

STATE EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT COMMISSION



MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
for DISABILITY RETIREMENT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
RETIREMENT SERVICES DIVISION
OFFICE of the STATE COMPTROLLER
165 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106
PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | EMAIL: OSC.RSD@CT.GOV

**Meeting of the Legal & Personnel Subcommittee of the
State Employees Retirement Commission**

DATE: March 11, 2026

PRESENT:

Chairman Peter Adomeit
Trustee Michael Carey
Trustee Brian Hill
Trustee Sal Luciano
Trustee Michael O'Brien
Commission Counsel Michael Rose (Rose Kallor, LLP)
Commission Counsel Cindy Cieslak (Rose Kallor, LLP)
Tax Counsel Bruce Barth (Robinson & Cole LLP)
Tax Counsel Virginia McGarrity (Robinson & Cole LLP)
John Herrington, Retirement Services Division Director
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division Assistant Director
Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division
Yamuna Menon, Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified the individuals in attendance.

At 8:35 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to approve the agenda. All voted in favor.

Executive Session – discussion and possible recommendation

1. Evangelista Contreras, Jr. appeal – written legal opinion.
2. Susan Martin request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
3. William Pagoni v. SERC – pending claim/pending litigation.
4. Patrick Butler v. SERC – pending claim/pending litigation.
5. Lori LaPrise v. SERC – pending claim/pending litigation.

At 8:35 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Items 1-5. All voted in favor. The Subcommittee invited Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, John Herrington, Virginia McGarrity, Yamuna

Menon, Michael Rose, and Benjamin Sedrowski to enter executive session for Items 1-5 because they may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue.

At 8:37 a.m., Robert Helfand re-entered the meeting and was invited into executive session.

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to exit executive session. All voted in favor.

Public Session

At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission remand Mr. Contreras's matter to the MEB for review on the following items: 1) review updated workers' compensation information and status, 2) provide additional information as to why the MEB found Mr. Contreras not disabled despite the apparent award of social security disability, and 3) explain if/how social media posts factored in the MEB's decision on disability status. All voted in favor.

At 9:08a.m., Mr. Carey noted that the Subcommittee directed counsel to provide Ms. Martin with the information she requested and allow her 90 days to supplement her request for reconsideration.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before the Subcommittee, at 9:09 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Carey