

Committee on Judicial Ethics
Special Meeting
Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Committee members present via *Microsoft Teams*: Justice Nora R. Dannehy (Chair), Judge Kimberly A. Knox, Judge Wendy A. Grispin, Judge Patrick F. Caruso, and Professor Leslie Levin. Staff present: Attorney Viviana L. Livesay (Secretary), Attorney Steven Bidwell (Assistant Secretary), Attorney Kevin DiAdamo (Assistant Secretary) and Carolina E. Marin.

MINUTES

- I. Justice Dannehy (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:01 a.m. Although publicly noticed, no members of the public were present.
- II. The approval of the minutes of the March 19, 2026 Regular Meeting was tabled until the Committee's next regular meeting in June.
- III. The Committee discussed **Informal JE 2026-02** concerning what "appropriate action" the Judicial Official (JO) is obligated to take under Rule 2.15 (b) of the Connecticut Code of Judicial Conduct and whether there is an ethical obligation to address any potential conflict of interest.

The following issues were presented:

- (1) Under the Connecticut Code of Judicial Conduct, what "appropriate action" pursuant to Rule 2.15(b) of the Rules is a Judicial Official obligated to take if, in the presence of the Judicial Official, an attorney says to opposing counsel that depending on the outcome of the trial, they will file a grievance complaint against that attorney?
- (2) Does a Judicial Official have an ethical obligation to address any potential conflict of interest between the opposing attorney and their client created because of the conduct described in issue (1)?

After discussion, the Committee tabled the matter for the next special meeting of the Committee. The Chair volunteered to provide the Committee and staff with a draft opinion outline.

- IV. The meeting adjourned at 3:51 a.m.