

PYSCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD HEARING MINUTES for: June 26, 2026

**CVH, Page Hall, Rm. 217, Middletown, CT
Vanessa Cardella, LCSW, Executive Director**

ACQUITTEE	HEARING PURPOSE (H)/ BOARD CONFERENCE (BC)	HEARING OUTCOME (H) / BOARD CONFERENCE (BC)	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT = ✓ (R) = recused
Brian Pagnam	Mandatory Review (Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a-585) AND Application for Temporary Leave filed by Whiting Forensic Hospital (Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a-587) received June 1, 2026.	Board approves Temporary Leave. Unanimous decision.	(✓) Michael Pepper, Esq. (✓) Mark Kirschner, Ph.D., ABPP (✓) Cheryl Abrams, M.S. (A) Ryan Flannagan, MD (✓) Judge Joseph Marino (A) Wakana Hirota, LCSW
Kanyisa Msongelwa	Initial Commitment (Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a-583)	Remains confined to Whiting. Unanimous decision.	(✓) Michael Pepper, Esq. (✓) Mark Kirschner, Ph.D., ABPP (✓) Cheryl Abrams, M.S. (A) Ryan Flannagan, MD (✓) Judge Joseph Marino (A) Wakana Hirota, LCSW
Jonathan Vakar (aka Gothold)	Mandatory Review (Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a-585)	Remains confined to Dutcher. Unanimous decision.	(✓) Michael Pepper, Esq. (✓) Mark Kirschner, Ph.D., ABPP (✓) Cheryl Abrams, M.S. (A) Ryan Flannagan, MD (✓) Judge Joseph Marino (A) Wakana Hirota, LCSW
Alex Chatten	Applications for Modification of Conditional Release (2) submitted by WCMHN received on May 26, 2026	Board approves reduction of individual therapy (weekly to biweekly) and elimination of sign in/sign out log. Unanimous decision.	(✓) Michael Pepper, Esq. (✓) Mark Kirschner, Ph.D., ABPP (✓) Cheryl Abrams, M.S. (A) Ryan Flannagan, MD (✓) Judge Joseph Marino (A) Wakana Hirota, LCSW
Nakai Aime	BC/ Review of Special Report submitted by WFH dated June 5, 2026	Board accepts report as written. Unanimous decision.	(✓) Michael Pepper, Esq. (✓) Mark Kirschner, Ph.D., ABPP (✓) Cheryl Abrams, M.S. (A) Ryan Flannagan, MD (✓) Judge Joseph Marino (A) Wakana Hirota, LCSW

* All decisions unanimous unless otherwise specified.

*A= absent