centralization were presented: streamline redundant and outdated processes, eliminate inconsistency, encourage uniformity, provide courtroom coverage, incorporate case management techniques, increase use of technology, find ways to work smarter.

PowerPoint presentation - Review of Small Claims statistics

New business-Session to Identify Issues

The Committee identified issues of concern for magistrates, attorneys, unrepresented litigants and the small claims court itself. Subcommittees will be formed to further discuss these issues and to make appropriate recommendations.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Recorder: Janet-Marie Harris, Court Planner I, Court Operations