

**Special Committee on Sex Offenders
Meeting**

Thursday, May 11, 2016

2:00 PM

Legislative Office Building, Room 2D
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT

Members Present: Atty. Brian Austin, Vivien K. Blackford, Linda J. Cimino, Laura Cordes, Hon. Robert Devlin, Atty. Robert Farr (co-chair), Karen Martucci, Atty. David McGuire, David Rentler, Lisa Tepper Bates, Atty. Thomas Ullmann, and Atty. Antoinette Webster.

Staff: Alex Tsarkov and Atty. Leland J. Moore.

Also Participating: Karen Baker, Tracy Miller, Caitlin O'Brien, and John Santa.

MINUTES

I. MEETING CONVENED

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:10 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3.3.16

The minutes from the meeting on March 3rd, 2016 were reviewed and approved as amended.

III. PRESENTATION ON VICTIM NEEDS AND THE ROLE OF VICTIM ADVOCATES

a. Laura Cordes—Executive Director of the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence—along with Tracy Miller and Caitlin O'Brien presented on the mission of the Alliance, victim needs, the role of victim advocates, and the counseling and advocacy model used within the state of Connecticut.

b. Karen Baker—Director of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center—provided national victim demographic statistics and presented the national perspective on victim needs and services.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

a. Sentencing

Atty. Brian Austin reported that the sentencing subcommittee identified several priority focus areas at its last meeting and that it plans to work in these areas at its next meeting.

b. Community & Victim Needs

Ms. Laura Cordes provided an overview of the committee's plan to hold focus groups over the summer. She also noted that the committee is working with Sentencing Commission Executive Director Alex Tsarkov to obtain technical assistance for this process.

c. Assessment & Management

Mr. David Rentler reported that the Assessment & Management subcommittee is in the process of gathering data and identifying relevant criteria for later comparison.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

One member of the public spoke on issues related to sex offender employment, stigma, and rehabilitation.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was addressed.

VII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Atty. Farr adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:56 p.m.

Additional meeting materials are available on the Connecticut Sentencing Commission's website at www.ct.gov/ctsc/