

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

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The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:31 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.  
Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey  
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  
Bevin O. Salmon, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender  
Geographical Area 23 (New Haven)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2015 meeting. Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza and Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale abstained from the vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission Chairman, Thomas J. Rechen, Esq., notified the Commission that a new Commission member, Honorable William R. Dyson, has been appointed.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW  
COMMISSION MEMBER

The Chief Public Defender discussed the Veteran's Stand Down event scheduled for September 18, 2015.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:38 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 Keith Zackowitz to the position of Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 23 (New Haven). The effective date of the appointment is at the discretion of the Chief Public Defender.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
KEITH ZACKOWITZ

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 1-200(6)(A) and Section 1-210(b)(10) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 5:25 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Sharon Grace to the position of Public Defender Secretary, Danbury Judicial District/ Geographical Area 3.

RATIFICATION OF  
SHARON GRACE

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

TABLING OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve all other Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission. The Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey abstained from the vote in the matter of State vs. Ronnie Hinton and the Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale abstained from the vote in the matter of State vs. Dale Kukucka.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to approve the schedule of invoices as submitted to the Commission. The Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey abstained from the vote in the matter of State vs. Ray Smith.

APPROVAL OF INVOICE

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 go back into Executive Session at 5:31 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 5:40 p.m.

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: Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Elisa L. Villa, Geographical Area 17 (Bristol), expiring on 9/11/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Charles E. Green, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury), expiring on 9/14/19; Assistant Public Defender, Jassette A. Henry, Geographical Area 10 (New London), expiring on 9/14/19; Assistant Public Defender, David C. Warner, Waterbury Judicial District, expiring on 9/14/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Lisa R. Stevens, Geographical Area 1 (Stamford), expiring on 9/25/19; Assistant Public Defender, James M. Lamontagne, Geographical Area 20 (Norwalk), expiring on 9/26/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Mary Elizabeth Ahern, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Mark R. Buebendorf, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden), expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Howard A. Ehring, Geographical Area 1 (Stamford), expiring on 9/30/19; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Mary Haselkamp, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 9/30/19; Public Defender, Michael J. Isko, New Britain Judicial District, expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Judith F. Machuga, Geographical Area 15 (New Britain), expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Thomas J. Paoletta, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Matthew J. Ramia, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury), expiring on 9/30/19; Public Defender, Bruce A. Sturman, New London Judicial District, expiring on 9/30/19; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Shawn G. Tiernan, Geographical Area 10 (New London), expiring on 9/30/19; and Senior Assistant Public

Defender, Michael S. Wagner, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford),  
expiring on 9/30/19.

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, Angel Acevedo, Office of Chief Public  
Defender, Hartford, upon the successful completion of his  
promotional 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, Nicole Feinberg, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), upon  
the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

There being no further business to come before the  
Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Carlow  
Deputy Chief Public Defender