

Minutes
Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and
Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters
July 27, 2022

The Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters met remotely via Microsoft Teams on July 27, 2022. The meeting was convened by the chair in Courtroom 407 at 1 Court Street, Middletown, Connecticut.

Those in attendance: Judge Michael Albis (chair); Attorney Bryan Cafferelli; Attorney Justine Rakich-Kelly; Attorney Susan Hamilton (designated by the Chief Public Defender); Ms. Liza Andrews, Policy Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Absent: Judge Jennifer Macierowski; Mr. Stephen B. Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section, Department of Public Health; Attorney Nisa J. Khan; Attorney Danielle S. Rado

Also in attendance were Attorney Jennifer Gagosz, Assistant Bar Counsel, and Attorney Damon Goldstein and Alexandra Rice from the Judicial Branch's Court Operations Unit.

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM by Judge Albis.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Justine Rakich-Kelly and seconded by Susan Hamilton to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 25, 2022. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0 with four members absent.

II. Changes to the Active List of Persons Qualified to Serve as a GAL/AMC

Attorney Regina Wexler

Attorney Regina Wexler was removed from the active list in January 2021 because the Committee did not receive her response to its annual request for updated information. Attorney Wexler emailed a request to be reinstated to the active list on June 24, 2022. Attorney Wexler meets all the requirements of Practice Book Section 25-62(b).

After a brief discussion by the participating Committee members, Susan Hamilton moved, and Justine Rakich-Kelly seconded, that Attorney Wexler be reinstated to the active list. The Committee approved the reinstatement by a 5-0 vote with four members absent.

III. Schedule of Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters will be held October 3, 2022 at 2:00 PM.

IV. Such Other Matters as may Properly Come Before the Standing Committee

Susan Hamilton provided a brief update to the Committee regarding the availability of pre-service training for qualified interested individuals. Attorney Hamilton indicated that a remote training module is ready to be made available through Talent LMS. The system will allow participants to self-certify their completion and will allow the Division of Public Defender Services to track the progress of each participant through each module to full completion. Links for information and registration will be made available shortly on the Division of Public Defender Services website and the Committee's home page on the Judicial Branch website.

Bryan Cafferelli moved, and Liza Andrews seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Committee approved the motion by a 5-0 vote. Judge Albis adjourned the meeting at 1:13 PM.