TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Russell Blair

RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of October 28, 2026

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on October 28, 2026. The Commission's regular meeting of October 28, 2026 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:02 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

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

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, Uswah A. Khan, Kathleen M. Foster, Suzanne M. Gilleese, Molly Steffes and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of October 14, 2026. Commissioner Hennick abstained from the vote.

Those in attendance were informed that the October 28, 2026 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

Docket #FIC 2025-1014 Karina Smith v. Town Clerk, Town of Canton; and Town of Canton

Karina M. Carrier appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Beth Smith 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 for a second time. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report as amended*. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2025-1016 Jennifer Malloy v. Chief, Police Department, Town of Wilton; Police Department, Town of Wilton; and Town of Wilton

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1018 Tiffany Cordon v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Children and Families; and State of Connecticut, Department of Children and Families

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1026 Diane Cece v. Chair, Harbor Management Commission, City of Norwalk; Harbor Management Commission, City of Norwalk; and City of Norwalk

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1027 Larry Bigelow v. Executive Director, State of Connecticut, Connecticut Airport Authority; and State of Connecticut, Connecticut Airport Authority

Larry Bigelow appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Mark Sommaruga appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2025-1036 Dave Shackleford v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services

Dave Shackleford appeared on his own behalf. 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 2025-1039 Christine Mazzaferro v. City Clerk, 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 2025-1041 Christopher M. Ratineri v. Christopher Drezek, Superintendent of Schools, Old Saybrook Public Schools; and Old Saybrook Public Schools

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1053 Scott Hunter v. Commissioner, Town Plan & Zoning Commission, Town of Woodbridge; Town Plan & Zoning

Commission, Town of Woodbridge; Town Clerk, Town of Woodbridge; and Town of Woodbridge

Scott Hunter appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jason Kaplan appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2025-1069 Darnasia Brown 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 2025-1070 Katharine Venice v. Superintendent of Schools, Fairfield Public Schools; and Fairfield Public Schools

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1072 Matthew Waggner v. Chair, Ethics Commission, Town of Fairfield; Ethics Commission, Town of Fairfield; and Town of Fairfield

Matthew Waggner appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jason Kaplan appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2025-1094 Robert Young v. Superintendent of Schools, New Canaan Public Schools; and New Canaan Public Schools

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1109 Robert Young v. Board of Education, New Canaan Public Schools; and New Canaan Public Schools

Attorney Abby Booth 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 2025-1121 Adam H. Osmond v. Melissa Durso, General Counsel, Connecticut Lottery Corporation; and Connecticut Lottery Corporation

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1151 James McGovern v. Town Clerk, Town of Bloomfield; and Town of Bloomfield

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

Docket #FIC 2025-1167 Robert Jordan Marshall v. Chair, Board of Education, Greenwich Public Schools; Board of Education, Greenwich Public Schools; and Greenwich Public Schools

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

The Commissioners unanimously voted to Summarily Deny Leave to Schedule a Hearing Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-206(b)(2) in *Jose Cruz v. Director, New Britain Public Library; and New Britain Public Library,* Docket #FIC 2025-1071.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to deny the Petition for Reconsideration of Final Decision dated October 20, 2026 and received by the Commission on October 20, 2026, filed by the Complainant in *Lee McCready v. Chairman, Board of Ethics, City of New London; Board of Ethics, City of New London; and City of New London,* Docket #FIC 2025-0946.

Attorney Uswah A. Khan reported on the Memorandum of Decision, dated September 14, 2026, in *Mozzochi v. FOIC, et al,* Docket No. HHB-CV-25-5039762-S, Superior Court, Judicial District of New Britain. The Commission's Motion to Dismiss was granted and the appeal was dismissed.

Executive Director and General Counsel Danielle L. McGee introduced two new Staff Attorneys who had recently joined the Commission: Kathleen M. Foster and Suzanne M. Gilleese.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2025-1014 Karina Smith v. Town Clerk, Town of Canton; and Town of Canton

The case caption and order in the Hearing Officer's Report are amended as follows

Docket #FIC 2025-1014 Karina **M. CARRIER [**Smith**]** v. Town Clerk, Town of Canton; and Town of Canton

1. Within fourteen (14) days of the Notice of Final Decision in this matter, the respondents shall conduct a thorough and diligent supplemental search for requested records dated January 1, 2022, through September 26, 2025, using the search terms and/or keywords described in paragraph**[**s 1 and**]** 2 of **[**this order**]** **THE ABOVE FINDINGS**. The respondents shall designate only individuals who possess the requisite knowledge to conduct electronic searches of the Microsoft Outlook program to perform the supplemental search.

2. Within sixty (60) days of conducting the supplemental search described in paragraph **[**3**]** **1** of this order, above, the respondents shall (i) disclose any responsive records to the complainant and (ii) provide the complainant and the Commission with an affidavit, attested to by a person with the requisite knowledge, identifying what, if any, records or portions thereof were withheld, and the basis for withholding such records or portions thereof. If no responsive records are located, the respondents shall so state in the affidavit.

Docket #FIC 2025-1036 Dave Shackleford v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services

The case caption as contained in the Hearing Officer's Report is amended as follows:

DAVE[David] Shackleford,

Complainant

Against

Commissioner, State of Connecticut,
Department of Social Services; and
State of Connecticut, Department of
Social Services

Docket #FIC 2025-1109 Robert Young v. Board of Education, New Canaan Public Schools; and New Canaan Public Schools

Paragraphs 18, 19 and 22 of the Hearing Officer's Report are amended as follows:

18. It is found that on August 13, 2026, the respondents filed the Affidavit of Michelle Ahmed, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent. In her affidavit, Ms. Ahmed avers that on July 14, 2026, the respondents conducted the ordered searches**[**, which yielded 6,335 records totaling 32,904 pages**]**. Ms. Ahmed noted that these records must be reviewed to determine if any information is wholly or partially exempt before being provided to the complainant.

19. It is found that while it is unlikely that all of **THE NEWLY GATHERED RECORDS [**32,904 pages**]** will be responsive to the request set forth in paragraph 2.b, above, it is reasonable to presume that at least a portion of these **[**newly gathered**]** records will be responsive to said request.

22. It is found that the request set forth in paragraph 2, above, required the respondents to conduct multiple extensive searches and cull through the gathered records to identify the requested subject matter (e.g., "MP Planning" or "North School**[**.**]**"**).** It is further found that, following the hearing in this matter, the respondents executed the additional searches ordered by the hearing officer **[**which produced 32,904 pages of records potentially responsive to the request set forth in paragraph 2.b, above**]**.