

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION  
450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 1403, Hartford, CT 06103  
Tel. 860-713-5372 Fax. (860) 622-2938  
~~Meeting is in North Plaza Meeting Room J at 5:00 p.m.~~

Meeting Was Conducted Remotely Using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT MINUTES  
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION MEETING  
February 25, 2021

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Staff Attorney Sousa advised the participants that the proceedings were being recorded.

Vice Chairperson Skyers-Thomas confirmed all members and persons in attendance, and verified that a minimum 5 voting member quorum was present.

Members present/participating remotely: Vice-Chairperson Shirley Skyers-Thomas; Bryan Cafferelli; Commissioner Hon. Susan Connors; Michael Desmond (via telephone); Mildred Torres-Ferguson (via telephone), John Vamos; Ex-officio (non-voting) Member State Marshal Thomas Burke; Ex-officio (non-voting) Member State Marshal Lisa Stevenson; Staff Director Doug Moore (non-voting); and Staff Attorney Thomas J. Sousa, Jr. (non-voting).

Members Absent: none.

Guests/Members of the public present/participating: State Marshals McCrewell, Mezick, and Quinn.

**Topics:**

**1. Minutes: January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting:**

The Commission, after a motion by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, seconded by Commissioner Cafferelli, unanimously voted to adopt the minutes of the January 21, 2021 regular meeting.

**2. State Marshal Access to DMV Records:**

Staff Attorney Sousa provided an update on the status of the DMV Self-Service User Portal. As of yesterday afternoon, CJIS reports a total of 107 different state marshals were enrolled in the DMV system. Of those 107 enrolled state marshals, 100 have run a successful (chargeable) search query.

**3. eLicense Initiative & Annual Fee Update**

Staff Attorney Sousa provided an update on the state marshal renewals in eLicense and payment of the annual fee. On February 9, 2021, the last remaining state marshal completed the renewal and paid the annual fee.

Attorney Sousa will request input from the Advisory Board regarding appointment of a successor marshal to take over any trust account or ongoing/future executions from the late Hartford County State Marshal Perone. The successor marshal should not have a record of numerous or significant complaint cases.

#### **4. Retirement/Resignation/Inactive Updates**

Staff Attorney Sousa reported that there are no pending retirement/resignation/inactive requests.

#### **5. Annual Firearms Authorization**

Staff Attorney Sousa reported that the annual pistol range qualification firing dates have been pushed back from 13/20 March 2021 to 09/16/23 October 2021. While three firing days have been tentatively scheduled for October, only two dates will actually be used – the third date is a backup day if needed in the event of weather or other such cancellation.

All state marshals have now paid for last year's firearms training. Work will begin next week on issuing the remaining firearms authorization letters.

#### **6. Complaint Files**

Commissioner Vamos made a motion to find probable cause and refer the below listed complaints for Oversight Committee hearings. Seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

- 21-01 *In Re* Brown, T.
- 21-02 *In Re* Carusone
- 21-03 *In Re* Carragher
- 21-04 *In Re* Russo
- 21-05 *In Re* Davis, R.

#### **7. Freedom of Information Commission Hearing**

Staff Attorney Sousa provided an update on the pending Freedom of Information Commission hearing (in the matter of Camara v. Raimo, *et al*) that is scheduled for March 8, 2021. Director Moore, DAS Attorney Barrera, and Attorney Sousa met this morning to discuss the commission's response to the complaint.

#### **8. Appellate Case Update**

In response to a request from Ex-Officio State Marshal Stevenson, Staff Attorney Sousa reported on the status of the pending appellate case and recent related discussions with Attorney O'Neill from the Attorney General's Office. Judicial Branch Party name inquiry search shows the last activity in the case was in November of 2020. Judge Connors provided an update on Court Operations.

Staff Director Moore asked to deviate from the agenda so he could address the commission regarding the hiring of a full-time investigator. Following discussion, Commissioner Cafferelli moved to authorize the pursuit, advertisement, and hiring of an investigator. Seconded by Commissioner Connors, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **9. Badges**

Staff Attorney Sousa reported on the condition and current inventory of regular and retired badges. Staff Director Moore has authorized the purchase of 20 additional retired badges, which should be ordered next week.

## **10. Restraining Orders**

Ex-Officio Stevenson addressed the commission regarding courthouse procedures and the service of paper copies and electronic copies of restraining orders. She opined that it would be beneficial to schedule a meeting of the key players from judicial branch, state marshals, and the advocates. She is concerned that the commission's policy, directives or a lack thereof, as articulated in the State Marshal Manual, requires service of paper restraining orders only, and does not authorize the service of restraining orders received via email. A lengthy discussion then followed.

Judge Connors briefed the commission on current procedures being followed in the Hartford Court, especially with regard to service of electronic restraining orders.

Ex-Officio Burke raised concerns that restraining order administrative procedures may differ between various judges and various courthouses.

Staff Director Moore stated he has been in communication with Rhonda Morra, and the advocates are willing to participate in a round table with the key stakeholders.

Attorney Sousa will reach out to the parties and schedule a round table meeting to discuss this topic.

Vice Chairperson Skyers-Thomas stated that this is a complex and serious issue that the commission will not be able to resolve tonight. The topic will require ongoing attention from the commission.

The Commission, after a motion by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, seconded by Commissioner Vamos, unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Skyers-Thomas at 6:18 p.m.