

TO: Freedom of Information Commission
FROM: Russell Blair
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of September 13, 2023

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on September 13, 2023. The Commission meeting of September 13, 2023 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:04 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Jonathan J. Einhorn
Commissioner Kate Farrish
Commissioner Aigné Goldsby
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr.

Also present were staff members Colleen M. Murphy, Paula S. Pearlman, Valicia D. Harmon, Mary-Kate Smith, Barbara E. Housen, Danielle L. McGee, C. Zach Hyde, Kevin W. Munn, Nicholas Smarra, Jennifer Mayo and Russell Blair.

Kate Farrish was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Freedom of Information Commission.

The Commissioners voted 4-0 to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of August 23, 2023. Commissioner Farrish and Commissioner Fuzesi abstained.

Those in attendance were informed that the August 23, 2023 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2022-0452](#) Ira Alston v. Otoniel Reyes, Chief, Police Department, City of New Haven; Police Department, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

Ira Alston appeared on his own behalf via speakerphone. 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 2022-0519](#) Ira Alston v. Karl Johnson, Chief, Police Department, City of New Haven; Police Department, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

Ira Alston appeared on his own behalf via speakerphone. The Commissioners unanimously voted to correct 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 2022-0489](#) Shaquille Brown v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

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

[Docket #FIC 2023-0029](#) Darius Armadore v. Brian M. Wright, Chief, Police Department, City of New London; Police Department, City of New London; and City of New London

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

[Docket #FIC 2021-0230](#) The American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Connecticut v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services

Attorney Elana Bildner appeared on behalf of the complainant. Attorney Michael Barrera appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2022-0436](#) Linda Dalessio v. Chief of Staff and General Counsel, State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State; and State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State

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

[Docket #FIC 2022-0584](#) Linda Dalessio v. Chief of Staff and General Counsel, State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State; and State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State

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

[Docket #FIC 2022-0450](#) Linda Dalessio v. Chief of Staff and General Counsel, State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State; and State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of the State

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

Attorney Valicia D. Harmon and Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported on a Supreme Court decision dated August 29, 2023, in *Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services et al. v. Freedom of Information Commission et al.*, Docket No. SC 20686, primarily upholding the Commission's final decision in FIC-2018-0035, *Josh Kovner and The Hartford Courant v. Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services*. The Commissioners took no action.

Attorney Kevin W. Munn and Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported that the Superior Court dismissed *Connecticut State Police Union, Inc v. Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection et al.*, Docket No. MMX-CV23-5016232-S. The Commission was an intervenor in the case and had argued for dismissal on the ground that the Commission had primary jurisdiction over the matter pending in Court. The Commissioners took no action.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported that the Commission had four open positions that it would soon be hiring for: a paralegal, an administrative assistant and two staff attorneys.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS

Docket #FIC 2022-0452 Ira Alston v. Otoniel Reyes, Chief, Police Department, City of New Haven; Police Department, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

Paragraph 1 of the order in the Hearing Officer's Report is amended as follows:

1. The respondents shall forthwith provide an unredacted copy of the in camera records **IN COMPACT DISC FORM** to the Department of Correction's FOI Administrator, in accordance with §1-210(c), G.S., and the policy of the Department of Correction.