

**PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING**  
**July 26, 2021**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting convened virtually at 2:03 PM, on Monday, July 26, 2021.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioners:

Joel Bolstein, Chair  
Dr. Raquel O. Yiengst, Vice Chair  
Mayur Patel, Secretary  
Rad Agrawal  
George Dawson  
Michael Hardiman  
Curtis Jones (absent)  
Adrian Shanker (absent)  
Aleena Sorathia (absent)

Staff:

Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director  
Samuel Rivera, Chief Counsel  
Morgan Williams, Deputy Chief Counsel  
Carl Summerson, Hearing Examiner  
Guerline Laurore, Esq., Director of Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs (absent)  
Adrian Garcia, Director of Fair Housing and Commercial Property  
Kurt Jung, Director of Enforcement  
Laura Argenbright, Director of Communications  
Lyle Wood, Pittsburgh Regional Office Director  
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Office Director  
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer  
Anja Mijocevic, Special Assistant to Executive Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bolstein called the meeting to order. The meeting had been advertised and was open to the public, in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Act. Prior to the meeting, in keeping with the confidentiality requirements of the Sunshine Act; there had been a closed session to discuss compliance matters.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was noted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES****MOTION:**

Commissioner Agrawal made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Yiengst to approve the minutes of the June Public Meeting. With all in favor, motion carried.

**ADJUDICATION**

Case #	Case Name
201803194	Rivera v. Chase Truck Tire, LLC
201901820	Ford v. Joe Darrah, Inc. d/b/a J&K Salvage

Hearing Examiner Summerson presented to the commissioners, the cases listed above. Each commissioner voting signifies by their vote that they have reviewed the record in these matters to determine whether the recommended findings are supported by substantial evidence. Furthermore, because it is for the commission, as the adjudicative body to determine whether the respondent has engaged in or is engaging in an unlawful discriminatory practice as defined by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, any findings, conclusions, and order approved today are so approved only after the commission itself has determined that the evidence upon which it is based has been resolved correctly; and that any credibility determinations have been decided correctly.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Agrawal to approve the Recommendation to find liability for charging party in the case 201803194 of Rivera v. Chase Truck Tire, LLC. With all in favor, motion carried.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dawson to approve the Recommendation to find liability for charging party in the case of 201901820 of Ford v. Joe Darrah, Inc. d/b/a J&K Salvage. With all in favor, motion carried

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Executive Director Lassiter welcomed the staff and guests to the monthly meeting. Guests this month included Noah Erwin, Representative of Senator Tartaglione's office. The executive director, commissioners and staff welcomed Mr. Erwin to the monthly meeting.

**MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

Current highlights of division activities and upcoming outreach events were shared for the benefit of meeting guests.

Chief Counsel Rivera described improvements to processes and expressed his willingness to speak with Mr. Erwin to learn how we can be of assistance to Senator Tartaglione and constituents.

Director of Fair Housing Adrian Garcia discussed the HUD teams process to learn how we can best serve the public.

Director of Enforcement Kurt Jung reported his division is working on exciting programs to make processing investigations more efficient and working in conjunction with Chief Counsel's office and Mediation to bolster programs

ED Lassiter provided an overview of Policy and Mediation on behalf of Director Laurore.

Director Argenbright discussed outreach initiatives and offerings, the monthly newsletter and social media networking.

Hearing Examiner Summerson explained the 11 Advisory Councils and 50 local commissions that work voluntarily with PHRC.

Executive Director Lassiter provided a list of upcoming outreach events.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **NEXT SESSION**


The next Commission Meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on Monday, August 23, 2021.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

##### **MOTION:**

Commissioner Agrawal made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Yiengst to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



M. Joel Bolstein  
Chairman

s/Mayur Patel

Mayur Patel  
Secretary