

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION  
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Meeting Was Conducted Remotely Using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT MINUTES  
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION MEETING  
March 30, 2023

Commissioner Thomas A. Esposito, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Staff Attorney Sousa advised all participants that the proceedings were being recorded.

Commissioner Esposito confirmed all members in attendance and verified that a minimum 5 voting member quorum was present.

Members present and participating remotely: Chairperson Thomas Esposito; Bryan Cafferelli; Hon. Leo Diana; Mildred Torres-Ferguson; and Salvatore Vitrano; Ex-officio (non-voting) Members State Marshal Thomas Burke and State Marshal Lisa Stevenson.

Commission Staff present: Staff Director Douglas Moore (non-voting); Staff Attorney Thomas J. Sousa, Jr. (non-voting); and Special Investigator Anthony Valenti (non-voting).

Members Absent: Vice-Chairperson Shirley Skyers-Thomas; Michael Desmond and John Vamos.

**Topics:**

**1. Minutes of the February 23, 2023 Regular Meeting:**

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2023, regular State Marshal Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

**2. Paralegal Specialist:**

Staff Director Moore reported that work to fill the paralegal position is still in process.

**3. Retirements/Resignations/Inactive/Deaths:**

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to accept New London County State Marshal William Dwyer's retirement request, seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to appoint New London County State Marshal Travis Romano as designated successor to take over any of retired State Marshal William

Dwyer’s accounts, seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Complaints:**

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to accept the following probable cause recommendations:

File	Parties	Recommendation
20-01	Barbieri v. Reiff	Probable Cause
20-03	Porter v. Niziankiewicz	Probable Cause
20-04	Nastri v. Dingle	Probable Cause
20-05	Shulman v. Dingle	Probable Cause
21-11	Lockhart v. Dingle	Probable Cause
21-14	Patel v. Dingle	Probable Cause
21-15	Failla v. Carusone	No Probable Cause
21-17	<i>In Re</i> Cipriano, D.	No Probable Cause
21-18	<i>In Re</i> Corbett	No Probable Cause
21-20	<i>In Re</i> Cullinan	No Probable Cause
21-21	<i>In Re</i> Paolillo	No Probable Cause
21-25	Hayes v. Corbett	Probable Cause
22-28	<i>In Re</i> Fisher	Probable Cause
22-32	<i>In Re</i> McCrewell	Probable Cause
22-37	Paracha v. Hobart	No Probable Cause
23-01	Tyson v. Finenemann	No Probable Cause
23-02	<i>In Re</i> McCrewell	Probable Cause

Seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to vacate the probable cause findings and dismiss complaints 19-09 (McNeill v. Christiansen); 19-13 (Pace v. Woodruff) and 20-22 (Delucco v. Milardo). Seconded by Commissioner Diana, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to vacate the probable cause findings, dismiss the following complaints for lack of standing (per 22-07 precedent) and direct the commission staff to determine if “*in re*” complaints should be brought in the following cases:

File	Parties
22-05	Pierson v. Longobardi
22-06	Pierson v. Morrissey
22-08	Pierson v. Winik
22-09	Pierson v. DeAngelis
22-10	Pierson v. Criscuolo
22-21	Elizondo v. Balletto, D.
22-26	Thorkelson v. Nikola

Seconded by Commssioner Diana, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to stay the following complaints:

File	Parties
22-32	<i>In Re</i> McCrewell
22-35	Rabbett v. McCrewell
22-38	<i>In Re</i> McCrewell
22-39	Richey v. McCrewell
23-02	<i>In Re</i> McCrewell

Seconded by Commssioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

Ex-officio State Marshal Burke asked if there was any “expiration date” on the complaints that were just stayed by the commission’s vote. Staff Attorney Sousa responded that there is no expiration date, the cases are essentially placed “on hold” for an indefinite period.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to accept the Proposed Final Decision and recommended disposition of revocation of appointment in file 22-18, *In Re* McCrewell. Seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to accept the Proposed Final Decision and recommended disposition of revocation of appointment in file 22-19, *In Re* McCrewell. Seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

**5. Appointment of Designated Successor Marshal:**

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to Motion to appoint Tolland County State Marshal John Cronin to oversee and audit the records and accounts of former Tolland County Connecticut State Marshal Kevin C. McCrewell, Sr.; seconded by Commissioner Vitrano the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Administrative Updates:**

Staff Attorney Sousa reported that the Commission recently received the state auditor final report on the accounts of the late New Haven County State Marshal Gerald Cappiello.

Staff Attorney Sousa provided an update on the upcoming Freedom of Information Act training for DAS and State Marshal Commission staff that is scheduled for April 21, 2023.

**7. Committee Bill No. 5856:**

Staff Director Moore stated that Committee Bill 5856 was reported out of the labor and public employees committee last week. The bill as it stands right now requires the State Marshal Commission to conduct a study of state marshal health benefits. The study will need to include things like average hours per week state marshals spend performing services on behalf of the state; what if any health insurance state marshals currently receive; any recommendations for the legislature concerning the improvement of health benefits for state marshals, including but not limited to benefits provided by their partnership plans. No later than January 1, 2024, the commission shall submit a report to the joint committee having cognizance over labor and public employees so the bill is out of committee, but it would still need to be voted on by the House of Representatives and the Senate to become law.

Ex-officio State Marshal Burke stated that both he and State Marshal Stevenson along with members of the State Marshal Advisory Board would be more than happy to take some of the burden off the commission office and obtain the necessary information in order to put all the necessary figures together and then present them to the commission office for their review.

**8. Hartford County Capias Needed:**

Commissioner Diana brought to the Commission’s attention the fact that there are six or seven Capias warrants in Hartford that have been outstanding for a period of time. The typical scenario involves defendants who have been served in hand on the contempt, have failed to pay child support resulting in considerable arrearages, and they don’t show up to a hearing to address the issue, so a judge issues the capias. Apparently state marshals are not serving them because the individuals are hostile and the marshals are not willing to bring them in. Commissioner Diana contacted Attorney Sousa who provided the name of a state marshal, but that marshal has two capias orders to serve and has not completed them. Commissioner Vitrano asked if the order limits capias execution to one marshal. Ex-officio State Marshal Burke provided a summary of the capias unit. Ex-officio Stevenson stated that during COVID the department of support enforcement recalled all of their warrants so right now there are not many outstanding. Commissioner Diana will get in contact with the Ex-officios to work on getting the outstanding capias warrants served. There followed a general discussion on the topic of capias procedures.

**9. Commissioner Torres-Ferguson:**

Commissioner Esposito announced that Commissioner Mildred Torres-Ferguson has submitted her resignation after serving as a member of this commission for ten years. On behalf of the commission, he thanked her and wished her the best of luck in her new role at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.