

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
MINUTES
FOR
THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013 MEETING
ROOM 1C, LOB, HARTFORD, CT**

Members Present: Mike Lawlor, Undersecretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; Susan Story, Chief Public Defender; Dan Bannish, Director of Behavioral Health, Department of Corrections; Laurie Deneen, Public Member; Michael Borco, Director of Forensic Services; Erika Tindill, Chairman, CT Board of Pardons and Paroles; Josh Howroyd, Department of Children and Families; Steve Spellman, Department of Emergency Services; Bill Carbone, Executive Director, Court Support Services, Judicial Branch; Judge Carroll, Deputy Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch; Laura Cordes, Executive Director, Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Center, Laurie Deneen, Esq, Public Member.

I. Welcome and Policy Update

The meeting was called to order and Chairman Lawlor began by discussing the challenges that the state faces in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook Tragedy, including the goal of identifying the best policies to prevent this type of shooting from occurring again.

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes was moved and seconded. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

Susan Quinlan, Executive Director, Families in Crisis – testified that on January 22, 2012 Families in Crisis was notified by the Department of Corrections that a retroactive funded cut of \$177,000 within their 2013 fiscal year budget. Due to the timing, this cut represents a decrease of 62% in services. Their overall budget is around \$2Million. Ms. Quinlan feels this is a very significant amount of money. She felt the need to speak to CJPAC to request the rescission be reconsidered. Ms. Quinlan indicated that Families in Crisis was asked to respond by February 4. She was concerned with being able to respond in such a tight turnaround time.

Chairman Lawlor thanked Ms. Quinlan for offering her comments and concerns. Chairman Lawlor asked Commission Arnone to provide further details of the cuts and how it is being implemented.

Commissioner Arnone explained the cut to DOC not only impacts Families in Crisis, but other agencies as well. The cut to DOC was \$1.8 million which the commissioner explained the decision behind the cut. He also stated that he looked at where he could save money today that will not cost DOC money tomorrow.

Presentation by Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division:

<http://www.ct-n.com/webstream.asp?odID=8645&odTitle=Criminal%20Justice%20Policy%20Advisory%20Commission%20January%20Meeting&caption=true>

VI. Agency Updates

Chief State's Attorney – Kevin Kane discussed similar challenges that other agencies are facing with the current fiscal crisis.

Department of Correction – Commissioner Arnone stated that DOC is experiencing a spike in population, but explained that it was not all unexpected. The population is up 350 since Christmas. However, DOC is right on target with the month's projection. Commissioner Arnone also provided the group on the Prison Jail Overcrowding Commission.

Board of Pardons and Paroles – Chairwoman Erika Tindill discussed the Board's efforts around the implementation of the Statewide Collaborative Offender Risk Evaluation System (SCORES) as it moves forward. She indicated that the training has been moved from January to April due to some customization issues. The system is being customized specifically to Connecticut. BOPP's research unit is involved in the implementation and customization of SCORES.

Department of Children and Family – Josh Howroyd explained that Commissioner Katz has had a specific focus on the reduction of children being placed out-of-state. There were 40 children in 2012 placed out-of-state and six children out-of-state as of January 2012. Mr. Howroyd attributed the reduction to resources in place to help juveniles who otherwise would be placed out-of-state.

Department of Emergency Service and Public Protection – Steven Spellman updated the group that the Division of Scientific Services has a new director, Guy Vallaro. The new director will began on December 28, 2012. Mr. Spellman also indicated that combined dispatched continues to perform well in the western district. DESPP has started to take steps to move forward in the consolidation of the eastern district.

Judicial Branch – Judge Carroll stated that following the Sandy Hook tragedy, the Chief Justice ordered a full comprehensive review of all judicial branch security training policy and procedures at all of the judicial branch’s facilities. Also, all judicial branch personnel, including judges and family court magistrates are in the process of completing their statutory required violence prevention awareness training.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services - Dr. Norko explained in the wake of Sandy Hook there were questions as to whether the state had any disaster plan in place for mental health. Dr. Norko stated that following 9/11, DMHAS established a disaster behavior health research network. This network included units that are spread around the state and can be activated in the event of a tragedy. These units were activated in the days following Sandy Hook and stayed at the command center for a week after the tragedy. The units continue to have a presence in Newtown.

VII. Behavioral Health Sub-Committee

No update at this time.

VIII. Other Business

There was no additional business

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m. The next CJPAC meeting will be Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 1C