

## **Minutes**

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

**November 4, 2009**

The Committee on Cultural Competency met at 225 Spring Street in conference room 4B in Wethersfield on November 4, 2009.

Those in attendance: Hon. Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Atty. Andrew Crumbie, Atty. Sandra Davis, Family Support Magistrate David A. Dee, Atty. Linda A. Dow, Hon. David P. Gold, Ms. Diane Hatfield, Hon. Maria Araujo Kahn, Atty. Susan Marks, Ms. Robyn N. Oliver, and Ms. Dalia Panke

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM by Judge Robinson.

- 1) Judge Robinson welcomed those in attendance.
- 2) The committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the September 23, 2009 meeting.
- 3) Ms. Panke provided a status report for the Subcommittee on the Definition of Terms. She explained the process of how the subcommittee came to its draft definition of cultural competency. Judge Robinson commended the subcommittee and recognized that this is the beginning of the definition process, not the end.
- 4) Ms. Oliver provided a status report for the Subcommittee on the Prioritization of Recommendations. A review of the prioritization process was explained. A discussion ensued concerning extending the timeframe to implement certain recommendations as more time may be necessary to develop and implement a cultural competency training curriculum for judges and staff.
- 5) The committee voted unanimously to forward the recommendations, as prioritized by the Subcommittee on the Prioritization of Recommendations, to the Chief Court Administrator, along with a letter stating that a proposed timeframe has been developed but asking for additional time to refine it.
- 6) Judge Robinson discussed conducting an affinity diagram exercise, which is a useful tool to organize the diverse ideas and perspectives of the committee and the information previously obtained from focus groups that were conducted to create the Branch's strategic plan. Judge Robinson explained the affinity diagram process and stressed to the members the importance of full attendance at that meeting. The committee agreed to have the meeting on December 10, 2009.
- 7) Judge Kahn introduced Attorney Toni Smith-Rosario to the committee. Attorney Smith-Rosario is the co-chair, along with Judge Kahn, on the Committee on

Limited English Proficiency. Judge Kahn stated that Attorney Smith-Rosario may be helpful when this committee addresses issues related to the limited English proficient population.

- 8) Judge Robinson introduced the two new members of the Committee on Cultural Competency: Attorney Susan Davis and Attorney Susan Marks.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM.