

TO: Freedom of Information Commission
FROM: Russell Blair
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of May 28, 2025

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on May 28, 2025. The Commission meeting of May 14, 2025 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:08 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 (participated via speakerphone)
Commissioner Aigné Goldsby Wells
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Thomas A. Hennick
Commissioner Matthew Streeter

Also present were staff members Colleen M. Murphy, Paula S. Pearlman, Valicia D. Harmon, Danielle L. McGee, C. Zack Hyde, Mary-Kate Smith, Nicholas A. Smarra, Marybeth G. Sullivan, Paul V. Arce, J. Max McCann, Jennifer Mayo and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of May 14, 2025.

Those in attendance were informed that the May 28, 2025 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

Docket #FIC 2024-0335 David Fuller 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 2024-0389 Jan Gawlik v. Neil Ayers, Director, State of Connecticut, Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Fiscal Analysis; and State of Connecticut, Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Fiscal Analysis

Jan Gawlik appeared on his own behalf. Assistant Attorney General Timothy Holzman appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2024-0390

John Kaminski v. 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 2024-0306

Lisa M Smith v. Chief, Police Department, Town of East Hartford; Police Department, Town of East Hartford; and Town of East Hartford

Lisa M Smith appeared on her own behalf. The respondents did not appear. The Commissioners unanimously voted to table consideration of the Hearing Officer's Report. The Commissioners unanimously voted to consider the Hearing Officer's Report. 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 2024-0323

Jessica Gernat v. First Selectman, Tonw of Oxford; and Town of Oxford

Jessica Gernat appeared on her own behalf. The respondents did not appear. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2024-0326

Thomas Birmingham v. Executive Director, Livable City Initiative, City of New Haven; Livable City Initiative, 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.

Docket #FIC 2024-0333

Robert Kriwitsky v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Motor Vehicles; and State of Connecticut, Department of Motor Vehicles

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

Docket #FIC 2024-0350

Joao Campos v. Keith White, Chief, Police Department, Town of Monroe; Police Department, Town of Monroe; and Town of Monroe

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

Docket #FIC 2024-0351

Joao Campos v. Keith White, Chief, Police Department, Town of Monroe; Police Department, Town of Monroe; and Town of Monroe

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

Docket #FIC 2024-0356

John Dilorio v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Banking; and State of Connecticut, Department of Banking

The Commissioners took no action. The matter was marked off by staff prior to the meeting.

Docket #FIC 2024-0671

Max Bakke v. Superintendent of Schools, Bridgeport Public Schools; and Bridgeport Public Schools

The complainant did not appear. Attorney Bryan LeClerc appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to file a Joint Motion for Remand in Lonnie Blackwell v. Freedom of Information Commission, et al., HHB-CV-23-6080300-S.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to file a Joint Motion for Remand in Chief of Police, Bridgeport Police Department, City of Bridgeport, et al., v. Freedom of Information Commission, HHB-CV-23-6080753-S.

Executive Director Colleen Murphy reported that Commission staff was finalizing the requisite forms for filing the Commission's draft regulations and that they would soon be filed with the Secretary of State and published on the Commission's web site for a public comment period.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy reported that an event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Freedom of Information Act and the creation of the Freedom of Information Commission would be held before a Commission meeting this fall.

Executive Director Colleen M. Murphy and Managing Director and Associate General Counsel Paula S. Pearlman reported on FOI-related legislation that is pending in the General Assembly.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2024-0306

Lisa M Smith v. Chief, Police Department, Town of East Hartford; Police Department, Town of East Hartford; and Town of East Hartford

The order in the Hearing Officer's Report is amended as follows:

2. In complying with paragraph 2 of this order, the respondents may redact only those portions of the responsive records, if any, that are mandatorily exempt from disclosure. The respondents may not redact any information that is permissively exempt from disclosure. If, pursuant to this order, the respondents withhold any record they claim is subject to a mandatory exemption, they shall **PROVIDE A LOG** [submit an affidavit] to the complainant detailing the type of record withheld and the mandatory exemption upon which they relied for withholding such record, **AND SUBMIT AN AFFIDAVIT TO THE COMPLAINANT, WITH A COPY OF THE LOG AND AFFIDAVIT TO THE COMMISSION, REGARDING SUCH MATTERS.**

3. UPON RECEIPT OF THE LOG AND AFFIDAVIT, IF THE COMPLAINANT WISHES TO CHALLENGE THE WITHHOLDING OF THE RECORDS, OR PORTIONS OF RECORDS, DESCRIBED IN THE LOG AND AFFIDAVIT, SHE MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COMMISSION AND REQUEST THAT THE MATTER BE AFFORDED EXPEDITED TREATMENT.

[3.] 4. Forthwith, the respondents, or their designee, shall arrange for an FOI Act training session to be conducted by the staff of the FOI Commission. The respondents, or their designee, shall forthwith contact the FOI Commission to schedule such training.

[4]. 5. Henceforth, the respondents shall strictly comply with the disclosure and promptness requirements of §§1-210(a) and 1-212(a), G.S.