

TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Russell Blair

RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of July 8, 2026

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on July 8, 2026. The Commission's regular meeting of July 8, 2026 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Kate Farrish
Commissioner Judith Ganswindt
Commissioner Aigné Goldsby Wells
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins (participated via speakerphone)
Commissioner Thomas A. Hennick
Commissioner Kerry J. Robair
Commissioner Matthew Streeter

Also present were staff members Danielle L. McGee, Paula S. Pearlman, Valicia D. Harmon, C. Zack Hyde, Mary-Kate Smith, Nicholas A. Smarra, Marybeth G. Sullivan, Paul V. Arce, Uswah A. Khan, Molly Steffes and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of June 24, 2026.

Those in attendance were informed that the July 8, 2026 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2025-0631](#) Jamal Sumler v. Karl Jacobson, Chief, Police Department, City of New Haven; Police Department, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

Jamal Sumler appeared on his own behalf. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2025-0776](#) Jan Gawlik v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

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

[Docket #FIC 2025-0814](#)

Jan M. Gawlik v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Jan Gawlik appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jennifer Lepore 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 2025-0627](#)

Christopher Reh v. Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Christopher Reh appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Noelle Miano 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 2025-0629](#)

Ryan Salvas v. David Shipee, Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town of Sterling; Board of Selectmen, Town of Sterling; and Town of Sterling

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

[Docket #FIC 2025-0635](#)

John Slusarski v. Comptroller, State of Connecticut, Office of the State Comptroller; and State of Connecticut, Office of the State Comptroller

John Slusarski appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Yamuna Menon and Attorney Robert Helfand appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2025-0636](#)

Joe Glenn v. Director of Public Records, State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut; and State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut

Joe Glenn appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Nathan Lavallee appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners voted 7-0 to amend the Hearing Officer's Report. The Commissioners voted 7-0 to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report as amended*. Commissioner Farrish recused herself from the matter. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2025-0662](#)

Kevin Cleary v. Executive Director, Judicial Review Council, State of Connecticut, Office of Governmental Accountability; Judicial Review Council, State of Connecticut, Office of Governmental Accountability

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

[Docket #FIC 2025-0677](#)

Tim Howard v. Chair, Board of Trustees, Douglas Library of Hebron; Board of Trustees, Douglas Library of Hebron; Town Manager, Town of Hebron; and Town of Hebron

Tim Howard appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Ken Slater 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 2025-0703](#)

Kim Novak v. Secretary of State, State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of State; and State of Connecticut, Office of the Secretary of State

Kim Novak appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Christopher Gelino appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2025-0722](#)

Anthony Pulcinella v. Zoning Enforcement Officer, Land Use Department, Town of Brooklyn; Land Use Department, Town of Brooklyn; and Town of Brooklyn

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

The Commissioners voted 8-0 to deny the Petition for Relief from Vexatious Requester in Town of Bloomfield, Bloomfield Board of Education v. James McGovern, PRVR #22.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2025-0814 Jan M. Gawlik v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

The Hearing Officer's Report is amended to strike all paragraphs with the exception of the introductory paragraph and the order. The stricken paragraphs are replaced with the following:

AT THE COMMISSION'S REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 8, 2026, THE COMPLAINANT NOTIFIED THE COMMISSION THAT HE WISHED TO WITHDRAW THE COMPLAINT IN THIS MATTER. THE COMMISSION TAKES ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE OF SUCH WITHDRAWAL.

The Hearing Officer's Report is also amended with respect to the order, as follows:

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

1. **BASED UPON THE WITHDRAWAL**, the complaint is hereby dismissed.

Docket #FIC 2025-0627 Christopher Reh v. Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

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

1. Within forty-five (45) days of the date of the Notice of Final Decision in this matter, the respondents shall provide the complainant with unredacted electronic copies of the March 25th records described in paragraph 15 of the findings, above, free of charge.

2. The respondents shall continue to search for and provide additional [unredacted] electronic copies of the records described in paragraph 5 of the findings, above, to the complainant on a rolling basis, free of charge. The respondents and the complainant are encouraged to work together to come to a good faith agreement on prioritizing responsive records and developing a schedule for the provision of such records.

3. In complying with paragraphs 1 and 2 of the order, above, the respondents may redact the names and email addresses of certain employees of Whiting Forensic Hospital, as referenced in paragraphs 24 and 25 of the findings, above, as well as the names of other patients at Whiting Forensic Hospital and any personally identifying information, as described in paragraph 17 of the findings, above.

4. BASED ON THE UNIQUE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES PRESENTED IN THIS MATTER, IN COMPLYING WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE ORDER, ABOVE, THE RESPONDENTS MAY ALSO WITHHOLD RECORDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, THAT ARE PROPERLY EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE FOI ACT OR NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTE OR FEDERAL LAW.

5. IF ANY RECORDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, ARE WITHHELD PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER, ABOVE, THE RESPONDENTS SHALL SUBMIT AN AFFIDAVIT TO THE COMPLAINANT THAT IS SWORN TO OR ATTESTED BY A PERSON WITH THE REQUISITE KNOWLEDGE IDENTIFYING AND BRIEFLY DESCRIBING THE WITHHELD INFORMATION OR RECORD(S) AND THE STATUTORY BASIS FOR WITHHOLDING SUCH INFORMATION OR RECORD(S). SUCH AFFIDAVIT SHALL BE SUBMITTED CONTEMPORANEOUSLY WITH THE RECORDS TO WHICH THEY REFER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE ORDER, ABOVE.

6. If the respondents fail to comply with any order set forth in paragraphs 1 through [3] 5, above, the complainant may file an appeal with the Commission, and the complainant may request that such appeal be afforded expedited treatment.

7. Henceforth, the respondents shall strictly comply with the disclosure requirements of §§1-210(a), 1-211(a), and 1-212(a), G.S.”

Docket #FIC 2025-0636 Joe Glenn v. Director of Public Records, State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut; and State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut

Footnote 2 of the Hearing Officer’s Report is amended as follows:

² The Commission notes that the complainant also filed with the Commission supplements to his complaint on August 1, 2025, **AND** August 18, 2025, [and September 19, 2025,] reiterating the matters set forth in his pleadings in his July 18, 2025, complaint.

Docket #FIC 2025-0677 Tim Howard v. Chair, Board of Trustees, Douglas Library of Hebron; Board of Trustees, Douglas Library of Hebron; Town Manager, Town of Hebron; and Town of Hebron

Paragraph 17 of the Hearing Officer’s Report is amended as follows:

17. At the hearing on April 13, 2026, the Town Clerk and the Acting Town Manager for the Town of Hebron testified on behalf of the respondents. Based upon their credible testimony as well as the respondents’ documentary evidence, it is found that the Town Clerk’s website does not instruct that all FOI Act requests intended for any Town agency be submitted

to the Town Clerk; the Town's website does not provide specific guidance regarding submitting records requests to Town agencies; the Town Clerk's office is located at 15 Gilead Street in Hebron; and the address of the Library, the Library Director, the Library Staff and the Board of Trustees is [500] **22** Main Street in Hebron.