

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
JUNE 4, 2024

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:51 p.m. at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1D, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present

Honorable Richard N. Palmer, **Chair**

Michael Jefferson, Esq.

Honorable Russell Morin

Honorable Sheila M. Prats

Honorable Elliot N. Solomon

Herman Woodard, Jr., Esq.

Others Present

John R. Day, Acting Chief Public Defender

Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Director, Legal Counsel

Colleen Valentine, Assistant Attorney General

TaShun Bowden-Lewis, Chief Public Defender

Thomas W. Bucci, Esq.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:51 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) and Section 1-200(6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss the matter pertaining to the Chief Public Defender, TaShun Bowden-Lewis. Other attendees included the Acting Chief Public Defender, John R. Day; Director, Legal Counsel, Deborah Del Prete Sullivan; and Assistant Attorney General, Colleen Valentine.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 5:30 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Commission adopted the proposed written decision regarding the removal of TaShun Bowden-Lewis as the Chief Public Defender in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 51-290 (d). The motion passed unanimously. The written decision was then signed by the Commission Chairperson, Honorable Richard N. Palmer, on behalf of the Commission.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED
WRITTEN DECISION
TO REMOVE
TASHUN BOWDEN-LEWIS AS
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

Thereafter, upon motion duly made and seconded, and in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 51-290 (d), the Commission voted to remove TaShun Bowden-Lewis as the Chief Public Defender for just cause, effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSION VOTE
TO REMOVE
TASHUN BOWDEN-LEWIS AS
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

Please see the link below for a transcript of the hearing.

[Transcript](#)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day
Acting Chief Public Defender