

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

**NOTICE TO THE BAR**

Notice is hereby given to all members of the Bar of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut that the District Judges are considering amendments to Local Civil Rule 83.5. If adopted, the proposed amended Local Civil Rule 83.5 will read as follows:

**Rule 83.5  
Secrecy of Jury Deliberations**

**1. Trial Jurors**

a. No person, other than the Court or Court personnel, shall contact or communicate with, directly or indirectly, a juror, potential juror or excused juror, or any relative, friend or associate of any such juror, during jury selection or trial, concerning the subject matter of the trial or the juror's participation in the trial, except with the permission of and under the supervision of the Court.

b. Jurors have no obligation to speak to any person about any case and may refuse all interviews or requests to discuss the case. Jurors may only speak or write about their own participation in the trial. Jurors may not discuss the deliberations of the jury, votes of the jury, or the actions or comments of any other juror. However, jurors shall report to the Court any extraneous prejudicial information improperly brought to the jury's attention, any outside influence improperly brought to bear upon any juror, or whether the verdict reported was the result of a clerical mistake.

c. No party, and no attorney or person acting on behalf of a party or attorney, shall question a juror concerning the deliberations of the jury, votes of the jury or the actions or comments of any other juror.

d. No person may contact, communicate with or interview any juror in any manner which subjects the juror to harassment, misrepresentation, duress or coercion.

**2. Juror Information**

The Clerk shall make available to counsel and *pro se* parties participating in jury selection the responses to juror questionnaires of those prospective jurors participating in jury selection. Other individuals may request such information in accordance with the District's Jury Plan.

**3. Grand Jurors**

\_\_\_\_\_ No person, other than those authorized under Fed. R. Crim. P. 6 or Court personnel, shall contact or communicate with, directly or indirectly, a grand juror, potential grand juror, or excused grand juror at any time concerning the subject matter of the grand jury proceedings or the juror's participation in the grand jury proceedings. Grand jurors shall also comply with Fed. R. Crim P. 6.

**4. Violations**

A violation of this rule may be treated as a contempt of Court. The Court shall have continuing supervision over communications with jurors, even after a trial has been completed.

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Any member of the bar wishing to comment on the proposed changes to Local Civil Rule 83.5 may do so in writing to the Honorable Mark R. Kravitz, United States District Judge, U. S. District Court, 141 Church Street, New Haven, CT 06510, on or before January 2, 2007. It is anticipated that, if adopted, the proposed Rules shall be effective as of February 1, 2007.

KEVIN F. ROWE  
CLERK OF COURT