

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
MARCH 1, 2022

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:37 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present

Attorney Allison M. Near, **Chair**

Honorable Laura F. Baldini

G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.

Honorable William R. Dyson

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza

Honorable Kevin S. Russo

Others Present

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender

John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender

Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources

John DeIBarba, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 7 (Meriden)

Rashad Glass, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury)

Sean F. Kelly, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 10 (New London)

Bevin Salmon, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 23 (New Haven)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2022 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2022 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission 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 6:07 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Rachel Scotch to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. RACHEL SCOTCH

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Stephanie Busto to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. STEPHANIE BUSTO

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Cody A. Layton to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 10 (New London).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY. CODY A. LAYTON

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney Evan W. Dorney to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.
EVAN W. DORNEY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Jeffrey P. Magut, Bridgeport Juvenile Matters.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Suzanne Ajeigbe to the position of Public Defender Secretary II, Geographical Area 5 (Derby).

RATIFICATION OF
SUZANNE AJEIGBE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to reappoint the following attorneys to a new four-year term: Assistant Public Defender, Michael Miller, New London Judicial District, expiring on 3/1/2026; and Assistant Public Defender, Richard Stannard, III, Geographical Area 20 (Norwalk), expiring on 3/1/2026.

ATTORNEY
REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Investigator III, Amy Preiss, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven), 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 by

PERMANENT STATUS

majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Public Defender Administrative Assistant, Audrey Gilzene, Assigned Counsel Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Public Defender, James M. Lamontagne, Danbury Judicial District/ Geographical Area 3, 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 by majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Public Defender Secretary I, Christine Lang, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury), 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 by majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Social Worker I, Rachel Sponzo, Windham Judicial District/Geographical Area 11, upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to table the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 3-2022-01; 3-2022-02; and 3-2022-03.

TABLING OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Attorney John R. Day as

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

Acting Chief Public Defender upon the resignation of the Chief Public Defender, Christine Perra Rapillo.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the Division's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day
Deputy Chief Public Defender