

CJPAC Research Workgroup Meeting

Central Connecticut State University
 Institute of Technology & Business Development, Rm. 305 New Britain
 October 08, 2008
 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Chair: Linda DeConti, Research Unit Manager (CJPPD/OPM)

Present: John Forbes, Assistant Division Director (OPM), Ivan Kuzyk, Research Unit Assistant Manager (OPM), Anne Bordieri, Intern (OPM); Brian Hill, Manager(CSSD), Susan Glass, Program Manager (CSSD); Judy Lee, Case flow Management Specialist (Court Operations); Fred Levesque, Director (DOC), Jody Barry, Associate Research Analyst (DOC); Jerry Stowell, Consultant (BOPP); Lois Desmarais, Planning Specialist (DPS), Gary Lopez, Planning Specialist (DPS); Alan Calandro, Section Chief (OFA); Chris Reinhart, Esq., Senior Attorney (OLR); Steve Cox, CT SAC Director (CCSU)

Excused: Al Bidorini, Director of Planning (DMHAS); Rich Sparaco, Parole/Community Services Manager (BOPP); Cheryl Cepelak, Director (DOC); John Lahda, Executive Director (BOPP)

Guests: Michelle Altomare, Associate Research Analyst (DOC), Lindsay Ruffolo(CCSU), Steve Costanza(CCSU).

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS and DELIVERABLES	DATE
Acceptance of Minutes:	The Minutes from the September meeting were accepted as written.		
Monthly Indicators Report:	John Forbes' presentation discussed the different forecasting models that can be used to produce the 6 month forecast in the Monthly Indicators Report. He presented the simulation of the New South Wales Criminal Justice System which is A stock and Flow Approach. He also showed the forecast matrix of the other states in the U.S. and the forecast model that they use, which will be finished by the next meeting. John explained that some states us simulation software that helps to predict the forecast methodology which should be looked into for Connecticut.		
Prison Forecasting Model:	Kuzyk's presentation followed John Forbes' overview of the benefits and limitations of various forecasting methodologies. Kuzyk provided a simple input/output model to capture inmate flows into and out of DOC facilities. Working through data on criminal arrests, the unsentenced population, new sentences, community returns and EOS releases, Kuzyk demonstrated how the backlog in community releases was the main component in the recent growth of the size of the incarcerated population. Kuzyk demonstrated when the backlog emerged, its scope and its impact on near term population projections for DOC facilities.	Fred explained to Ivan that the reason there was a rise in people who were put on community release was that there was an increase in the employees at BOPP.	
Annual Recidivism Study:	The Annual Recidivism Study was not discussed during this meeting.		

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<p>Agency Updates:</p>	<p>BOPP: September's entire docket was comprised of backlog cases (backlog being defined as any offender who is past his/her statutory eligibility date or past the time frame where we normally would have heard the case). All cases that normally would have been scheduled for this month have been added to December's parole hearing schedule, thus creating an increase in that month's hearing dockets. Three main areas of concern still are pending part time Board member appointments (3 positions), staffing, and time.</p> <p>In September, there were 29 hearing dates with an average of 9 cases per hearing. There were also 17 hearing dates held for parole revocation and parole rescissions. There were 286 parole grants and 50 denials. The 286 figure includes 22 cases that were revoked and re-paroled and 5 cases that were rescinded and re-paroled.</p> <p>There were 81 cases reviewed for transfer parole (23 approved, 49 denied, 9 continued)</p> <p>Grant money awarded from OPM is currently being utilized to fund 5 - 120s and 4 clerical staff to address 100 backlog cases each. They have completed training and have begun to present cases for hearings.</p>		
	<p>CSSD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CSSD is working with DMHAS and researchers from Duke and UCONN on a study of the costs of persons with mental illness in the CJ system. The project is in the data collection phase. 2. CSSD is conducting program studies of the Alternative Incarceration Centers, selected Residential Programs and the Juvenile Risk Reduction Centers; summaries of the studies will be finalized in early January. 3. Research staff continues to work with Steve Cox from CCSU on a probation recidivism study; staff are also receiving technical assistance in the form of group and individual training on research methods and statistics. 		

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Agency Updates Continued:	<p>DPS: Lois reported that the 2007 Hate Crime Report is complete and will be posted on the DPS website when the 2005 Crime in Connecticut (CIC) report is published. The 2007 Family Violence reports have also been completed and have been sent to the respective police chiefs for their review.</p> <p>The 2005 Crime in Connecticut report was recently generated; DPS hopes to not find any more errors in the data so that the report can be published by the end of October. The 2006 Crime in Connecticut report should be done by January, while the 2007 report still has about 7,000 CT State Police (CSP) arrests missing, and New Haven just submitted their January 2007 data. The vendor for the Automated Fingerprint Identification System has the ability to recover some of the CSP missing arrests. However, this may take some time as the vendor agreed to provide assistance without compensation.</p>		
	<p>DOC: Fred reported that there is no significant increase in the prison population. There is also no change in Transitional supervision as well as parole.</p> <p>The Judicial hearing is coming up on October 16th, 2008.</p> <p>Michelle is working on a study that is looking at the Technical violation unit.</p>		
	<p>Judicial Court Operations: Numerous policy and procedure memos were distributed to criminal clerk's offices to implement new Public Acts which were effective October 1, 2008. We are working with CSSD to implement section 1(g) of Public Act 08-102 – An Act Concerning Probation. This subsection requires hearings to determine whether certain probationary terms should be terminated early or continued. This will require numerous changes to the Criminal/Motor Vehicle System.</p> <p>Court Operations is working with Department of Corrections to possibly convey mittimus information electronically instead of the current paper mitts that are sent to DOC with each inmate.</p>	<p>Clarification was made regarding Public Act 08-151. This act requires that after the disposition of a case, any references to charges in multiple count files that would otherwise be erased (e.g. nolle and dismissed charges) actually be erased from the electronic records or portions of electronic records released to the public.</p>	
Other Information:	<p>Steve Cox presented the re-entry studies that he will be working on. He produced an overview of exactly what he will be looking at and how he will complete the studies.</p>		
Meeting Schedule:	<p>November 12, 2008 – CSSD, 4th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield December 10, 2008 – CSSD, 4th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield January 14, 2009 –CVH, Page Hall, Middletown</p>		