

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
MINUTES
FOR
THURSDAY, October 31, 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; Judge Carroll, Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch; Katherine McNulty, Chief of Staff, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Dennis Murphy, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor; Rueben Bradford, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; Guy Vallaro, Ph.D., Director of Scientific Services; Kevin Kane, Chief State's Attorney, 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; Raymond Singleton, Deputy Commissioner Department of Social Services; Catherine Foley Geib, Manager of Clinical and Education Services, Court Support Services, Judicial Branch; Julie Revaz, Manager of Programs and Services, Court Support Services, Judicial Branch; Lucinda A. Lopes, Forensic Science Examiner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

I. Welcome and Policy Update

Chairman Lawlor convened the meeting at 9:14 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Chairman Lawlor announced that CT-N is would be taping the meeting. The overall prison population appears to have stabilized pretty consistently since the middle of August. Chairman Lawlor indicated that this is the time of the year when the prison population begins to drop. If the past is of any guide, the prison population will probably drop by approximately 400-500 inmates. If it doesn't, then we will have to take a look at the long-term trends. Chairman Lawlor encouraged the members to review the OPM CJPPD's *Monthly Indicator Report*, prepared by Ivan Kuzyk. Chairman Lawlor highlighted some aspects of the report, including that the number of people being sentenced to prison continues to trend downward. He discussed that this is a positive long-term indicator. He briefly explained the current prison population due to a fair number of questions recently asked on the progress of release and sentence trends. Chairman Lawlor indicated that the CJPPD is trying to marshal all of the data that is available to try and better understand some of the trends.

Monthly Indicator Report:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/monthlyindicators/monthlyindicatorsreport_oct_2013pdf.pdf

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented

III. Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2013

Minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment

VI. Update by Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection on Backlog Reduction in the Division of Scientific Services

Presentation by Dr. Vallaro of DESPP can be viewed: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=9565>

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available:
http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/vallaro_cjpac_10_31_13_final.pdf

VII. Update by Court Support Services Division on “Raise the Age”

Catherine Foley Geib, Manager of Clinical and Education Services and Julie Revaz, Manager of Programs and Services presented an update on the “Raise the Age” initiative.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available:
http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/cssd_cjpac_10_30_13_final.pdf

A copy of the presentation by CSSD can be viewed: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=9565>

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=9565>

Commissioner Rueben Bradford, Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection – Discussed and provided updates on the divisions within DESPP:

Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council – Currently has two classes of municipal recruits. Each class has 50 students in session.

Fire Academy – The academy currently has class in session, with approximately 50 cadets.

Division of Emergency Homeland Management System – In the process of preparing for hurricane season and the winter weather.

Division of Emergency Telecommunication – Is in the process of preparing for the next generation of the 9-1-1 system.

CT State Police Division – Has a class in session with 85 trooper trainees with an anticipated graduation date of January 9, 2013. Commissioner Bradford also announced that the consolidated dispatch will be two-thirds completed by the end of November.

Erika Tindill, Chairwoman, Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP) – Chairwoman Tindill discussed the recent Statewide Collaborative Offender Risk Evaluation System (SCORES) training on October 23rd and 24th with a research associate from the University of Cincinnati Center for Criminal Justice Research and trained 96 BOPP and DOC facility parole and community supervision staffers. Out of those who were certified on risk assessment, a number of those will be selected as trainers. In addition, chairwoman Tindill discussed a debriefing with the BOPP staff on a quality assurance plan for the agency. Lastly, conversations have started between the BOPP and the DOC to look at a plan for supervision of the state's interstate compact offenders.

James Dzurenda, Interim Commissioner, Department of Correction – As of October 31, 2013, the DOC had 17,126 inmates incarcerated within a correctional facility, with 12,663 sentenced and 4,463 unsentenced. Currently, the DOC has 4,109 on community supervision, with 107 offenders under DUI home confinement status. Currently, 633 are assigned to nontraditional housing status due to the population number.

Raymond Singleton, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Social Services – The Deputy Commissioner discussed the current collaboration with the DOC and working with staff to connect ex-offenders with health services and Medicaid.

Garvin Ambrose, State Victim Advocate – No update at this time

Karen Jarmoc, Executive Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence – Highlighted (4) items: (1) Connecticut's model for law enforcement policy was recently updated through the governing council. (2) Reporting form for the rates of family violence incidents. Ms. Jarmoc stated that they hope to better understand the rates of dual arrests in the future due to the updated reporting and examine if it's an issue here in Connecticut in regard to family violence incidents. (3) An assessment which CCADV is working on with the law enforcement community and domestic violence advocates across the state. Discussed that at a recent conference Connecticut and Pennsylvania were among three states what were highlighted for their work on the initiative statewide. Ms. Jarmoc also provided an update on the *Batterer Intervention Programming and Standards subcommittee*. She discussed the timeframe and deadline of the subcommittee for possible recommendations.

Katherine McNulty, Chief of Staff, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – discussed a recently received Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant with the focus of the grant on early diversionary opportunities for CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) and young adults. Also discussed the work that is being done in this area with the law enforcement community.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee - Loel Meckel, LCSW, DMHAS, Assistant Director of Forensic Services - provided the group an update on the discussions taking place at the monthly meetings and the recent decision to turn the subcommittee's attention towards substance abuse. In

addition, he discussed substance abuse services that can be provided to DOC inmates and to those recently released.

Josh Howroyd, Legislative Program Manager, Department of Children and Families – Mr. Howroyd commended the work of CSSD and Mr. Carbone on the “Raise the Age” initiative. He provided an update on CJTS (Connecticut Juvenile Training School). Currently, there is 145 youth at CJTS and that number is holding pretty steadily the last few months. He indicated that this is an increase from where the DCF’s baseline was two or three years ago, which was around 110. However, due to the “Raise the Age” imitative, the increase was anticipated.

Judge Patrick Carroll, Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch – Recently attended the New England Regional Conference of State Court Administrators in Rhode Island. Judge Carroll discussed the three main topics of concern to the judicial branches in the New England States: (1) strategic planning for judicial branches (2) use of technology for automated court processes to respond to the reduction in HR and budgetary assets within the judicial branch (3) court house security. Judge Carroll was pleased to report that Connecticut is ahead of the curve in all of three of these aspects. Connecticut was asked to present on all three issues. Judge Carroll also explained the phases of Connecticut’s judicial branch’s strategic plan and discussed the robust technological system that Connecticut’s judicial branch has in place. Judge Carroll also discussed the implementation of the civil e-filing process which has saved a significant number of person-hours of work.

Dennis Murphy, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor – No update at this time. However, Chairman Lawlor did indicate the ongoing work between his office and Deputy Commissioner Murphy’s office and their work on a reemployment strategy for ex-offenders.

IX. Other Business

There was no other business.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m. The next CJPAC meeting will be Thursday, November 21, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 1B.