TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Thomas A. Hennick

RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of April 27, 2022

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on April 27, 2022. Due to public health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission meeting of April 27, 2022 was conducted telephonically. The meeting convened at 2:02 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding Commissioner Matthew Streeter Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr.

Also present were staff members, Colleen M. Murphy, Mary E. Schwind, Kathleen K. Ross, Valicia D. Harmon, Paula S. Pearlman, Danielle L. McGee, C. Zack Hyde, Jennifer F. Miller, Cindy Cannata, Linda Fasciano and Thomas A. Hennick.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of April 13, 2022.

Those in attendance were informed that the April 27, 2022 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0175

Donald Daniels v. Chief, Police Department, Town of East Hartford; Police Department, Town of East Hartford; and Town of East Hartford

Donald Daniels appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Michael Carey appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Hearing Officer's Report. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report as amended. \* The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0510 Angelo Reyes v. Fire Marshal, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

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

<u>Docket #FIC 2021-0368</u> David Taylor v. Administrator, State of Connecticut,

University of Connecticut Health Center; and State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut Health Center

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

<u>Docket #FIC 2021-0085</u> Michael Leonard v. Ed Lennon, Chief, Police Department,

Town of East Haven; Police Department, Town of East Haven;

and Town of East Haven

Michael Leonard appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jeffrey Donofrio appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2021-0086 Michael Leonard v. Joseph A. Carfora, Mayor, Town of East

Haven; and Town of East Haven

Michael Leonard appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jeffrey Donofrio appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

<u>Docket #FIC 2021-0207</u> Sheri Speer v. Director, Planning & Neighborhood Services,

City of Norwich; Planning & Neighborhood Services, City of

Norwich; and City of Norwich

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

<u>Docket #FIC 2021-0298</u> Michelle Keith v. Mayor, City of New Britain; and City of

New Britain

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

Docket #FIC 2021-0539 Cody Urban v. Valentina Gilday, Records Specialist, State of

Connecticut, Board of Pardons and Paroles; State of

Connecticut, Board of Pardons and Paroles; Mary Kozicki, Supervisor, State of Connecticut, Office of Victim Services;

and State of Connecticut, Office of Victim Services

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

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Docket #FIC 2021-0606

Elizabeth Regan, And The Day v. Chief, Police Department, Town of Old Saybrook; Police Department, Town of Old Saybrook; and Town of Old Saybrook

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

Colleen M. Murphy reported that staff is continuing to work on the formulation of plans for the return to in person contested case hearings and in person commission meetings and that a meeting is scheduled for next week in furtherance of those plans. Executive Director Murphy also noted that she was exploring the possibility of retaining the services of a former FOI staff attorney to help with the Commission's case backlog.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that interviews have been conducted with candidates for the vacant paralegal and Staff Attorney 2 positions and that staff is close to making offers to candidates for both positions.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that she had received the resignation of Commissioner Victoria Chavey, who has been nominted to become a Superior Court Judge.

Colleen M. Murphy and Chairman Eagan reported on the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government's April 7 gala commemorating the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act and the presentation of the Walter Cronkite Award to Judy Woodruff, the managing editor and anchor of PBS NewsHour. Executive Director Murphy said that Woodruff's talk highlighted the importance of the government transparency and extolled the virtues of Connecticut's FOI Commission. Chairman Eagan also lauded Woodruff's talk and commended Executive Director Murphy on her talk as well.

Colleen M. Murphy and Paula S. Pearlman reported on legislation.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Thomas A. Hennick
MINREGmeeting 04272022/tah/04272022

<sup>\*</sup> See attached for amendment

## **AMENDMENT**

Docket #FIC 2020-0175

Donald Daniels v. Chief, Police Department, Town of East Hartford; Police Department, Town of East Hartford; and Town of East Hartford

8. It is found that the records requested by the complainant are public records [and must be disclosed] in accordance with §§1-200(5), 1-210(a) and 1-212(a), G.S.