

**APPELLATE DEFENDER COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

AUGUST 14, 2024
SADO DETROIT
9:00 A.M.

Commissioners: Chair Judith Gracey, Conor Dugan, JoAnn Lank, Brandy Robinson, and Darryl Woods.

Via Zoom: Honorable Thomas Solka and Janet Welch

SADO/MAACS: Director Jonathan Sacks, Deputy Director Marilena David and Commission Secretary MariaRosa Palmer

GUESTS: UAW Bargaining secretary, Garrett Burton

WELCOME

Chair Judith Gracey called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Commissioners Solka and Welch are joining via Zoom, but cannot vote because they are not present in person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

UAW Bargaining secretary, Garrett Burton encouraged the Commission to vote in favor of the one-time payments.

One-Time Payments to SADO Employees

Mr. Sacks provided background information about the collective bargaining agreement and the negotiation process. Mr. Sacks indicated that during the negotiations for the collective bargaining agreement there were two wage priorities. First, for all employees, SADO was not at 100% parity with civil service. Second, for SADO attorneys there are too many steps for attorneys to go from the first step of the pay scale to the top. This is not in line with best practices across law firms, public defenders, and other industries. These priorities are now funded and as of October 1, 2024, the funding is available for all employees on staff.

To accommodate the fact that SADO staff would not see any increases until the fiscal year 2025, the Collective Bargaining Agreement included a bonus for signing the collective bargaining agreement of \$650 and a one-time payment in Fiscal Year 2024 if SADO has a budget surplus. After working with the SADO Finance Director, the amount of \$1,250 per employee was agreed upon, leaving funds for SADO to cover any end-of-year needs. Mr. Sacks noted that there is a statewide one-time payment for all state employees.

Commissioner Woods moved to approve a one-time lump sum per Collective Bargaining Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Robinson. Carried.

Commissioner Dugan moved to approve a one-time lump sum for non-bargaining unit employees, seconded by Commissioner Woods. Carried.

Update on Potential Detroit Lease Expansion

Mr. Sacks provided an update but noted that the lease expansion will be a September action item.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MariaRosa J. Palmer
SADO

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BY: _____
Judith Gracey, Chair