

**MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:45 p.m., in person, in the conference room at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT.

Members Present

Honorable Richard Palmer (Chair)
Honorable Elliot Solomon
Attorney Michael Jefferson
Honorable William Dyson

Others Present

TaShun Bowden Lewis, Chief Public Defender
John Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender
Steve Hunt, Financial Director
Paula Lohr, Acting Director of Human Resources
Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Director
Corrie Mainville, Public Defender, Litchfield JD and Torrington GA #18
John Cizik, Senior Assistant Public Defender, Training Department
Andrew O'Shea, Training Director
Joshua Michtom, Senior Assistant Public Defender, OCPD
Renee Cimino, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, New Haven Juvenile
David Warner, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Hartford GA #14

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023, Commission Meeting.

The Commission convened Executive Session at 4:48. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200 (6) A, B and E of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 8:19 p.m.

Discussion of Possible Future Presentations – tabled for a future commission meeting.

Review of Commission Policies - tabled for a future commission meeting.

Commission Correspondence - tabled for a future commission meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Authorization to Incur Expenses:

- 1114001
- 1114002
- 1114003
- 1114004
- 1114005
- 1114006
- 1114007
- 1114008

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority to appoint Renee Cimino to the position of Director of Delinquency Defense and Child Protection. (Mr. Dyson abstained.)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Joshua Pascale to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Stamford/Norwalk Judicial District/Geographical Area 1.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Nathanael Scaniffe to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Torrington Judicial District/Geographical Area 18.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint John Crosby to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint John Reducha to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Emma Beman to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Irene Tucker to the position of Investigator I, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Robert Maturo to the position of Investigator I, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Christopher Gonsalves to the position of Investigator II, New Haven Judicial District.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Ebonie-Star Clemmons to the position of Social Worker I, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Denise Saccente to the position of Secretary II, Geographical Area 12 (Manchester).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Aaliyah Brooks to the position of Secretary I (PT), Legal Services Unit, Waterbury.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following reappointment and permanent status:

- Dennis Salzbrunn GA#2 (Bridgeport)
- Johanna Canning Hartford Judicial District
- Megan Hill GA#12 (Manchester)
- Melanie Frank OCPD CTIP & PCU
- James Longwell GA#18 (Torrington)
- Uriel Lloyd GA #15 (New Britain)
- Christopher Iverson GA #7 (Meriden)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following outside employment requests:

- Dawn Bradanini GA#11 (Windham) Tunxis Community College/
Middlesex Community College
- Sanford Bruce New Haven JD Criminal Justice Clinic YLS
- John Cizik OCPD Training Dept Conn State Comm College
- Elizabeth Hrywniak GA #15 (New Britain) Mock Trial QULS
- Jennifer Bourn Legal Services Unit UConn Law School
- Justin Chan GA #4 (Waterbury) Band Performances
- Diana Gomez GA5 (Derby) Victim Compensation Commissioner

Presentation by Andrew O'Shea and John Cizik of the training department on the Defender Lab program held this past summer and a request that the commission approve funds to be used for the same program in the summer of 2024.

Q&A by commission members regarding the selection process for attendees and the use of the funding for the program.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the requested \$60K of funding to be used for the one-week residential Defender Lab program at the date to be determined in 2024.

Request from Deborah Del Prete Sullivan for the approval of invoices submitted by the law firm Shipman & Goodwin.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve invoices from Shipman & Goodwin in the amount of \$34,730.

A period of Public Commentary followed.

Corrie Mainville, Public Defender, Torrington Judicial District, addressed the commission regarding the following:

The possibility of reinstating the Justice Text project. A Q&A with the members of the commission followed requesting information about the project which will be provided to them at a future meeting.

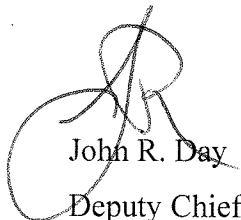
Questions regarding the removal of her (Attorney Mainville) cell phone and requested that the commission approve her to have one.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 9:05 pm. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200 (6) A, B and E of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 9:36 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John R. Day

Deputy Chief Public Defender