

**Connecticut Judicial Branch
Law Library Advisory Committee
September 27, 2013**

The Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Advisory Committee met on September 27, 2013 at the Quinnipiac University School of Law, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut, in the law library conference room LL241.

Present

Hon. Douglas C. Mintz, Chair
Hon. James W. Abrams
Hon. Jane B. Emons
Hon. William J. Lavery
Hon. Raheem L. Mullins
Atty. Adam J. Cohen
Atty. Eamonn S. Wisneski
Atty. William P. Yelenak
Ms. Ann DeVeaux

Absent

Hon. Henry S. Cohn
Atty. William H. Clendenen, Jr.
Prof. S. Blair Kauffman
Prof. Darcy Kirk

Other Attendees

Atty. Deirdre M. McPadden
Ms. Ann H. Doherty

Judge Mintz chaired and called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. Welcome

Judge Mintz welcomed recently appointed Committee members, Hon. Jane B. Emons, Hon. Raheem L. Mullins, and Attorney Eamonn S. Wisneski.

II. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes from the May 31, 2013 Law Library Advisory Committee meeting were approved.

III. Law Library Operations

Ann Doherty discussed the FY14 budget allocation for Law Library Services. She provided members with a comparison chart tracking the libraries' budget allocations for FY2009 – FY2014, and explained the line item amounts for each library and the administrative office. The Committee noted that since FY2009 the Law Library Services' budget has been cut by more than half.

Ann reported that subsequent to the Law Library Advisory Committee's recommendation to the Chief Justice that a minimum of four law librarians be hired as soon as possible, a request was issued by Judicial Branch, Court Operations, to each unit to submit a hiring priority list. Ann submitted a request for five law librarian positions to be filled. She reported that no authorization to hire law librarians has been received to date.

Ann also reported that several plans, activities, and initiatives have been undertaken by the Law Library Services Unit, in accordance with the recommendations of the Focus Group report of July 2012, including coordinating group purchases for print materials, inventorying and consolidating law journal collections, piloting wireless connectivity, forming a joint committee to foster collaboration among the staffs of the Law Libraries, Court Service Centers, and Public Information Desks, and managing the “Ask Us a Question” feature on the Judicial Branch web page.

IV. Law Library Minimum Collection Standards

The Committee reviewed the “*The Connecticut Supreme Court Policies for the Establishment and Maintenance of a System of Law Libraries*” and “*The Law Library Minimum Collection Standard*,” as presently published, in order to commence a comprehensive study of the Standards and the appended bibliographies. The Committee discussed changes and revisions to be recommended in the final report to the Chief Justice. Ann will draft the first section of the report to include the recommendations discussed to date. The initial draft will be available for review by Committee members before the next scheduled meeting.

V. Survey of Core Legal Publications, Civil and Criminal

Ann reviewed and discussed the various surveys undertaken, at her direction, to gather information to assist the Committee in its review and analysis of the civil and criminal core legal research material bibliographies. She reported that the law librarians responded to various surveys in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information concerning the use and status of each library’s collection. Legal Research Clerks and Legal Research Supervisors participated in surveys concerning the civil and criminal bibliographies. Charts and survey result totals were tabulated for each series of completed surveys. In addition, Ann reported that, during the month of September, the Superior Court Judges were requested to participate in an online survey concerning the civil and criminal core legal material bibliographies. Also, in order to continue gathering information from various user groups, Ann stated that attorneys would be requested to respond to online surveys concerning the core materials commencing sometime in October. Judge Mintz requested that the law librarians continue to track the use of print materials for the months of October and November 2013. Results of the surveys submitted by judges, attorneys and the law librarians’ tracking totals will be reported at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

VI. Future Meetings and Adjournment

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann H. Doherty
Secretary