

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 6, 2018

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:31 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***)

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza (***Via Conference Call***)

Honorable Hillary B. Strackbein (***Via Conference Call***)

Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale

Others Present

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender

John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender

Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources

Susan Hamilton, Director of Delinquency Defense and
Child Protection

Stephen A. Hunt, Financial Director

Bevin O. Salmon, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 23 (New Haven)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2018 meeting. Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale abstained from the vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:33 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 4:42 p.m.

Director of Delinquency Defense and Child Protection, Susan Hamilton, discussed the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant that was recently awarded to the Division for a pilot project in the City of Hartford.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 5:02 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 5:50 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the Division's hiring plan for Fiscal Year 18/19.

APPROVAL OF DIVISION'S
HIRING PLAN FY 18/19

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Freesia Singngam Waldron to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.
FREESIA SINGNGAM WALDRON

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

ATTORNEY
REAPPOINTMENTS

term: Senior Assistant Public Defender, Matthew S. Davis, Windham Judicial District/Geographical Area 11, expiring on 11/2/22; Assistant Public Defender, Cristina Angelone, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 11/5/22; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, James W. Auwood, Waterford Juvenile Matters, expiring on 11/9/22; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Robin M. Meyer, Geographical Area 21 (Norwich), expiring on 11/13/22; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Milton I. Walsh, Geographical Area 12 (Manchester), expiring on 11/16/22; Assistant Public Defender, Bradford Buchta, Fairfield Judicial District, expiring on 11/24/22; and Public Defender, James McKay, Middletown Judicial District/Geographical Area 9, expiring on 11/24/22.

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 II, Daniel Bellantuono, Windham Judicial District/Geographical Area 11, upon the successful completion of his 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 Investigator I, Christina Tafuri, Geographical Area 13 (Enfield), 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 Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Thomas Leaf, Danbury Judicial District/Geographical Area 3, upon the successful completion of his probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant Public Defender, Katharine S. Goodbody, Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Virginia Knudsen to the position of Investigator I, Geographical Area 12 (Manchester).

RATIFICATION OF
VIRGINIA KNUDSEN

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Brittany Soler to the position of Part-Time Public Defender Clerk, Hartford Community Court.

RATIFICATION OF
BRITTANY SOLER

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Rebekah L. Perez to the position of Part-Time Public Defender Clerk, Windham Judicial District/Geographical Area 11.

RATIFICATION OF
REBEKAH L. PEREZ

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 5:55 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 6:32 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission: 1118001 and 1118005.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses to obtain more information: 1118002, 1118003, and 1118004.

TABLING OF EXPENSES

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day
Deputy Chief Public Defender