

**State of New Hampshire
Judicial Branch
Judicial Performance Evaluation (JPE) Advisory Committee
March 10, 2014
2:00pm**

Attendees

Supreme Court Associate Justice Carol Ann Conboy, Superior Court Chief Justice Tina Nadeau, Circuit Court Deputy Administrative Judge David King, Rep. Marjorie Smith, Deputy Attorney General Ann Rice, Attorney Daniel Will (NH Bar Association), Attorney Christopher Keating (Judicial Council), Attorney Randy Hawkes (Public Defender), Dr. Andrew Smith (UNH), Supreme Court Clerk Eileen Fox and Carole Alfano, Judicial Branch Public Information Officer.

Absent due to scheduling conflicts

Sen. Sharon Carson

Minutes of the Meeting

On Monday, March 10th, the JPE Advisory Committee met at the Administrative Office of the Courts in Concord. The minutes from the previous meetings on January 10, 2014 and October 13, 2013 were approved without any corrections.

Judge Conboy began the meeting by asking Rep. Smith for an update on SB 249. Rep. Smith was pleased to report that, following passage by the Senate on January 30, the bill went to the House Judiciary Committee. There, the bill was reviewed at a public hearing on March 4th followed by an Executive Session on March 6th. The committee recommended “ought to pass” by vote of 13-0. Rep. Smith put the bill on a “fast track” to reach the full House before March 27th. She believes SB 249 will pass, and if so, the governor is expected to sign it.

The committee held a general discussion concerning the drafts of new, one page versions of two JPE evaluation forms submitted by a sub-committee. Members included Judge King, Chris Keating, Dr. Smith and Carole Alfano. The drafts address judicial performance and juror feedback. They generated many positive comments and helpful suggestions.

The sub-committee will revise both forms to reflect the discussion, and present them for review at the next committee meeting.

There was also a brief discussion regarding the forms used to evaluate the supreme court. It was agreed that Eileen Fox would chair a sub-committee to review these forms and propose revisions. Members of the sub-committee will include Eileen, Dan Will, Dr. Smith and Carole Alfano. Clerk Fox noted that the next Supreme Court Evaluation is scheduled for the fall of 2014.

The committee agreed to continue discussion of Rep. Smith's proposed "portfolio approach" to the judicial evaluation process at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the full JPE Committee was set for Friday, April 11, 2014 at 9:00am at the AOC in Concord, Training Room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Submitted by Carole Alfano, Executive Secretary to the Committee