

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, March 30, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: *Chairman Mike Lawlor*, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; *Judge Patrick Carroll*, Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch, *Gary Roberge*, Judicial Branch-CSSD; *Karen Jarmoc*, CEO, CCADV; *Cheryl Cepalak*, Deputy Commissioner, DOC; *Kevin Kane*, Chief State's Attorney, *Judge Carroll*, Judicial Branch, *Caitlin O'Brien*, Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence, *Dora Schiro*, DESPP, *Josh Howroyd*, Legislative Program Manager, DCF, *Charlene Russell-Tucker*, Department of Education, *Suzy Storey*, Public Defenders Office, *Loel Meckel*, DMHAS, *Rich Sparaco*, BOPP, *Natasha Pierre*, State Victim Advocate, *Chief James Kenny*, Chiefs of Police, *Tom Saadi*, Department of Veterans Affairs

I. Introductions

This meeting was broadcast on CT-N. <http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=13900>

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

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/monthlyindicators/monthlyindicatorsreport_march_2017_final.pdf

II. Welcome and Policy Updates

- Governor and Mrs. Malloy to Host 'Reimagining Justice' Conference on Criminal Justice Reform on June 14 and 15 in Hartford, with keynote speaker Former Senior Advisor to the President of the United States Valerie Jarrett

<http://portal.ct.gov/en/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2017/03-2017/Governor-and-Mrs-Malloy-to-Host-Reimagining-Justice-Conference>

- January 25th The President said all sanctuary jurisdictions won't receive federal funding, with an exception for law enforcement agencies. Additionally, no definition of sanctuary has been given. Connecticut is not in violation of any federal law. (No reason to believe any grants will be affected.) Connecticut has continued to receive payments and approved for federal grants.
- DCF noted that there would be child welfare implications. There are an estimated 2,200 children of undocumented parents, if just 10% of those came into state care, it would have estimated fiscal impact of \$60 million. There are only 4,200 kids in state care right now.
- Tool kit providing resources for families concerned about immigration enforcement

<http://portal.ct.gov/en/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2017/03-2017/Gov-Malloy-Releases-State-Toolkit-Providing-Resources-for-Families-Concerned-About-Immigration>

<http://portal.ct.gov/FamilyPreparedness>

- Victims and survivor community also concerned about new immigration policies

III. Approval of Minutes from February 2017.

IV. Commission Correspondence

- a No Commission Correspondence

VI. Presentations

No presentation this month.

VII. Agency Updates

CCADV – HB 7299 – An Act Concerning Strengthening Laws Concerning Domestic Violence, working with the States Attorney Office, particularly strengthens the anti-stalking law, and include strangulation. HB 7301 – An Act Concerning Exposure of Children to Domestic Violence, increase offender accountability upon conviction, when an act of domestic violence occurs in front of a child. Working with CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence to increase marriage license surcharge fee, because a portion of that money goes to support advocates who help victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. They have some concerns with SB 1043 – An Act Concerning Privileged Communications Made by Victims of Human Trafficking to a Human Trafficking Counselor, which is seeking to offer confidentially. The concerns are around training, protocol and policy around how the training is offered, and serious concerns about offering confidentially without a protocol. When a victim of DV is represented by legal counsel at restraining order court date it offers a greater opportunity to receive the order; can offer training to Public Defenders on DV.

DESPP – Narcan 162 calls for service, Narcan administered and 152 instances the individual was revived. One short of 2,000 lethality assessment screens, in about ½ of the screens, the trooper determined the person was at imminent risk of substantial harm. DESPP focused primarily on the budget this legislative session.

DOC - The population is 14,548, down almost 7% from last year. The community pop up just over 7%. The 18-25 youth offender unit up and running for 2 months and has been successful. The closed the annex at Corrigan-Radgowski. DOC received grant focused on Parole and Community Services. Raised Bill No. 1023 - An Act Concerning Community Supervision of Certain Former Inmates. Raised Bill No. 7284 – An Act Concerning State Identification for Inmates Upon Reentry. (Working with DMV, to make sure all inmates leaving prison have proper identification). And Raised Bill No. An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with respect to Victim Notification. The Cheshire Institution has a new unit for young adults which has received national attention, since it opened there has not been a single incident of any type, and they are finishing the employee training this week. And training some employees at York in hopes of opening something similar in the women's prison.

Judicial Branch – They are focusing their energy on the budget issues; the judicial branch has been disproportionately hit by the budget cuts and it has had a devastating impact on the branch. They anticipate more cuts and are making contingency plans for this. They are operating with 600 fewer employees this year than last year. Personnel shortage has effected all courthouses, they closed 2 courthouses. They are scheduled to open a Torrington courthouse in June this year, and lack of personnel may have an impact on this opening date. Consolidations will impact everyone in the criminal justice system. Steve Grant the executive director of CSSD retired and Gary Roberge has been appointed as the interim acting executive director of CSSD. April 21st there will be a full day Domestic Violence training for all judges to make sure all judges properly handle DV cases in the courts.

CSSD – Looking to expand of the successful (120 successful completions) Treatment Pathway Program in Bridgeport to New London and possibly Litchfield County via a grant. The program is aimed at diverting opioid addicts at arraignment. Awarded a grant to train up to 50 women offender case management officers, and some gender-specific caseload workers in DOC, in April and June.

DCF – Immigration tool-kit is available in English and Spanish online. <http://portal.ct.gov/en/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2017/03-2017/Gov-Malloy-Releases-State-Toolkit-Providing-Resources-for-Families-Concerned-About-Immigration>

States Attorney Office – Terrific cooperation with the US Attorney Office working together to solve cold case homicides and financial crimes, fraud and corruption. Looking at the front end of the criminal justice system to divert people and help the budget. Grant to be implemented in two courts by May 1st increased resources to pay attention to cases at the charging stage of low-level offenders, working together with the police and victims. Require prosecutors to be engaged with people in the beginning of the criminal justice system.

Public Defender Office – Also suffering from budget cuts, down 44 staff, including 23 attorneys. HB 7216 – An Act Concerning Family Impact Statements in the Cases of Defendants with Dependent Children, possibly more important now with the immigration issues. Looking at the women’s population and the impact on their children, they are included in the women’s initiative to look at the women’s population. Impacted by Sen Looney’s Bill, greater access for counsel and civil matters, give public defenders a role in assisting respondents of restraining orders in civil matters. 85% of people going into court on restraining orders do not have counsel. Working with MADD and State’s Attorney Office on fixing the inequity of the interlocking device, /DUI issue to help regain your license. Working with CCDLA and ACLU on grant jury reform, for better access to documents for financial crimes. They have seen people picked up by immigration at AR programs and arrested in front of court houses, they created an internal task force to deal with this issue and working on advisements with information for clients.

DMHAS – CIT program to train police officer when in contact with people with mental illness. Connecticut these people with services when they can. City of New Haven arranged for training with Seattle PD to advise further implementation in New Haven. Initial evaluation of program in Seattle say that rearrests rate of people in that program are down over half. Bill 7090 – An Act Concerning the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services’ Recommendations Regarding Transfer of a Patient Under the Jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board for Treatment or Recovery. A couple other bills that are looking to require registration and other documentation for sober houses. DMHAS provides a voluntary certification process for sober houses, a large number of these houses are not overseen by DMHAS. Concerned about legislation going through now that might have a discriminatory effect on this population (sober houses).

Department of Education – Budget issues are also a concern, they have a 26% vacancy rate in the Department of Education. CA, IL, TN, and CT were in a small convening of states that have been successful in school disciplinary programs to reduce suspensions and expulsions and the Justice Center listened and put together a report released late spring on the lessons learned and policies to reduce school expulsions and suspensions. These states will then have the option to apply for technical assistance to further align state practices and policies that were in the report. In May Department of Education will be given a report on School Discipline to the state board and then a presentation to CJ PAC. PA 16147, JPOC Legislation from last year, they are working with a stakeholders group to develop guidelines for this. The commissioner is very busy with many education related legislation proposals and providing testimony on that.

Department of Veterans affairs – Working with DMHAS for resident vets in Rocky Hill, issues related to contraband on campus, approach to help with treatments rather than punitive measures. SB 342, defining who is a veteran, how people apply their interpretation of who is a veteran, for who gets veteran benefits.

BOPP – Increase of parole hearings last month by 30%, grant rate continue to moderate around 53%. Site visit with the Utah BOPP in collaboration with the National Institute of Corrections, the third to visit the CT BOPP to see the structurally based decision making process. Working with Yale Law Clinic in terms of the violations proceedings, to make sure the statues and regulations are in full affect to ensure due process. An Act Concerning the Discretion to Grant or Deny Pardons for Juveniles Convicted under Specific Conditions, as a response to the passage of PA 15-84 Section A. Referral network for parole eligible candidates currently focusing on female offenders at York.

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence - Provided consultation to CO probation offices on a pilot program similar to the sex offender supervision model here in CT. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and on Wednesday April 5th at 10:30 am there will be a kick-off event. SB 1042 – An Act Concerning the Statue of Limitations for the Prosecution of Sexual Assault. They would like to see the time removed entirely, victims and survivors need more time, and due to the nature of the crime, they are unable to prosecute because of the window of time. Working with CCADV to raise the marriage licenses surcharge.

Office of the Victim Advocate – National Crime Victims Awareness week is next week April 2-8. Waterbury Symposium this Thursday at 6:30. The Office of Victims Advocate is supporting legislative initiatives includes SB 980, SB 1004, HB 7262, SB 1003, HB 7918. Concerns on Raise the age, because the current juvenile criminal justice system is not serving the needs of crime victims, ie, services there are 11 juvenile courts, but only 3 victims' advocates, and also restitution issues, because currently juveniles can only be asked to pay up to \$5,000 for restitution.

Chiefs of Police – awards ceremony last night where several police officers who were CIT trained were awarded for handling situations with people, who then received the treatment they needed and the police did not have to use deadly force. Continue to train their officers in the CIT program, because they believe in it. Connecticut Chief's Association concerned with potential impact of the state budget on local governments, if cuts are made, police departments will be adversely affected.

VI. Subcommittee Updates

PJOR – no updates

Behavioral health – They will meet next week and have a report next CJPAC meeting.

Victim issues – They are going to regroup and focus on the legislative session. <http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2970&Q=534820&PM=1> Link for more information.

VIII. Public Comment

There was one public comment by Lawrence Truman from West End, Hartford, CT.

IX. Adjournment

Mike Lawlor adjured the meeting at 10:49.