

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
MINUTES
FOR
THURSDAY, September 26, 2013 MEETING**

Members Present: Chairman Mike Lawlor, *Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM*; Josh Howroyd *Legislative Program Manager, Department of Children and Families*; Bill Carbone, *Executive Director of Court Support Services, Judicial Branch*; Laura Cordes, *Executive Director, Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services*; Pat Rehmer, *Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services*; Susan Storey, *Chief Public Defender*; Dennis Murphy, *Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor*; Rueben Bradford, *Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection*; Chief James Kenny, *Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association*; Brian Austin, *Chief State's Attorney's Office*; Garvin Ambrose, *State Victim Advocate*; Laurie Deneen, *Esq. Public Member*; Erika Tindill, *Chairwoman, Board of Pardons and Paroles*; James Dzurenda, *Interim Commissioner, Department of Corrections*, Sean Thakkar, *Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information Systems*, Karen Jarmoc, *Executive Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence*, Richard P. Healey, *Esq., Public Member*. Claudette Beaulieu, *Deputy Commissioner, Department of Social Services*.

I. Welcome and Policy Update

Chairman Lawlor convened the meeting at 9:12 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Chairman Lawlor announced that CT-N is would be taping the meeting and that Judge Carroll could not be present and he sends his regrets. Chairman Lawlor highlighted items on the meeting's agenda and outlined some of the points he wished to emphasize. He also informed the group of two recent subcommittees which members requested be added to the subcommittee process and would be reconvening in the coming weeks and months. Chairman Lawlor discussed the conversation that took place at the last CJPAC meeting in June regarding the unexpected trend line which was a growth in the overall prison population at a time of the year when we would normally expect it to be declining. Chairman Lawlor was happy to report that there was a great deal of discussion, meetings and analysis over the course of the summer and it does seem as though the prison population has stabilized and that it has been the case for a couple of months now.

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented

III. Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2013

Minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment

VI. Update on Prison Population Trend

Handouts and materials distributed at the meeting can be found on OPM's CJPAC website: <http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?q=383604>.

Can also be view on CT-N's website: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=9452>

VII. Update on Subcommittees

- *Batterer Intervention Programming and Standards:*
Karen Jarmoc updated the group on the Batterer Intervention Programming and Standards subcommittee. The group is taking a look at standards and consequences in regard to domestic violence offenders. Many states have formalized standards and the certification processes. Connecticut has many of those elements in their standard in the RFP which is offered through Court Support Services Division (CSSD). The subcommittee is having ongoing discussions at what is occurring in Connecticut for individuals who are involved in a domestic violence offense. Also, the group is taking a look at models in other states and best practices. The subcommittee anticipates there will be some type of report available for CJPAC by the end of December. The subcommittee will meet actively every two to three weeks.
- *Victim Issues*
Laura Cordes has been a participating member of CJPAC for the last two years and noticed the subcommittee on CJPAC's website and expressed her appreciation to Chairman Lawlor for his support in reactivating the subcommittee. Ms. Cordes indicated the importance of not just looking at victim issues, but needs, support and services throughout the criminal justice system. Ms. Cordes will work to schedule a meeting in order for the subcommittee to report back to CJPAC with their recommendations.

VIII. Agency Updates

Members went around the group and updated the group on their agency and the latest work being done. Agency updates can also be viewed at: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=9452>

James Dzurenda, Interim Commissioner, Department of Corrections – Interim Commissioner Dzurenda announced that there is 96 new staff members currently at the academy scheduled to graduate on November 6, 2013. The agency has a training scheduled for the end of October, with a group from the University of Cincinnati helping to facilitate, to better learn how to evaluate risk, reoffending and reentry into the community with more sophisticated tools to more appropriately evaluate offenders on housing and reentry into the community using the SCORES (Statewide Collaborative Offender Risk Evaluation System) system. In the Parole

Division, the DUI unit is continuing its work with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) to work with DUI offenders. It has added nine new parole officers which will assist with the caseload. They will be added to DOC's fugitive unit, DUI unit as well as the mental health unit.

Claudette Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Social Services – Deputy Commissioner Beaulieu discussed the continuing work DSS is doing with CSSD. DSS entered into an agreement with CSSD to increase the expansion of Medicaid eligibility. Deputy Commissioner Beaulieu discussed the rollout of the pilot program and the work that the collaboration is producing. CSSD Executive Director William Carbone discussed the direct and positive impact the pilot program is having on CSSD's clients and included CSSD's update during this discussion.

Sean Thakkar, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information Systems – Mr. Thakkar discussed three items concerning the CJIS governing board perspective. CJIS is starting to realign some of the deliverables they have with their initiatives for the criminal justice information sharing system with CJIS's vendor. Discussed some possible realignment of the organizational chart. Mr. Thakkar also announced the next board meeting on October 17, 2013.

Garvin Ambrose, State Victim Advocate – Mr. Ambrose discussed work that is being done with Board of Pardons and Paroles, Department of Correction and some of the other agencies. He also discussed the continued need to recognize and improve services for victims throughout the state.

Laura Cordes, Executive Director, Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services – Ms. Cordes wished to share with members information on sexual assault exams and evidence collection. For a number of years, Connecticut has a standardized collection kit as well as a law that sets-up guidelines for doing the exams and evidence collection and make sure victims are not billed for exams and evidence collection. Ms. Cordes discussed the completion of a video training series this summer, in collaboration with the state's attorney's office which is being sent throughout the state to hospitals and police departments and would be sharing the video with state agencies. Ms. Cordes indicated video is more of an introductory piece. Ms. Cordes discussed the need for ongoing training for exam and evidence collection in hospitals throughout the state. The other item Ms. Cordes wanted to share with members is the time the Commission took to look at changing the period in which victims would be able to go to a hospital for an exam and evidence collection. Currently, it is three days or 72 hours. Ms. Cordes explained that some practitioners are finding that they may be able to examine and collect evidence up to five days. The Commission has made the recommendation and is in the process of notifying hospital administrators and police departments about the change by sending out letters.

Brian Austin, Office of the Chief State's Attorney – Mr. Austin announced that the division continues to make progress on their case management system. In addition, Mr. Austin indicated that the agency welcomes any opportunity to participate in a study of pre-trial population to try and identify areas they can improve upon or areas they may need more resources.

Chief James Kenny, Vernon Police Department – Offered any assistance or participation needed with the Victim Issues subcommittee and the Batterer Intervention Programming and

Standards subcommittee.

Commissioner Rueben Bradford, Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection - Commissioner Bradford expressed an interest in providing a detailed report of the backlog reduction efforts, specifically in the Division of Scientific Services at the next CJPAC meeting in October. Commissioner Bradford discussed the consolidated dispatch function within the Division of State Police for the eastern district is continuing. He announced the entire eastern district should be completed by the end of the fall and the focus will then shift to the central district.

Erika Tindill, Chairwoman, Board of Pardons and Paroles – Chairwoman Tindill announced and introduced the newest member of the parole board member, Carleton Giles. Chairwoman Tindill discussed Mr. Giles background and years of experience. Chairwoman Tindill discussed the upcoming SCORES training on October 23rd and 24th and outlined the training agenda. Discussed and updated the group on BOPP’s planning and research unit.

Dennis Murphy, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor – Deputy Commissioner discussed the anticipated federal government shutdown and the impact it will have on the state level as well the impact to the Department of Labor.

Pat Rehmer, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – Commissioner Rehmer announced a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant which DMHAS was recently awarded, which is focusing on youth and intervention at the point or before an arrest.

IX. PJOC Subcommittee

Interim Commissioner Dzurenda provided members an update of the last PJOC meeting during his agency update. His update can be view at: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=9452>

X. Other Business

There was no other business.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m. The next CJPAC meeting will be Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 1B.