

## **Minutes**

### **Public Service and Trust Commission Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency**

The Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency met at 99 East River Drive, East Hartford, in Room 707 on October 15, 2010.

Those in attendance were: Hon. Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Eugene Allen, Desiree Biggs, Travis Claxton, Esther Harris, Precious Hyland, Richard Loffredo, Eileen Meehan, Ines Nieves, Robyn Oliver, Veronica Perez-Davidson, Phil Strambler, Shawna Woodard.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Judge Robinson.

1. The minutes from the meeting on September 24, 2010 were unanimously approved.
2. Judge Robinson informed the committee that he was waiting for further comments from Judicial Branch administration on the definition of cultural competency, which he would bring to the next meeting. He further said that he found the definition to be a good one and flexible.
3. Committee Members Robyn Oliver, Precious Hyland, and Phil Strambler demonstrated the internal website and the planned launch communications materials created by the Advisory Committee on Diversity. As a product of the predecessor committee, the website had been approved by the Web Board and Judge Quinn, but had not been launched due to the constituting of the current Advisory Committee. Judge Robinson then led a discussion of the blog and comment features, as well as the resource postings and links. Judge Robinson further reminded the committee of the breadth of the committee's charge. The Branch serves a diverse population that cuts across all racial, ethnic, cultural, intellectual and physical and socio-economic lines, and therefore, the activities of the Committee should take into consideration all groups.
4. Judge Robinson then led a discussion of the proposed survey and focus group questions. Committee members came to the consensus that there was value in both the survey and focus group efforts, while expressing concern that the data to be acquired and the participants in the groups be carefully and precisely defined, and that anonymity be preserved.
5. Judge Robinson created two subcommittees, one for the website and one for the survey/focus groups. He charged the committee members to email Committee Member Loffredo their choice of subcommittee on which to serve.

6. Judge Robinson charged the committee members with reviewing the handout of recommendations, prioritizing them, and then emailing this prioritization to Committee Member Loffredo.

The next meeting will be November 19, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.