

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
AUGUST 1, 2017

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:33 p.m., in the conference room, at the Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present

Thomas J. Rechen, Esq., **Chair**

G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.

Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey (***Via Conference Call***)

Honorable William R. Dyson

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza

Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale

Others Present

Susan O. Storey, Chief Public Defender

Christine P. Rapillo, Acting Deputy Chief Public Defender

Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 31, 2017 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2017 regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 special meeting as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chief Public Defender discussed the list of attorney reappointments.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to reappoint the following attorneys to a new four-year term: Assistant Public Defender, Maureen Murphy, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden), expiring on 7/12/21; Assistant Public Defender, Emily Wagner, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Waterbury, expiring on 7/12/21; Assistant Public Defender, Cynthia Barlow, Tolland Judicial District/Geographical Area 19, expiring on 7/15/21; Senior Assistant Public Defender, D. Keith Foren, Waterford Juvenile Matters, expiring on 7/31/21; Assistant Public Defender, Abra Rice, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven), expiring on 8/12/21; and Senior Assistant Public Defender, Adele Patterson, Capital Defense and Trial Services, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, expiring on 8/22/21.

ATTORNEY REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:38 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) and Section 1-210(b)(10) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:08 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of Anthony Johnson vs. Warden to obtain more information.

TABLING OF EXPENSES

The Commission discussed its concerns regarding requests for mitigation and forensic social work. The Commission requested that guidelines be drafted to provide guidance to attorneys and experts regarding this. The Chief Public Defender and Acting Deputy Chief Public Defender will prepare a draft for the Commission at its next meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to ratify the email-approved Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission. The Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey abstained from the vote in the matters of Ramon Lopez vs. Warden and Roger Ruffin vs. Warden.

RATIFICATION OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 6:09 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney David C. Warner to the position of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.
DAVID C. WARNER

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

The Commission scheduled two special meetings for August 14, 2017 and August 29, 2017.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine P. Rapillo
Acting Deputy Chief Public Defender