

MINUTES OF MEETING
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION
OCTOBER 6, 2015

The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:32 p.m., in the conference room, at the Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present

Thomas J. Rechen, Esq., **Chair**

G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq. (***Via Conference Call***)

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

Turkessa E. Antrum, Director of Human Resources

Mary Haselkamp, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport)

Jen Loo, Manager of Administrative Services

Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2015 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director of Human Resources, Turkessa E. Antrum, discussed the job description of Paralegal I and Paralegal II. She

further discussed the removal of the language “interpreting statutes” in those job descriptions.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to amend the job description of Paralegal I and Paralegal II to remove the language “interpreting statutes.”

AMENDMENT OF JOB DESCRIPTION FOR PARALEGAL I AND PARALEGAL II

The Chief Public Defender discussed the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Beth Merkin, New Haven Judicial District.

The Chief Public Defender further discussed the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Joseph E. Lopez, New Haven Judicial District.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Beth Merkin, New Haven Judicial District, for one year.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Senior Assistant Public Defender, Joseph E. Lopez, New Haven Judicial District, for one year.

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

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, 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: Senior Assistant Public Defender, Patrick J. Culligan, Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill, expiring on 10/1/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, James B. Streeto, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Waterbury, expiring on 10/1/19; Assistant Public Defender, Lawrence M. Peck, Jr., Geographical Area 18 (Bantam), expiring on 10/3/19; Assistant Public Defender, Anne Marie Kindley, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 10/12/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Maureen J. Gaffey, Middletown Judicial District/Geographical Area 9, expiring on 10/29/19; and Senior Assistant Public Defender, James M. Chase, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven), expiring on 10/30/19.

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 Public Defender Administrative Assistant, Linda D'Amora, Assigned Counsel Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford, upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

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 Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Diana Gomez, Geographical Area 5 (Derby) and Assistant Public Defender, Katharine S. Goodbody, Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill, upon the successful completion of their probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:40 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 4:46 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Rosanna L. Cappetta to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.
ROSANNA L. CAPPETTA

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 4:50 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 5:02 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Kymberly Cianci to the position of Administrative Services Officer, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF
KYMBERLY CIANCI

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Danielle Johnson to the position of Public Defender Clerk, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

RATIFICATION OF
DANIELLE JOHNSON

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 5:05 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 5:18 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to table the Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of State vs. Jason Bree.

TABLING OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the Authorization to Incur Expenses in the matter of State vs. Jomary Medina.

RATIFICATION OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve all other Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Carlow
Deputy Chief Public Defender