

TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Russell Blair

RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of July 23, 2025

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on July 23, 2025. The Commission meeting of July 23, 2025 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:09 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.
Commissioner Judith Ganswindt
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, Mary-Kate Smith, C. Zack Hyde, Marybeth G. Sullivan, Paul V. Arce, Jonathan Max McCann, Linda Fasciano and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of July 9, 2025. Commissioners Goldsby Wells and Streeter abstained from the vote.

Those in attendance were informed that the July 23, 2025 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0462](#) Cedric Middleton v. Fernando Spagnolo, 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 2024-0482](#) Andres Sosa v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Andres Sosa appeared on his 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 2024-0490](#)

David Fuller v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

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

[PRVR # 18](#)

Police Department, Town of East Lyme; Board of Education, East Lyme Public Schools; and Town of East Lyme v. David Godbout

The petitioners did not appear. David Godbout appeared on his own behalf. The Commissioners unanimously voted to deny 10 motions filed by the respondent in advance of the Commission meeting under CGS 4-178a. The Commissioners unanimously voted to deny the respondent's motions for postponement and extension of time for oral argument. The Commissioners unanimously voted to deny the respondent's motion for recusal. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0440](#)

Faith Murray v. Comptroller, State of Connecticut, Office of the State Comptroller; and State of Connecticut, Office of the State Comptroller

Faith Murray appeared on her own behalf. Assistant Attorney General Benjamin Abrams appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0445](#)

Jason LaChapelle v. Bernie Dennler, First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town of Colchester; Board of Selectmen, Town of Colchester; and Town of Colchester

Jason LaChapelle appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Chelsea McCallum appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Hearing Officer's Report. The Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Hearing Officer's Report a second time. The Commissioners voted 8-1 to deny the respondent's motion to reopen with Commissioner Einhorn opposed. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report as amended*. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0461](#)

Joseph LaBianca v. 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 2024-0465](#)

Lori Boyko v. Chairman, Library of Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; Library Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; and Town of Simsbury

Lori Boyko appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0468](#)

Lori Boyko v. Holly McGrath, Chairman, Library Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; Library Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; and Town of Simsbury

Lori Boyko appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0519](#)

Lori Boyko v. Holly McGrath, Chairman, Library Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; Library Board of Trustees, Town of Simsbury; and Town of Simsbury

Lori Boyko appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2024-0467](#)

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

John DiIorio appeared on his own behalf. Assistant Attorney General John Langmaid 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 2024-0473](#)

Richard Cooper v. Chair, Technology Subcommittee, Town Council, Town of Southington; Technology Subcommittee, Town Council, Town of Southington; Chair, Town Council, Town of Southington; Town Council, Town of Southington; and Town of Southington

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

[Docket #FIC 2024-0481](#)

Theodore W. Hine v. Chairperson, Town Council, Town of New Milford; Town Council, Town of New Milford; and Town of New Milford

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

[Docket #FIC 2024-0509](#)

Scott Greczkowski v. Town Manager, Town of Newington; and Town of Newington

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2024-0445 Jason LaChapelle v. Bernie Dennler, First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town of Colchester; Board of Selectmen, Town of Colchester; and Town of Colchester

Paragraphs 54 and 64 and the order in the Hearing Officer's Report are amended as follows:

54. Here, the principle cited by the respondents, as described in paragraph 51, above, is not a basis for nondisclosure of the sample ballots and in-person ballots cast in the stand-alone budget referendum at issue in this matter. As explained in paragraph 52, above, any exemption from disclosure under the "otherwise provided" language of § 1-210 (a), G.S., must be based on express terms in federal law or **STATE** statute.

64. It is found that none of the circumstances described in paragraph 62, above, with respect to the budget referendum in this matter apply. It is therefore concluded that the absentee ballots are subject to the sealing, preservation and retention requirements described in paragraphs [56] **59** through [59] **62**, above.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. [Forthwith]**WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE NOTICE OF FINAL DECISION IN THIS MATTER**, the respondents shall provide the complainant with copies of the requested sample and in-person ballots **CAST IN THE JUNE 11, 2024 STAND-ALONE BUDGET REFRENDUM IN THIS MATTER, AND** described in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the findings, above, free of charge.

2. Consistent with the Commission's final decision and orders in *Santanella*, the Commission declines to order the disclosure of the identity of individual voters, if written on any ballots cast in-person; therefore, in complying with paragraph 1 of this order, the respondents may redact such information, to the extent it exists, from the requested in-person ballots **REFERENCED IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE ORDER, ABOVE**.

Docket #FIC 2024-0467 John DiIorio v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Banking; and State of Connecticut, Department of Banking

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

1. Within thirty dates of the date of the Notice of Final Decision in this matter, the respondents shall provide to the complainant, free of charge, copies of the records, or portions thereof, described in paragraphs 45, 46, 58, 63, 77, and 93 of the findings, above.

2. [If the respondents have not already provided the complainant with copies of the records described in paragraph 73 of the findings, above, the respondents shall provide such records to the complainant within seven days of the Notice of the Final Decision in this matter.

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