

TO: Freedom of Information Commission
FROM: Russell Blair
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of September 11, 2024

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on September 11, 2024. The Commission meeting of September 11, 2024 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:07 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Jonathan J. Einhorn
Commissioner Kate Farrish (participated via speakerphone)
Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr. (participated via speakerphone)
Commissioner Judith Ganswindt
Commissioner Aigné Goldsby Wells
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Matthew Streeter

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

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of August 28, 2024.

Those in attendance were informed that the September 11, 2024 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0494](#) Brian Schlicher v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; and State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

Brian Schlicher appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jennifer Miller appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0511](#) Darius Armadore v. Brian 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. Subsequently, upon learning that the complainant wished to participate in the proceedings, the Commission unanimously voted to reopen the matter. The Commissioners unanimously voted

to table the matter until the September 25, 2024 Commission meeting. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0470](#) Frank A. Bailey v. Chief, Police Department, City of Waterbury; Police Department, City of Waterbury; and City of Waterbury

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

[Docket #FIC 2023-0479](#) Joseph McNellis, Michael Donovan, Richard Olivier and Bridgeport Firefighters for Merit v. Personnel Director, Office of the Civil Service Commission, City of Bridgeport; Office of the Civil Service Commission, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport

Attorney Heather Spaide and Attorney Courtney George appeared on behalf of the complainants. Attorney Dina Scalo appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0486](#) Halina Makowska-George v. Chair, Board of Education, New Britain Public Schools; and Board of Education, New Britain Public Schools

Attorney Paul Argazzi appeared on behalf of the complainant. Attorney Kelsey Scarlett appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0616](#) Michael Guadarrama v. Superintendent of Schools, Westport Public Schools; and Westport Public Schools

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

[Docket #FIC 2024-0013](#) Joshua A. Winnick v. First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town of Bethany; Board of Selectmen, Town of Bethany; and Town of Bethany

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

[Docket #FIC 2024-0091](#) Robert Hagar v. Keith Hedrick, Mayor, City of Groton; and City of Groton

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

[Docket #FIC 2024-0109](#)

Robert Hagar v. Chief, Police Department, City of Groton;
Police Department, City of Groton; Keith Hedrick, Mayor, City
of Groton; and City of Groton

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

Attorney Danielle L. McGee reported on the August 30, 2024 decision in Superior Court in *Olson, Matthew v. Freedom of Information Commission*, Docket No. HHB-CV-22-6076363-S, an appeal of the Commission's final decision in PRVR #4, *City of Stamford v. Matthew J. Olson*. The Court dismissed the appeal. The Commissioners took no action.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported that Commissioner Ryan Barry had resigned from the Freedom of Information Commission due to personal and professional obligations.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported that Attorney Kevin Munn would be leaving the Commission later in the month. She added that a new staff attorney will begin at the Commission in October, and two remaining staff attorney vacancies are in the process of being filled.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair