

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**APRIL 7, 2026**

---

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:38 p.m., at the Office of Chief Public Defender, Rooms 1008/1011, Hartford, Connecticut.

**Members Present**

Honorable Richard N. Palmer, **Chair**  
Michael Jefferson, Esq.  
Honorable Elliot N. Solomon  
Herman Woodard, Jr., Esq.

**Others Present**

John R. Day, Chief Public Defender  
Erin M. Ryan, Director of Human Resources  
John R. DelBarba, Assistant Legal Counsel  
Legal and Legislative Affairs Unit  
Stephen Hunt, Chief Fiscal Officer  
Renee Cimino, Director of Delinquency Defense and Child  
Protection  
Molly Arabolos, Public Defender  
New Haven Judicial District  
Brya Darley, Deputy Assistant Public Defender  
Waterbury/Torrington Juvenile Matters  
Charles E. Green, Jr., Senior Assistant Public Defender  
Waterbury Judicial District  
Corrie Mainville, Public Defender  
Litchfield Judicial District/Geographical Area 18  
Christopher Oakley, Assistant Public Defender

Parent Defense Unit, Office of Child Protection, Middletown  
Jon D.A. Reducha, Assistant Public Defender  
Geographical Area 14 (Hartford)  
Erica Wardle, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender  
Waterford/Willimantic Juvenile Matters  
Leonie Campbell, Executive Assistant to the Commission

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2026, special meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Fiscal Officer, Stephen Hunt, provided a budget update summary for FY 26. There was a brief question-and-answer segment.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:47 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 to discuss the following: Authorizations to Incur Expenses, Appointments, Reclassifications, Reappointments & Permanent Statuses, Outside Employment Requests, Educational Leave Requests, Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Collective Bargaining, and Litigation Involving the Commission.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Other attendees included the Chief Public Defender, John R. Day; Director of Human Resources, Erin M. Ryan; Assistant Legal Counsel, John R. DelBarba, Legal and Legislative Affairs Unit; Director of Delinquency Defense and Child Protection, Renee Cimino; Public Defender, Molly Arabolos, New Haven Judicial District; Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Brya Darley,

Waterbury/Torrington Juvenile Matters; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Charles E. Green, Jr., Waterbury Judicial District; Public Defender, Corrie Mainville, Litchfield Judicial District/Geographical Area 18; Assistant Public Defender, Christopher Oakley, Parent Defense Unit, Office of Child Protection (Middletown); Assistant Public Defender, Jon D.A. Reducha, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford); and Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Erica Wardle, Waterford/Willimantic Juvenile Matters.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Christopher Oakley to the position of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Parent Defense Unit, Office of Child Protection, Middletown.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
CHRISTOPHER OAKLEY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Brya Darley to the position of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Waterbury/Torrington Juvenile Matters.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
BRYA DARLEY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Emily Claffey to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, New Haven Judicial District.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
EMILY CLAFFEY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to waive the appointment of an additional position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, New Haven Judicial District, until the special meeting of April 24, 2026.

POSITION WAIVED FOR  
NEW HAVEN JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Stacey Anderson to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 18 (Torrington).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
STACEY ANDERSON

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Elizabeth Carlson to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Waterford/Willimantic Juvenile Matters.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
ELIZABETH CARLSON

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Maddisyn Mircsev to the position of Social Worker I, New Haven Judicial District.

RATIFICATION OF  
MADDISYN MIRCSEV

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Danielle Johnson to the position of Paralegal Specialist II, Delinquency Defense and Child Protection, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

RATIFICATION OF  
DANIELLE JOHNSON

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Christine Lang to the position of Public Defender Secretary II, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

RATIFICATION OF  
CHRISTINE LANG

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Vionna N. Steele to the position of Legal and Legislative Affairs Aide, Legal and Legislative Affairs Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender (Hartford).

RATIFICATION OF  
VIONNA N. STEELE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Rasheeda M. George to the position of Secretary I, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

RATIFICATION OF  
RASHEEDA M. GEORGE

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: Assistant Public Defender, Sean Scott, Geographical Area 1 (Stamford), expiring on 4/8/2030; Assistant Public Defender, Denis O'Malley, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, expiring on 5/6/2030; and Assistant Public Defender, Kathryn Mallach, Tolland Judicial District/Geographical Area 19, expiring on 5/11/2030.

ATTORNEY  
REAPPOINTMENTS

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, Kobe Anderson, Geographical Area 12 (Manchester), 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 requests of Senior Assistant Public Defender, John Cizik, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden).

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUESTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Social Worker II, Deiona Henry, Bridgeport Juvenile Matters.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Assistant

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Public Defender, Margaret O'Neil, Geographical Area 15 (New Britain).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the approval of the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 4-2026-08 and 4-2026-09.

RATIFICATION OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses: 4-2026-01; 4-2026-02; 4-2026-03; 4-2026-04; 4-2026-05; 4-2026-06; and 4-2026-07.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

The Chief Public Defender presented on his report of the Division.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Commission discussed the Commission meeting date of May 12, 2026. This discussion was resolved.

The Commission further discussed the Commission meeting dates for June and July.

The Commission changed June's meeting date to June 16, 2026.

JUNE'S MEETING CHANGED TO JUNE 16, 2026

The Commission changed July's meeting date to July 14, 2026.

JULY'S MEETING CHANGED TO JULY 14, 2026

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day  
Chief Public Defender