

Minutes
Connecticut Judicial Branch Juror Data Analysis Committee
April 25, 2024
3:00 p.m.

The meeting was also available for live streaming on the Judicial Branch YouTube Channel.

Members in attendance: Hon. Peter L. Brown (Co-Chair), Hon. Kimberly A. Knox (Co-Chair), Atty. John E. Barney, Jr., Director Joseph P. Greelish, Mr. Patrick Lakha, and Hon. Robin L. Wilson

Also in attendance: Ms. Nichole DiBenedetto

- I. **Review Minutes of March 28, 2024 meeting:** A motion was made by Mr. Greelish to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by Attorney Barney. The motion was approved unanimously.

- II. **Update of Demographic Analysis:** Mr. Greelish presented a breakdown of the juror demographics by race for criminal matters and civil matters including variables for different challenges, hardships and dismissals. Each category included a percentage among the races which could be compared to the US Census data and a percentage within the race. A discussion followed of how each breakdown and percentage could be analyzed for the purposes of the committee. Mr. Greelish noted the data collection for the judicial districts commenced on varying dates, which could affect the percentages. The methodology created by the committee may allow future data to be analyzed.

Mr. Lakha presented his research on the feasibility of looking at analyzing the data by town or zip code. The US Census does not use zip codes which can cross towns and states. Instead, it uses ZCTAS which are created by taking a census block and assigning it to the zip code that is most prevalent in that block. ZCTAS could be used as approximation of what a zip code's demographic looks like in order to compare it to the juror data. This comparison by zip code would put the committee ahead of other states demographic collection.

- III. **Discussion of Charge (4) to Undertake an Exhaustive Review of the Data Collection Practices in Other States:** Attorney Barney presented his and Attorney Horgan's research into the data collection practices in other states. They looked at the methodology of the "Guess Who's Coming to Jury Duty" article and believe it to be sufficiently comprehensive and current. They also found that only 16 states collect demographic data and distribute it to judges. There appears to be a lack of motivation in other states to collect demographic data and since demographic data is voluntarily provided by jurors the data is difficult to get. This committee's work will likely be looked at by other states for future comparisons.

- IV. **Reports/Input from Committee Members:** The committee would like to look further into analyzing the data by zip code for the next meeting.

V. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.

The next meeting will be May 23, 2024 at 3:00 pm.