

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, September 25, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman *Mike Lawlor*, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; *Stephen Grant*, Executive Director, Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch; *Carleton J. Giles*, Chairman, Board of Pardons and Paroles; *Barbara Claire*, Agency Legal Director, DCF; *Dora B. Schriro*, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; *Laura Cordes*, Director, CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services; *Merit LaJoie*, Office of the Victim Advocate; *Scott Semple*, *Acting Commissioner*, *Department of Correction*; *Pat Rehmer*, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; *Dennis Murphy*, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor, *Karen Jarmoc*, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence. *Astread Ferron-Poole*, Chief of Staff, Department of Social Services; *Laurie Deneen*, Public Member

I. Welcome and Policy Update

Judge Patrick Carroll convened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. He welcomed everyone and announced that CT-N will be taping the meeting. Judge Carroll explained the Chairman Lawlor was delayed, and would be arriving around 9:30.

Chairman Lawlor arrived around 9:35. He discussed the Monthly Indicators Report prepared by Ivan Kuzyk at the Office of Policy and Management. The report was distributed at the meeting and Chairman Lawlor highlighted some of the positive trends in the report.

The Monthly Indicators Report can be found on the OPM website at:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/monthlyindicators/monthlyindicatorsreport_september_2014pdf.pdf

Chairman Lawlor reviewed the agenda and introduced the presenters of meeting.

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented.

III. Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2014

The minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. “Connecticut Domestic Violence Offender Program Standards” Karen Jarmoc, CCADV; Joseph DiTunno, Judicial Branch CSSD; Dr. David Rentler, Board of Pardons and Parole; A. Stephen Lanza, Family Reentry.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2970&Q=383604&opmNav_GID=1797

Link to CT-N coverage:

<http://ct-n.com/webstream.asp?odID=10739&startat=0:03:18>

VII. CJPAC Update PowerPoint Presentation by Chairman Mike Lawlor

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

<http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjadult/cjac september 25 2014.ppt>

Link to CT-N coverage:

<http://ct-n.com/webstream.asp?odID=10739&startat=0:36:44>

VIII. Agency Updates

Members went around the group and provided an update on their agency and latest initiatives.

CT-N coverage of the agency updates can be found:

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – Starting this past spring through Labor Day, the work of the State Weapons Trafficking Task Force has made significant impact on the number of illegal weapons that have been in the communities. DESPP selected five cities and seized more than 100 firearms, some of which have been traced back to crimes not previously identified and have arrested 224 individuals. The agency is taking advantage of Narcan, with the new law going into effect October 1, 2014. The agency is in the process of working with colleagues at the DPH and the DMHAS to train trainers and other first responders on the dispensing of Narcan. *State Police update:* have been working with CCADV on adopting the Lethality Risk Assessment, which is critical in identifying the victims of domestic violence who are at a greater risk of serious injury or death. With domestic violence awareness month in mind, DESPP is in the process of training first responders, state troopers, and trainers who will respond to domestic violence incidents and can administer the assessment. The goal is to not only to identify them, but to connect them on the spot with a local domestic

violence provider. POST Council – adopted a proposal unanimously to draft an advisory model policy for all police agencies across the state to adopt the utilization of the Lethality Risk Assessment. They will be voting November 1st. Since the last CJPAC meeting, the agency has successfully executed its second MOA with their tribal nations granting them full police power. Lastly, in collaboration with the DMHAS, the agency is seeking accreditation from the Emergency Management System. This will be the first time the agency is up for this accreditation.

Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP) – Working in collaboration with CSSD on the implementation of Certificates of Rehabilitation and Employability, which goes into effect October 1, 2014. The BOPP has spent time with the re-entry community and advocates preparing for the implementation of Certificates of Rehabilitation and Employability.

Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services – Continues to be very busy with the agency experiencing a demand of sexual assault services across the state. The agency ended the fiscal year seeing a slight increase, and seeing the highest service numbers in six years. They continue seeing an increase in not only services across the state, but for training on the prevention and awareness side of sexual abuse. Discussed a few items related to criminal justice-continuing to work with their partners at CSSD and DOC to look at access to victim advocates and counselors under PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act). CONNSACS recognizes the state is working hard to be complaint. Also discussed the goals that were identified at last month's quarterly meeting. CONNSACS is also working with the Connecticut Hospital Association, the state crime lab, and other members of the evidence community to hold training for hospital employees to better understand how to work with a sexual assault patient. There will be two trainings: (1) October 10, 2014 (2) November 7, 2014 on the care, treatment, and the collection of evidence.

Department of Correction – Discussed the monthly numbers as of 09/25/14: Total incarcerated: 16,603 vs. 17,137 last year, which is down by 534 and represents slightly over a 3% reduction. Total Sentenced Population: 12,488 vs. 12,561. The Accused Population: 4,115 vs. 4,576, which represents a 10% reduction. Community Supervision: 3,925 vs. 4,075 last year, which represents a 3.7% reduction.

Department of Social Services – Continuing their work with DOC on the Fatherhood Matters Initiative. Also provided an update on the training being offered to all DSS staff on domestic violence training.

Judicial Branch – Courthouse security remains a top concern of the Chief Justice and Judge Carroll. Judge Carroll referenced a FBI report:

<http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2014/september/fbi-releases-study-on-active-shooter-incidents/pdfs/a-study-of-active-shooter-incidents-in-the-u.s.-between-2000-and-2013>) that was released concerning courthouse security. Judge Carroll also discussed an increase in the number of threats against judges frequently made by dissatisfied litigants. The Judicial Branch continues to collaborate with law enforcement to ensure these threats are addressed seriously and quickly. The Branch continues to bolster security at courthouse facilities. In response to CCADV's presentation, Judge Carroll discussed the Judicial Branch's efforts of domestic violence training for judges and staff. Judge Carroll reviewed recent legislation that expanded the universe for

folks who could apply for a civil restraining order, and that the Judicial Branch will be handling the new legislative mandate through civil judges to more effectively deal with the new set of applications for civil restraining orders. Lastly, Judge Carroll met recently with the Office of Victim Services to explore ways to increase the number of sexual assault nurse examiners throughout the state to better meet the needs of victims.

Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Provided an update on the Pueblo unit and a six month plan to complete a review of the program to see where they can improve. The agency has engaged a national expert to consult on the review. The agency had the first girl graduate the program, and the agency held a graduation ceremony. Discussed several updates on CJTS – they have a committee working on PREA; juvenile justice staff who with children out in the community or at private treatment providers undergoing major change in how they are integrated into the social work aspect of the agency; they are continuing to work with federal and state law enforcement on human trafficking.

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) – Provided several updates about the domestic violence discussion and the push around the state regarding the access for victims and families to resources that are available. Also discussed while shelters are nearing capacity, CCADV emphasized they are still working to explore resources that are available to help and shelter those in need. Updated the group on the Hispanic hotline that is in place to be launched on October 1, 2014, and that materials are available on the hotline if needed. This person will be a bilingual certified domestic violence counselor. Also discussed the ongoing focus of CCADV on how to work with children who have been impacted by domestic violence incidents, and that a work group that has been formed to review ways to assist children who have been impacted by family violence. CCADV is partnering with the Office of the Child Advocate to form a work group to meet and discuss policies and practices among systems to improve their work to help children. The work group also partnered with the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and Hartford Hospital to offer training. They received a response of 170, which was comprised of advocates, domestic violence counselors, law enforcement, and DCF consultants.

Office of the Victim Advocate – Very happy to embark on a new case management system with the help of the Office of Government Accountability. OVA’s hope is with this new case management system, they will be able to collect hard data and provide statistics. The Victims’ Rights Enforcement Advisory Commission is still very active and thanked the chairs of the subcommittees for all of their hard work. Discussed September’s meeting and a presentation by Doug Beloof, a professor at Lewis & Clark Law School. OVA received positive feedback on the presentation. The Commission has three public hearings scheduled throughout the state (New Haven, Hartford, and Norwich) to get feedback from victims on their experience with the criminal justice system. Also reviewed the great success OVA is having with public outreach and education efforts. The agency is booked through December visiting senior centers across the state to educate and train seniors on crimes against the elderly.

Judicial Branch-Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD) – At the beginning of September, JB-CSSD became the first statewide pretrial services system to become accredited through the National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies (NAPSA). NAPSA conducted a site visit over the summer. NAPSA reviewed all of JB-CSSD policies and procedures as related

to the standards established by NAPSA and met or exceeded all standards reviewed. Steve Grant thanked all the bail commissioners and JB-CSSD's leadership for their hard work on this endeavor. Also provided an update on the continued drop in the pre-trial numbers, which was consistent with Chairman Lawlor's presentation earlier in the meeting. JB-CSSD pre-trial numbers are down 10% from where they were in September 2013. The number of lock-up arraignments continues to drop. Through June 30, 2014, the Adult Probation 24-month Rearrest Rate is at 40.6%, nearly two percentage points lower than 2013. If this trend holds, 2014 will end with over 450 fewer rearrests of probationers than there were in 2013. Through June 30, 2014, the Juvenile Probation 24-month Rearrest Rate is slightly lower than it was in 2013 (59.1% vs. 59.3%). If this trend holds, it will mark three consecutive years of declining Rearrest Rates. This will have occurred even with the addition of the 16/17 year olds. The second quarter 12-month DV Rearrest Rate for sentenced DV offenders (EVOLVE and EXPLORE) were lower than previous periods. The same rates for pretrial DV cases were flat versus previous periods. The AIC 12-month Rearrest Rate for completers trended lower at 28.9%. This is the lowest quarter we have measured

Office of the Chief Public Defender (OCPD) – Still waiting to see the decline hit in GA courts, however, OCPD is starting to see the decline in juvenile court which is pretty significant. While they have started to see a slight decline in some courts, they have seen a slight spike in the Danbury and the Danielson court with over 500 new cases, per an attorney, and per a year. However, that number is on the decline. OCPD is hopeful they will start to see a drop in the near future. In regard to domestic violence cases, OCPD still has two social workers in two courts (Bridgeport and New Haven) tracking and gathering data and dedicated to working with domestic violence clients.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) – Discussed the work with DESPP on the training and implementation of Narcan for municipal police. Continue to work on Medicaid assistance treatment in DOC facilities, and looking to work on providing treatment for individuals as they leave a DOC facility. Also provided an update on the continued work on the SAMHSA grant with CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) trained police departments and clinicians to intervene with young adults (age 18-25) in order to get them into treatment rather than the juvenile justice system.

I. Subcommittee Reports

Victim Issues Subcommittee – Had a presentation earlier in month by BOPP on the parole process. Discussed the Certificates of Rehabilitation and Employability and invited individuals from BOPP and JB-CSSD. The next meeting will be October 9th at 10:00 a.m.

II. Adjournment

Chairman Lawlor reminded committee members of the next meeting to be held on Thursday, October 30, 2014 and adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

