

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**AUGUST 5, 2014**

---

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:30 p.m., in the conference room, at the Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, Connecticut.

**Members Present**

Thomas J. Rechen, **Chair**  
G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.  
Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey  
Monsignor William A. Genuario  
Aimee Golbert, LCSW  
Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza  
Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale

**Others Present**

Susan O. Storey, Chief Public Defender  
Brian S. Carlow, Deputy Chief Public Defender  
Mary Haselkamp, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender  
Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport) – **Via Conference Call**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2014 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:32 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 4:42 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Nicole Feinberg to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport). The effective date of the appointment is at the discretion of the Chief Public Defender.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
NICOLE FEINBERG

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Tracy Jo Figueroa Mathis to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport). The effective date of the appointment is at the discretion of the Chief Public Defender.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
TRACY JO FIGUEROA MATHIS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Paul Scafariello to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport). The effective date of the appointment is at the discretion of the Chief Public Defender.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
PAUL SCAFARIELLO

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Kishauna Thomas-Lightfoot to the position of Social Worker I, Geographical Area 15 (New Britain).

RATIFICATION OF  
KISHAUNA THOMAS-  
LIGHTFOOT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint E. Michael Keeney to the position of Social Worker II, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury) at Step 1.

APPOINTMENT OF  
E. MICHAEL KEENEY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Andres Virgen to the position of Investigator 1, Geographical Area 13 (Enfield).

RATIFICATION OF  
ANDRES VIRGEN

The Chief Public Defender discussed the list of attorney reappointments.

The Chief Public Defender further discussed the list of permanent statuses.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to reappoint the following attorneys to a new four-year term: Assistant Public Defender, Scott Abkowitz, Geographical Area 13 (Enfield), expiring on 8/5/18; Assistant Public Defender, Sean Crowshaw, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 8/11/18; Assistant Public Defender, Benjamin Aponte, Geographical Area 1 (Stamford), expiring on 8/21/18; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Susan Cococcia, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 8/31/18; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Kelly Goulet-Case, Geographical Area 15 (New Britain), expiring on 8/31/18; and Senior Assistant Public Defender, Beth Merkin, New Haven Judicial District, expiring on 8/31/18.

ATTORNEY  
REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to grant permanent status to Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Maureen Murphy, Windham Judicial District/ Geographical Area 11, and Assistant Public Defender, Emily Wagner, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hamden, upon the successful completion of their probationary periods.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 4:47 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-210(b)(10) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 5:06 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the schedule of invoices as submitted to the Commission.

APPROVAL OF INVOICE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission. The Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey abstained from the vote in the matters of State vs. Gail Litsky, State vs. Eduardo Santiago and State vs. Lingxin Wu. The Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale abstained from the vote in the matters of State vs. Frank Moore, State vs. Jose Sanchez, and State vs. Luz Soto.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

The Chief Public Defender discussed the Domestic Violence Social Worker Second Report.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 5:38 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the Policy Pertaining to Division Social Workers as Mandated Reporters.

APPROVAL OF POLICY  
PERTAINING TO DIVISION  
SOCIAL WORKERS AS  
MANDATED REPORTERS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the Performance Guidelines for Counsel in Juvenile Matters.

APPROVAL OF  
PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES  
FOR COUNSEL IN JUVENILE  
MATTERS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to deny the paid educational leave request of Social Worker III, Isabel Logan, Hartford Juvenile Matters.

DENIAL OF PAID  
EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Claudia D. Jones.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Dennis P. Harrigan, Fairfield Judicial District.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the paid educational leave request of Social Worker I, Sara Hodis, Geographical Area 18 (Bantam).

TABLING OF PAID  
EDUCATIONAL LEAVE  
REQUEST

Chairman Rechen honored the former Chairman and Commission member, Carl Eisenmann, Esq., for his years of service on the Public Defender Services Commission and presented and read his Declaration from the Governor, Dannel Malloy.

FORMER CHAIRMAN OF  
COMMISSION HONORED

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Carlow  
Deputy Chief Public Defender