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PRESS RELEASE

Chief Justice Creates Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts

Chief Justice Issues Executive Order Establishing New Committee

PROVIDENCE, RI- On October 22, 2024, Rhode Island Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell, issued [Executive Order No. 2024-03](#) establishing a Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts (CAIC). The Committee’s charge is to examine the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies on the practice of law, the administration of justice and access to justice issues, and to inform recommendations on court rules and procedures.

“It is the responsibility of practitioners of the law and institutions that administer justice to self-examine and adapt as technologies evolve,” said Chief Paul A. Justice Suttell. “The time is ripe for the establishment of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts. I was pleased to sign the executive order establishing this Committee, which I know will be impactful and innovative.”

The CAIC will be comprised of a steering committee and four sub-committees. The steering Committee will be co-chaired by Supreme Court Associate Justice Erin Lynch Prata and Superior Court Associate Justice Brian P. Stern.

“We are already seeing AI technologies and the impacts of the widespread adaptation of emerging technologies in every facet of the law and at every court in the unified judiciary,” said Supreme Court Associate Justice Erin Lynch Prata. “I am confident the Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts will generate guidance that will inform the practice of law and court policy in the digital age.”

As designated in the Executive Order, the steering committee members include Family Court Associate Justice Richard A. Merola, District Court Associate Judge Kas R. DeCarvalho, Workers’ Compensation Court Associate Judge Moira E. Reynolds, Traffic Tribunal Magistrate Michael DiChiro, Jr., State Court Administrator Julie P. Hamil, Linn F. Freedman, Esq., as designee of the Rhode Island Bar Association, and Brian J. Lamoureux, Esq.

The steering committee will identify and invite subject matter experts and relevant professionals to assist in fulfilling the Committee’s mission. The sub-committees will address AI’s impact on professional conduct, judicial conduct, criminal law and evidence, and civil law and evidence. Each sub-committee is tasked with submitting a written report to the steering committee regarding their specific subject area.

“I am honored to co-chair the Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts with Associate Justice Erin Lynch Prata,” said Superior Court Associate Justice Brian P. Stern. “From generative AI, to ‘deepfakes,’ together, with the steering committee, sub-committees, and judiciary administrators and staff, we are embarking on a timely and necessary effort to better understand and to address issues that we see every day in our courtrooms that impact all Rhode Island court users.”

The CAIC will submit a written report to the Chief Justice by June 30, 2025.

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