

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

**GENERAL ORDER REGARDING APPOINTMENT
TO THE COMMITTEE OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC FAIRNESS
IN THE RHODE ISLAND COURTS**

WHEREAS the Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court issued an Executive Order on October 20, 2020, establishing the COMMITTEE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC FAIRNESS IN THE RHODE ISLAND COURTS (“Committee”); and

WHEREAS the Executive Order, in establishing the Committee, reaffirms the court’s “substantial, vigorous, and abiding commitment to the fair, equitable, and just treatment of all defendants, victims, litigants, witnesses and members of the public”; and

WHEREAS the Executive Order charges the Committee “to identify and confront areas where racism, inequality, and discrimination may exist in our judicial system”; and “to identify and remediate bias and prejudice, both conscious and unconscious, in the administration of justice in this State. It should also work to develop programs and protocols for education and training with respect to racial justice, unconscious bias, and fairness, and make recommendations regarding the impact of race on various court processes,” and

WHEREAS the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island shares the Rhode Island state courts commitment to racial and ethnic fairness in its courts; and

WHEREAS the Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court has invited the federal court judicial officers to join the Committee and its work;

THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED

The Chief Judge of United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island shall appoint up to three judicial officers from the federal courts, to serve as full members of the Committee, for staggered three-year renewable terms.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

By the Court:

November 16, 2023

/s/ John J. McConnell Jr., Chief Judge