

TO: Freedom of Information Commission  
FROM: Thomas A. Hennick  
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of February 24, 2021

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on February 24, 2021. Due to public health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission meeting of February 24, 2021 was conducted telephonically. The meeting convened at 2:02 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding  
Commissioner Jay Shaw  
Commissioner Jonathan J. Einhorn  
Commissioner Matthew Streeter  
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins  
Commissioner Lenny T. Winkler  
Commissioner Ryan P. Barry  
Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr.  
Commissioner Victoria W. Chavey

Also present were staff members, Colleen M. Murphy, Mary E. Schwind, Victor R. Perpetua, Valicia D. Harmon, Kathleen K. Ross, Paula S. Pearlman, Matthew D. Reed, Danielle L. McGee, Thomas A. Hennick, and Cindy Cannata.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of [February 10, 2021](#).

Those in attendance were informed that the February 24, 2021 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0161](#)

Terrance Burton v. James Rovella, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; and State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

Terrance Burton appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Janet Ainsworth appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were recorded digitally.

[Docket #FIC 2019-0353](#)

Michael Picard v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; and State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were recorded digitally.

[Docket #FIC 2019-0658](#)

Maurice Scioletti v. Director, Department of Human Resources, Town of Stratford; Department of Human Resources, Town of Stratford; Finance Director, Department of Finance, Town of Stratford; Department of Finance, Town of Stratford; and Town of Stratford

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were recorded digitally.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0112](#)

Joshua Malaro v. Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the Mayor, City of New London; and Office of the Mayor, City of New London

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were recorded digitally.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0135](#)

Christopher Peak and New Haven Independent v. Benjamin Cruse, Principal, Achievement First, Hartford High School; and Achievement First, Hartford High School

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0153](#)

Howard Lasser v. Finance Director, Town of Brookfield; and Town of Brookfield

Howard Lasser appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Thomas Beecher appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners voted, 8-1, to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. Commissioner Streeter voted against adoption. The proceedings were recorded digitally.

Commissioners unanimously voted to deny a motion to reconsider their final decision dated February 2, 2021 and received by the Commission on February 2, 2021, filed by complainant in *James Hemingway v. Chief, Police Department, Town of North Branford; and Police Department, Town of North Branford*, Docket #FIC 2019-0472.

Victor R. Perpetua reported on pending appeals.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that Commission staff is continuing to hold contested case hearings remotely and that the first remote hearing via video is scheduled for March 3, 2021.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that the relocation of Commission offices is now scheduled for May 14, 2021 but that the move could be delayed.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that an offer for the Staff Attorney I position had been made to Charles Hyde. He is expected to join the staff some time in March.

Paula S. Pearlman and Colleen M. Murphy reported on several pieces of proposed legislation of interest to the Commission and reported that the first hearing on the commission's 2021-22 budget had been held.

Chairman Owen Eagan and Colleen M. Murphy noted that the meeting would be the last for Attorney Victor Perpetua, who is retiring as of March 1. They noted that he has been a member of the commission staff for 33 years and, as such, is the longest serving staff member in the history of Connecticut's FOI Commission. Both thanked him for his service and noted his knack for deftly handling difficult legal matters at all levels of litigation. Chairman Eagan said that Perpetua's retirement will be "Connecticut's loss and his family's gain."

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

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Thomas A. Hennick

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