TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Russell Blair

RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of February 14, 2024

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on February 14, 2024. The Commission meeting of February 14, 2024 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:01 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding

Commissioner Jonathan J. Einhorn

Commissioner Kate Farrish

Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr. (participated by speakerphone)

Commissioner Judy Ganswindt

Commissioner Aigné Goldsby (participated by speakerphone)

Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins (participated by speakerphone)

Commissioner Matthew Streeter

Also present were staff members Colleen M. Murphy, Paula S. Pearlman, Valicia D. Harmon, C. Zack Hyde, Nicholas Smarra, Mary-Kate Smith, Kevin W. Munn, Jennifer Mayo, Molly Steffes and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of January 24, 2024.

Those in attendance were informed that the February 14, 2024 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

<u>Docket #FIC 2023-0071</u> Andres Sosa v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut,

Department of Public Health; and State of Connecticut,

Department of Public Health

Andres Sosa appeared on his own behalf. Assistant Attorney General Alina Bricklin-Goldstein 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 2023-0067</u> Mark Sevetz v. First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town of

Hartland; Board of Selectmen, Town of Hartland; and Town of

Hartland

Attorney Nicholas P. Vegliante and First Selectman Maggie Winslow appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners voted 5-3 to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report with Commissioners Eagan, Einhorn and Ganswindt opposed. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

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<u>Docket #FIC 2023-0116</u> Thomas Banas v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut,

Department of Administrative Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services

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.

<u>Docket #FIC 2023-0126</u> Daniel Kokoszka v. O'Donovan Murphy, Director of Judicial

Marshal Services; and Judicial Marshal Services

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

<u>Docket #FIC 2023-0198</u> Hector Rivera v. Chief, Police Department, City of Bridgeport;

Police Department, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport

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

<u>Docket #FIC 2023-0202</u> Terry Stringer v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut,

Department of Insurance; and State of Connecticut, Department

of Insurance

Terry Stringer appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Antonio Caporale appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Attorney Valicia D. Harmon reported on oral arguments that were held February 5, 2024, in the Appellate Court in *Town of Greenwich et al. v. Freedom of Information Commission et al.*, AC 46064, AC 46003.

Attorney Kevin W. Munn reported on oral arguments that were held January 29, 2024, in two consolidated appeals filed in Superior Court, both captioned as *Chief of Police*, *Bridgeport Police Department et al v. Freedom of Information Commission*, HHB-CV23-6079418-S, HHB-CV23-6079420-S.

Attorney C. Zack Hyde reported on oral arguments that were held January 30, 2024, in an appeal filed in Superior Court, *Michalski*, *Paul v. Freedom of Information Commission*, HHB-CV23-6077756-S.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy introduced the Commission's newest paralegal, Molly Steffes, and reported that a new staff attorney would be joining the Commission later in the month.

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Managing Director and Associate General Counsel Paula S. Pearlman and Director of Education and Communications Russell Blair updated Commissioners on the status of several FOI-related proposals that have been introduced since the legislative session began on February 7, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2023-0116 Thomas Banas

Thomas Banas v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services

After the first introductory paragraph, delete all paragraphs and replace with the following:

BY EMAIL RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 7, 2024, THE COMPLAINANT WITHDREW HIS COMPLAINT. THE COMMISSION TAKES ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE OF SUCH WITHDRAWAL.

THE FOLLOWING ORDER BY THE COMMISSION IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED ON THE BASIS OF THE RECORD CONCERNING THE ABOVE-CAPTIONED COMPLAINT:

1. BASED ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE COMPLAINT, THE CASE IS HEREBY DISMISSED.