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In The Matter Of:
SERC Legal & Personnel

Personnel and Litigation

June 9, 2021

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
PERSONNEL AND LITIGATION SUBCOMMITTEE

June 9, 2021 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 8:35 A.M.

Present:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Trustee Michael Carey

Trustee Robert Coffey

Trustee Sal Luciano

Trustee Michael O'Brien

Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose
Kallor, LLP

Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose
Kallor, LLP

Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson &
Cole, LLP

Alisha Sullivan, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson
& Cole, LLP

John Herrington, Retirement Services Division Director

Court Reporter: Theresa Bergstrand, CSR #406

1 (The meeting commenced at 8:35 a.m.)

2
3 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Before we go to the approval
4 of the agenda, Bruce Barth had recommended, perhaps,
5 that we discuss this refund of SERS contributions to
6 persons who become judges. And I think it is an
7 interesting issue, and I believe the subcommittee would
8 be interested in hearing that.

9 MR. BARTH: Do you want to talk about that today or
10 do you want to go on --

11 MR. HERRINGTON: Yes, I guess my thoughts would be,
12 right, so there's the two issues that we dealt with, but
13 there are, probably are at least three, maybe four
14 issues that relate to judges. And I would say that the
15 judges are kind of a unique population. There's a
16 relatively small number of them. They are all bright,
17 they all talk and there is one singular kind of
18 personnel manager who is kind of in charge of this and
19 has, you know, both historical knowledge and, you
20 know -- really there is, there's, you know, every
21 question is presented as a single question but it is
22 always analyzed in terms of what we have done for any
23 number of judges in the past.

24 So with all of that being said, I would say one of
25 the issues that kind of resonates over any discussion

1 that we have with any individual who has prior state
2 service and later becomes a judge, is former Justice
3 Katz. So former Justice Katz was a state employee in
4 tier one. She was vested. She became a Supreme Court
5 Justice --

6 MR. ADOMEIT: Excuse me. John, I got a note from
7 Cindy that I did not have roll call done. And so she
8 wants that, and I'll get right back to you as soon as
9 she does the roll call.

10 MS. CIESLAK: Sorry. I did not mean to interrupt.
11 So this is Cindy Cieslak. Today at, today's meeting we
12 have Chairman Peter Adomeit, Trustee Sal Luciano,
13 Trustee Michael O'Brien, Trustee Robert Coffey. Also
14 present today, we have John Herrington, Retirement
15 Services Division Director; Bruce Barth from Robinson
16 and Cole, Tax Counsel to the Commission; Alisha Sullivan
17 from Robinson and Cole, Tax Counsel to the Commission;
18 Michael Rose from Rose Kallor, General Counsel to the
19 Commission and myself, Cindy Cieslak, General counsel to
20 the Commission.

21 MR. ADOMEIT: Yeah, now the question really is to
22 amend the agenda to add the discussion that John has
23 already begun.

24 MR. BARTH: In Executive Session.

25 MR. ADOMEIT: In Executive Session, of course.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Is there a written legal opinion or
2 anything that would --

3 MR. BARTH: That is being sent around as we speak.

4 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay.

5 MR. BARTH: John, do you want to discuss it today
6 or --

7 MR. ADOMEIT: We have -- go ahead.

8 MR. HERRINGTON: Yeah, I think that we should have
9 a general discussion. And I think what we ultimately
10 where, I think we are going, is we should probably have
11 a discussion with Judicial, as well --

12 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Well before we go into this
13 more in detail, we have to add it to the agenda and then
14 put it on executive session.

15 So I need a motion to add the Refund of
16 Contribution to Persons Who Become Judges.

17 MR. LUCIANO: So moved.

18 MR. COFFEY: Second.

19 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. All in favor say aye.
20 Opposed, nay. The aye's have it.

21 Now we have to approve the agenda as amended. Is
22 there a motion to that effect?

23 MR. LUCIANO: So moved.

24 MR. COFFEY: Second.

25 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay.

1 The aye's have it.

2 The issue that we just put on the agenda is in
3 Executive Session. So I need a motion to go into
4 Executive Session.

5 MR. LUCIANO: So moved.

6 MR. COFFEY: Second.

7 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay.

8 The aye's have it.

9 MR. COFFEY: And to invite Counsel and Mr.
10 Herrington.

11 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you, Bob. Mike, do you mind
12 hitting pause on the recording while we go into
13 Executive Session?

14
15 (Whereupon a short recess was taken.)

16
17 MR. ADOMEIT: Go ahead.

18 MR. LUCIANO: I would like to make a motion that we
19 recommend to the Commission next week that Corey Lynn
20 Judge's request to go to the MEB be honored.

21 MR. COFFEY: And that we decline to issue a
22 declaratory ruling.

23 MR. ADOMEIT: Yeah. Sal shook his head, yes. So I
24 guess that is the answer, yes. All right.

25 MR. LUCIANO: I'll consider that a friendly

1 amendment, yes.

2 MR. ADOMEIT: Is there any further discussion?
3 Hearing none, all in favor say aye. It is unanimous.
4 The aye's have it.

5 Okay. We are through the agenda.

6 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to adjourn is in order.

7 MR. COFFEY: Second.

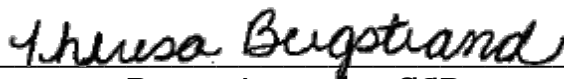
8 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay.
9 The aye's have it.

10
11 (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Theresa Bergstrand, CSR, a Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that the preceding pages are an accurate transcription of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission, Personnel and Litigation Subcommittee meeting held electronically via Zoom, convening at 8:35 a.m., on June 9, 2021.

WITNESS my hand this 20th day of July, 2021.



Theresa Bergstrand, CSR
My Commission Expires 3/31/2026