

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
Thursday, December 28, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Chairperson Mike Lawlor, Office of Policy and Management; Charlene Russell-Tucker, State Department of Education; Gary Roberge, Court Support Services Division; Humayun Beg, Criminal Justice Information System; Bill Hackett, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; Carleton Giles, Connecticut Board of Pardons and Paroles; Scott Semple, Department of Correction; Josh Howroyd, Department of Children and Families; Chris Rapillo, Division of Public Defender Services; Natasha Pierre, Office of the Victim Advocate; Dr. Michael Norko, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Kevin Lawlor, Chief State's Attorney; Judge Pat Carroll, Judicial Department; Tom Saadi, Department of Veteran Affairs; and Lorie Deneed, Public Member.

I. Welcome and Introductions

1. Meeting start time was changed to 10 am for this meeting.
2. This meeting was broadcast on CTN.
<http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=15858>
3. Members present introduced themselves.
4. November CJPAC Minutes were approved with one minor change.

II. Agency Updates

BOPP – Expanding legal department with a new Paralegal Assistant – Jess Tacey.

DOE – CT School discipline collaborative launched to address excessive school discipline and expulsions, the collaborative recently had a successful meeting.

Judicial Branch – Continue to be challenged by the Juvenile Justice transfer, but the people at CSSD are working hard on this. Accolades to Mike Lawlor from Judge Carroll.

CSSD – Accolades to the staff at CSSD and community providers on another successful year, as well as Mike Lawlor.

DESPP – Narcan responded to 287 calls and saved 275 lives by CSP since the inception of the program in 2014. On December 13th bomb threats were reported all over the country including Connecticut, and DESPP takes these threats seriously and it is an active investigation. If you receive any kind of threat dial 911.

CJIS – CISS is almost complete, all sources for testing are completed, one portion – multi view requires a longer time to test. Expect sources to be online in January and Multiview online in February. And gave accolades to Mike Lawlor.

DOC – Population declines at this time in the year, typically, but it has not declined as much as in the past. A new nominated commissioner from Governor Elect Lamont – Rollin Cook from Utah. And gave accolades to Mike Lawlor.

DCF – DCF has lost juvenile justice as a legislative mandate, which is one of the major accomplishments of this administration, thank mike and judicial branch on the collaboration to make that possible. The CJTS census is now 0.

DMHAS – Accolades for Mike Lawlor and Commissioner Semple on behalf of the DMHAS Commissioner.

Division of Criminal Justice – Continue to work on the ESI - Early Screening and Intervention – a pilot project in 5 locations in the state – prosecutors to divert people out of the criminal justice system earlier in the process, to reduce court appearances and have better outcomes. They are attempting to secure new funding for two pilot locations where the grants are expiring at the end of the year, working to fund these locations through the fiscal year. Accolades to Mike Lawlor.

Public Defenders – Staffing efforts social workers and lawyer, to combat issues with opioid addiction. And accolades to Mike Lawlor.

Department Veterans Affairs – Accolades to Mike Lawlor and thankful for the cross-agency cooperation, CSSD, Judicial, and DMHAS, among other agencies.

Public Member – Accolades to Mike Lawlor

III. Opening Remarks

1. Mike Lawlor reviewed the Monthly Indicators Report, highlighting arrests are down, but the use of special parole is up, which is concerning. Emphasize that special parole was intended for the highest risk offenders, established to ensure that certain high risk offenders were supervised appropriately. The overuse of this has unintended consequences. Plea to all of those involved in the court system to be extremely selective when imposing a special parole sentence. It has gotten to the point where it is half of all people on supervision. Accolades to Mike's office – Ivan, Kyle and Kendall for their assistance and work on the Monthly Indicators Report. A new addition to Mike's office is Eleonore Michael.
2. Commissioner Semple commended on the special parole topic - which residential beds are being taken by special parolees, ie, people who are eligible to be released are not being released because the beds are being used by special parolees. Important to understand ramifications of this status.
3. Judge Carroll – this is a reminder to me to educating judges to intended purposes of special parole sentences.
4. Shout of to the Legislative Staff and Christopher Reinhart of the CT General Assembly Office of Legislative Research.

IV. Presentation

1. *Christine Fortunato, Grants and Contracts Specialist and Maria Pirro-Simmons, USD #1 Superintendent of Schools, CT DOC Adult Reentry and Employment Strategic Planning Program Grant.* Presentation documents can be found at this website. <https://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2970&Q=383604>
2. *Mike Lawlor, Undersecretary of OPM, Reducing Crime, Reducing Spending, and Restoring Confidence in the Criminal Justice System Presentation.* (<http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=15858> 54:00 – 1:45:30)

V. Subcommittee Updates

PJOC – no update

Behavioral health – no update

Victim issues – no update

VI. Public Comment

No public Comment

VII. Adjournment

Chairperson Mike Lawlor adjourned the meeting.