

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 7, 2021**

---

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:35 p.m. via Zoom.

**Members Present**

Attorney Allison M. Near, **Chair**  
Honorable Laura F. Baldini  
G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.  
Honorable William R. Dyson (*Via Telephone*)  
Aimee Golbert, LCSW  
Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza  
Honorable Kevin S. Russo

**Others Present**

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender  
John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender  
Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources  
Arnold V. Amore, II, Deputy Assistant Public Defender  
Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit  
Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford  
Andrew P. O'Shea, Supervising Attorney  
Kirschbaum Law Group, LLC

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2021 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:36 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) and Section 1-210(b)(10) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:39 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Andrew P. O'Shea to the position of Director of Training, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
ANDREW P. O'SHEA

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Amy Preiss, M.S. to the position of Investigator III, New Haven Judicial District.

RATIFICATION OF  
AMY PREISS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of KerryAnn Isaacs to the position of Social Worker II, New Haven Juvenile Matters.

RATIFICATION OF  
KERRYANN ISAACS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Roxanne DeBlois to the position of Public Defender Secretary II, New Britain Judicial District/Geographical Area 15.

RATIFICATION OF  
ROXANNE DEBLOIS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 12-2021-01; 12-2021-02; 12-2021-03; and 12-2021-04. Honorable Kevin S. Russo recused himself from the vote in Authorization 12-2021-03.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Honorable Laura F. Baldini abstained from the vote in Authorization  
12-2021-04.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the following Authorization to Incur Expenses:  
12-2021-05.

The Chief Public Defender provided a staffing and budget update for the Division.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Cynthia Barlow, Tolland Judicial District/Geographical Area 19.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment requests of Director of Legal Services, Jennifer Bourn, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Sanford O. Bruce, III, New Haven Judicial District.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Rosanna L. Cappetta, Geographical Area 5 (Derby).

TABLING OF EXPENSES

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUESTS

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Social Worker II, Elizabeth Carey, Geographical Area 12 (Manchester).

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Toni Esposito, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden).

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Jared J. Millbrandt, Fairfield Judicial District.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Matthew Berger, Geographical Area 10 (New London), upon the successful completion of his probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Public Defender Secretary II, Maria Melendez, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Public Defender, Angela Anastasi, Middletown Judicial District/Geographical Area 9, upon the successful completion of her promotional probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to reappoint the following attorney to a new four-year term: Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Sean Kelly, Geographical Area 10 (New London), expiring on 12/14/2025.

ATTORNEY  
REAPPOINTMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the **2022 Commission Meeting Dates** for the Public Defender Services Commission as amended.

APPROVAL OF  
2022 COMMISSION MEETING  
DATES

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day  
Deputy Chief Public Defender