

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
JUNE 5, 2018

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:35 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. (***Via Conference Call***)
Honorable William R. Dyson (***Via Conference Call***)
Aimee Golbert, LCSW
Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza
Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale (***Via Conference Call***)

Others Present

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender
John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender
Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources
Michael J. Isko, Public Defender
New Britain Judicial District/Geographical Area 15
Darcy McGraw, Director
Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit
Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2018 meeting. Commission member, Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale abstained from the vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Investigator I, Madelyn Montalvan, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Director of Delinquency Defense and Child Protection, Susan Hamilton, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, and Public Defender, Beth Merkin, New Haven Judicial District, upon the successful completion of their promotional probationary periods.

PERMANENT STATUS

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, Michael R. Pedevillano, New Haven Judicial District, expiring on 6/12/22; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Judith L. Borman, Capital Defense and Trial Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, expiring on 6/16/22; Assistant Public Defender, Julie M. Costello, Geographical Area 18 (Torrington), expiring on 6/18/22; Assistant Public Defender, Jennifer E. Walters, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 6/18/22; Assistant Public Defender, Lisa M. Samuelson, New Haven Juvenile Matters, expiring on 6/23/22; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Theresa M. Dalton, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury), expiring on 6/29/22; and Chief of Legal Services, Lauren Weisfeld, Office of Chief Public Defender, Waterbury, expiring on 6/29/22.

ATTORNEY
REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED EXECUTIVE SESSION unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:42 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.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:01 p.m.

It should be noted that Commission member, Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale, signed off from his conference call at 5:17 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. ROBERT J. MEREDITH unanimously to appoint Attorney Robert J. Meredith to the position of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. CHESTER E. FERNANDEZ unanimously to appoint Attorney Chester E. Fernandez to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, New Britain Judicial District/Geographical Area 15.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. ASHLEY E. RICHARD unanimously to appoint Attorney Ashley E. Richard to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, New Britain Judicial District/Geographical Area 15.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Dawn M. Bradanini, Geographical Area 10 (New London).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the hiring of a Public Defender Clerk to be split between Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury) and the Legal Services Unit in Waterbury.

APPROVAL TO HIRE A
PUBLIC DEFENDER CLERK

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the hiring of a Supervisory Assistant Public Defender for the Legal Services Unit in Hartford.

APPROVAL TO HIRE A
SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 6:05 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 6:35 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the email-approved Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of Ricardo Pagan vs. PSRB.

RATIFICATION OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to deny without prejudice, the Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of Norman Haughey vs. Warden to obtain more information.

DENIAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to deny without prejudice, the Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of Lamont Thergood vs. Warden to obtain more information.

DENIAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve all other Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission. Honorable William R. Dyson and G. Kenneth Bernhard abstained from the vote in the matters of State vs. Angel Alvarez and State vs. Jessica Hill.

The Commission meeting for July 10, 2018 was cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on August 7, 2018.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day
Deputy Chief Public Defender