

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**JANUARY 7, 2020**

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The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:35 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 William R. Dyson (*Conference Call*)

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Honorable Hillary B. Strackbein

Honorable Elpedio N. Vitale

**Others Present**

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender

Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go into Executive Session at 4:39 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 6:23 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Thomas J. Paoletta to the position of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
THOMAS J. PAOLETTA

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to go back into Executive Session at 6:29 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 7:23 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to appoint Attorney Jonathan K. Gable to the position of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 5 (Derby).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
JONATHAN K. GABLE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Authorizations to Incur Expenses as submitted to the Commission: 12001, 12002, and 12003.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney Obinna E. Anugweje to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 15 (New Britain).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
OBINNA E. ANUGWEJE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to appoint Attorney William Brian Kraekel to the position of Deputy Assistant Public Defender, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

APPOINTMENT OF ATTY.  
WILLIAM BRIAN KRAEKEL

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to ratify the appointment of Shannon Slater to the position of Part-Time Investigator I, Geographical Area 4 (Waterbury).

RATIFICATION OF  
SHANNON SLATER

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, Joseph Lopez, DNA Project, Connecticut Innocence Project/Post Conviction Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Rocky Hill, expiring on 12/27/2023; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Michael Paris, Geographical Area 2 (Bridgeport), expiring on 1/2/2024; and Senior Assistant Public Defender, Jonathan K. Gable, Geographical Area 5 (Derby), expiring on 1/16/2024.

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 Secretary I, Rebekah Whelan, Middletown Judicial District/Geographical Area 9, 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 Investigator II, Adam Stanclift, Hartford Judicial District, upon the successful completion of his 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 Assistant Public Defender,

PERMANENT STATUS

Donald Meehan, Waterbury Judicial District, upon the successful completion of his probationary period.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the outside employment request of Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, M. Elizabeth Reid, Geographical Area 20 (Norwalk).

APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT REQUEST

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Perra Rapillo  
Chief Public Defender