

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**APRIL 6, 2021**

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The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:31 p.m. via Zoom.

**Members Present**

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

G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza

Honorable Hillary B. Strackbein

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

Alison Bloomquist, Director of Training

Bradford Buchta, Assistant Public Defender

Fairfield Judicial District

Claud Chong, Senior Assistant Public Defender

Hartford Judicial District

Scott M. Jones, Senior Assistant Public Defender

New Haven Judicial District

Jared J. Millbrandt, Assistant Public Defender

Fairfield Judicial District

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:32 p.m. The reason

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 6:17 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Chester Eduardo Fernandez to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Training Department, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
CHESTER EDUARDO  
FERNANDEZ

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Scott M. Jones to the position of Public Defender, New Haven Judicial District.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
SCOTT M. JONES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-210(b)(10) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 special meeting. Honorable Hillary B. Strackbein and Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale recused themselves from the vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 4-2021-01 and 4-2021-03.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the following Authorization to Incur Expenses: 4-2021-02.

TABLING OF EXPENSES

There were no permanent statuses to discuss at this meeting.

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: Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, M. Elizabeth Reid, Geographical Area 20 (Norwalk), expiring on 4/1/2025; and Assistant Public Defender, Joanna Carloni, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 4/18/2025.

ATTORNEY  
REAPPOINTMENTS

The Deputy Chief Public Defender discussed the Division's budget.

Director of Human Resources, Diane M. Fitzpatrick, discussed the Division's staffing.

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