

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
AUGUST 2, 2022

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 5:23 p.m., in Room 1006, at the Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present

Attorney Allison M. Near, **Chair**
Honorable Laura F. Baldini
G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.
Honorable William R. Dyson
Aimee Golbert, LCSW, BCD
Honorable Kevin S. Russo

Others Present

TaShun Bowden-Lewis, Chief Public Defender
John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender
Paula D. Lohr, Human Resources Officer
Attorney Erin M. Ryan

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to go into Executive Session at 5:24 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 7:33 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 8-2022-01 and 8-2022-03.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to deny the following Authorization to Incur Expenses: 8-2022-02.

DENIAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Erin M. Ryan to the position of Director of Human Resources, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.
ERIN M. RYAN,
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN
RESOURCES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the outside employment request of Defending Community Fellow, Ryan Hunlock, Geographical Area 20 (Norwalk).

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Melissa W. Ruot to the position of Social Worker II, Psychiatric Defense Unit, Connecticut Valley Hospital, Middletown.

RATIFICATION OF
MELISSA W. RUOT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Joy E. Fredette to the position of Public Defender Secretary II, Windham Judicial District/Geographical Area 11.

RATIFICATION OF
JOY E. FREDETTE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to reappoint the following attorneys to a new four-year term: Senior Assistant Public Defender, Scott Abkowitz, Geographical Area 13 (Enfield), expiring on 8/5/2026; Assistant Public Defender, Sean Crowshaw, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 8/11/2026; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Benjamin Aponte, Geographical Area 1 (Stamford), expiring on 8/21/2026; Assistant Public Defender, Tracy Jo Mathis, Bridgeport Judicial District, expiring on 8/22/2026; Assistant Public Defender, Paul Scafariello, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 8/22/2026; Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Alexandra Georgieva, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden), expiring on 8/31/2026; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Kelly J. Goulet, Geographical Area 10 (New London), expiring on 8/31/2026; and Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Dean Velodota, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 8/31/2026.

There were no permanent statuses to discuss at this meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day
Deputy Chief Public Defender