

TO: Freedom of Information Commission
FROM: Russell Blair
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of June 12, 2024

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on June 12, 2024. The Commission meeting of June 12, 2024 was conducted in person. The meeting convened at 2:03 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Kate Farrish
Commissioner Aigné Goldsby Wells
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Matthew Streeter

Also present were staff members Colleen M. Murphy, Valicia D. Harmon, Mary-Kate Smith, Kevin W. Munn, Danielle L. McGee, Nicholas A. Smarra, Marybeth Sullivan, Molly Steffes, Jennifer Mayo and Russell Blair.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of May 22, 2024.

Those in attendance were informed that the June 12, 2024 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0324](#) Kenneth McCoy v. Karl Jacobson, Chief, Police Department, City of New Haven; Police Department, City of New Haven; and City of New Haven

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0346](#) Michael Ward v. Chief, Police Department, City of Bridgeport; Police Department, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport

Michael Ward appeared on his own behalf via speakerphone. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0347](#) Luis Diaz v. Chief, Police Department, City of Bridgeport; Police Department, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0350](#) Anthony Lazzari v. Chief, Police Department, Town of Berlin; Police Department, Town of Berlin; and Town of Berlin

Anthony Lazzari appeared on his own behalf via speakerphone. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0351](#) Anthony Lazzari v. Chief, Police Department, City of Meriden; Police Department, City of Meriden; and City of Meriden

Anthony Lazzari appeared on his own behalf via speakerphone. Attorney Emily Holland appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners voted 4-0 to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. Commissioner Hankins abstained. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0596](#) Cordaryl Silva v. Wayne Williams, Chief, Police Department, City of Ansonia; Police Department, City of Ansonia; and City of Ansonia

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2021-0320](#) John DiIorio v. Information Technology Services, State of Connecticut, Connecticut General Assembly; and State of Connecticut, Connecticut General Assembly

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0314](#) Len Besthoff v. Executive Director, Cromwell Fire District; and Cromwell Fire District

The Commissioners voted 4-0 to amend the Hearing Officer's Report. The Commissioners voted 4-0 to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report as amended*. Commissioner Farrish abstained. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0336](#) Peter Currin v. Chief Clerk, State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch, New Britain Superior Court; and Judicial Branch, New Britain Superior Court

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. Upon the late arrival of the complainant, the Commissioners unanimously voted to reconsider the Hearing Officer's Report. Peter Currin appeared on his own behalf. Attorney James O'Connor appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2023-0334](#) Elijah El-Hajj-Bey v. Department Head, Procurement, City of Hartford; Procurement, City of Hartford; and City of Hartford

The matter was marked off the agenda. The Commissioners took no action

[Docket #FIC 2023-0367](#) Elijah El-Hajj-Bey v. Director, Department of Public Works, Town of East Hartford; Department of Public Works, Town of East Hartford; and Town of East Hartford

The matter was marked off the agenda. The Commissioners took no action

[Docket #FIC 2023-0360](#) Nicholas J Polis v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to accept the Executive Director's Recommendation to deny the Petition for Relief from Vexatious Requestor in City of Shelton v. David Moore, PRVR # 13.

Attorney Kevin W. Munn reported on a May 24, 2024 decision in Superior Court in *Chief of Police, City of Bridgeport, et al. v. Freedom of Information Commission*, Docket No. HHB-CV-23-6079418-S/Docket No. HHB-CV-23-6079420-S. The court upheld the Commission's final decision in Docket #FIC 2022-0182, *Johanna Fay v. Chief, Police Department, City of Bridgeport; Police Department, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport*; and Docket #FIC 2022-0183, *Johanna Fay v. Chief Police Department City of Bridgeport; Police Department City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport*. The Commissioners took no action.

Attorney Valicia D. Harmon reported that the Superior Court denied the plaintiff's motion to stay in *Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities v. City of Bridgeport et al.*, Docket No. HHB-CV-24-6086355-S, an appeal regarding the hearing officer's decision to modify the case caption in Docket #FIC-2023-0468, *Paul Testa v. Executive Director, State of Connecticut, Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities; and State of Connecticut, Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities*, a matter currently pending before the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

/s/ Russell Blair
Russell Blair

AMENDMENTS*

Docket #FIC 2023-0314 Len Besthoff v. Executive Director, Cromwell Fire District; and
Cromwell Fire District

Paragraph 1a of the order in the Hearing Officer's Report is amended as follows:

- a. IC-2023-0314-IR-002, lines 4 through 22 and lines **31**[32] through 34