

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 14, 2021**

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

**Members Present**

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

Molly Arabolos, Assistant Public Defender

New Haven Judicial District

Amy Baez, Financial Assistant II and Co-Chair,

Racial Justice and Cultural Competency Committee

Office of Chief Public Defender

TaShun Bowden-Lewis, Public Defender and Co-Chair,

Racial Justice and Cultural Competency Committee

Office of Chief Public Defender

Jassette Henry, Assistant Public Defender and Co-Chair,

Racial Justice and Cultural Competency Committee

Office of Chief Public Defender

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) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:19 p.m.

Assistant Public Defender and Co-Chair of the Racial Justice and Cultural Competency Committee, Jassette Henry, presented her choice of candidate on behalf of the Racial Justice and Cultural Competency Committee for the position of Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 7:11 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Daryl M. McGraw to the position of Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF  
DARYL M. MCGRAW

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the special meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day  
Deputy Chief Public Defender