

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

HONORABLE ANDREW J. McDONALD, Chairman

The Digest of Administrative Reports to the Governor
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Established - 1984

Statutory Authority - Article XXIII of the Amendments to the Connecticut Constitution and General Statutes sections 51-275a, 51-277 and 51-278.

Central Office - 300 Corporate Place, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Number of Employees - 0

Recurring Expenses - (2021-2022): \$409.00

(Within the budget of the Division of Criminal Justice)

Organizational Structure

The Criminal Justice Commission is comprised of the Chief State's Attorney and six members nominated by the Governor and approved by the General Assembly. Two members, by Constitutional provision, must be judges of the Superior Court.

Agency Mission

The primary function of the Criminal Justice Commission is to appoint the full-time prosecutorial officials of the Division of Criminal Justice: Chief State's Attorney, State's Attorneys, Deputy Chief State's Attorneys, and Deputy Assistant State's Attorneys. The Commission also may investigate complaints concerning the performance of the Chief State's Attorney, Deputy Chief State's Attorneys, and State's Attorneys. If necessary, the Commission may remove these appointees for cause.

Statutory Responsibility

The Criminal Justice Commission was established by an amendment to the Connecticut Constitution in conjunction with the creation of the Division of Criminal Justice. The Commission has statutory authority to adopt regulations to carry out its mandates.

Public Service

The Criminal Justice Commission vets all candidates for the above listed positions. In Fiscal Year 2023, the Commission worked with the Division of Criminal Justice to support legislation to allow the hiring of apprentice prosecutors. Public Act 23-55 was passed by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Lamont. Under this new law, the Commission can appoint law school graduates to apprentice prosecutor positions prior to their admission to the bar. The new law will assist the Division with hiring the best qualified candidates.

Achievements 2022-2023

The Commission filled a vacancy for the State's Attorney in Danbury. The Commission met ten times during the fiscal year and appointed twenty-five Deputy Assistant State's Attorneys to fill vacancies across the state. The Commission continues to hire Deputy Assistant State's Attorneys to fill vacancies that arise.

Membership

Hon. Andrew J. McDonald, Chair; Hon. Melanie L. Cradle; Robert Berke, Esq.; Reginald Dwayne Betts, Esq.; Moy N. Ogilvie, Esq.; Scott J. Murphy, Esq.; and Chief State's Attorney Patrick J. Griffin.

Information Reported as Required by State Statute**References**

Connecticut General Statutes § 51-275a

Connecticut General Statutes § 51-277

Connecticut General Statutes § 51-278