

**Minutes**  
**Court Security Committee**  
**January 14, 2010**

The Court Security Committee met on January 14, 2010 at Court Operations, 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield in conference room 4B.

Members in attendance: Mr. William H. Carbone, Hon. Patrick L. Carroll, Atty. Joseph D. D'Alesio, Atty. Elizabeth R. Duryea, Mr. John T. Edwards, Atty. Melissa Farley, Hon. Matthew E. Frechette, Ms. Jamey L. Harris, Ms. Diane Hatfield, Hon. Barbara B. Jongbloed, Mr. James L. Kenny, Atty. Richard Loffredo, Atty. Michael Ruben Peck, Ms. Carol Salisbury, Atty. Holly T. Sellers, Atty. Robin Smith, Hon. Patricia Swords, Hon. Gary J. White, Mr. Richard Zaharek, Atty. Jennifer L. Zito.

Not present: Hon. Barbara N. Bellis, Atty. Susan A. Brown, Atty. Herbert E. Carlson, Hon. Brian T. Fischer, Hon. Stanley Fuger, Hon. James P. Ginocchio, Hon. Susan Reynolds, Mr. Thomas A. Siconolfi.

Also in attendance: Attorney Denise Poncini, Mr. Dennis Roche.

The meeting was called to order at 2:11 PM by Judge Carroll.

1. Judge Carroll welcomed the members in attendance and stressed the importance of this committee's work, which has been magnified by the recent courthouse shooting in Nevada. Judge Carroll then asked the members to introduce themselves to the group.
2. The minutes from the May 18, 2009 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.
3. Judge Carroll introduced Judge Frechette, the chair of the Security Manual Subcommittee, which was charged with reviewing and updating the Judicial Branch's Security Manual. Judge Frechette reviewed the updates to the Manual with the full Security Committee. After a discussion on the Manual's provisions, it was unanimously approved. Judge Frechette will convene a subcommittee to address the policy related to visitor's access in the secured areas of a courthouse.
4. Judge Carroll discussed the need for improving communications between the local Judicial District security committees and the Branch-wide Security Committee. Judicial Districts are now subject to audit and required to submit local meeting minutes to Judicial Marshal Services. The Committee agreed that Judicial Districts should be provided with a template for their security committee meetings which will be presented to the Administrative Judges and Chief Judicial Marshals. The template will also ask the Judicial Districts to provide the Branch-wide Security Committee with quarterly reports of security related issues that have arisen for a particular Judicial District.

5. Ms. Diane Hatfield reviewed the Judicial Marshal Services protocol related to law enforcement access to courthouses. A discussion ensued on the current policy.

6. Judge Carroll and Attorney Joseph D'Alesio discussed the findings that have been observed by members of the Courthouse Observation Team regarding the wearing of hats in the courthouse. Team members have found that whether or not a hat is permitted to be worn in a courthouse differs depending upon the district you are in. The Security Committee unanimously agreed that hats should be permitted to be worn in courthouses. The judge, however, has ultimate discretion to ask parties to remove hats inside his or her courtroom.

7. The next meeting of the Security Committee has been scheduled for 2:00 PM on March 24, 2010, in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 PM.