

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Hosted on Microsoft Teams

A regular meeting of the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission was held on September 30, 2021. Due to public health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission's meeting was conducted on Microsoft Teams. The meeting convened at 9:00am, with the following members present:

- **Chairman Marc Pelka**, Undersecretary of the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division
- **John Frassinelli**, Chief, Bureau of Health, Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, State Department of Education
- **Judge Patrick Carroll III**, Chief Court Administrator, Connecticut Judicial Branch
- **Gary Roberge**, Director, Court Support Services Division, Connecticut Judicial Branch
- **Dr. Michael Norko**, Director of Forensic Services, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- **Brian Foley**, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
- **Humayun Beg**, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information System
- **Brett Mahoney**, Chief of Police, Waterford Police Department
- **Beth Hamilton**, Executive Director, CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence
- **Christine Perra Rapillo**, Chief Public Defender, Division of Public Defender Services
- **Richard Colangelo, Jr.**, Chief State's Attorney, Division of Criminal Justice
- **Jane Siegal**, Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Meghan Scanlon**, President & CEO, Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- **Rich Colangelo**, Chief State's Attorney, Division of Criminal Justice
- **Sharonda Carlos**, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Correction
- **Carleton Giles**, Chairman, Board of Pardons and Paroles

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Pelka thanked members for dedicating time to today's meeting. A roll call was taken. An introduction of Meghan Scanlon, President & CEO of the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, was introduced. Pelka also recognized a new OPM CJPPD staffer, Valina Carpenter, who is director of the division's Grants Unit.

II. Approval of Minutes from the June 24 meeting minutes.

Gary Roberge, Director, Court Support Services Division, Connecticut Judicial Branch, motion seconded by Chief State's Attorney Colangelo.

III. Recap of the 2021 Analysis of Prosecutor Data report

Marc Pelka, Undersecretary

Kevin Neary, Lead Planning Analyst

Maurice Reaves, Staff Attorney

OPM presented a shortened version of the Prosecutor Data report that was given to the Criminal Justice Commission in July. The history, reception, and future plans for the presentation were discussed. Data analysis was provided comparing 2019 and 2020 showing some of the impact the Covid-19 pandemic had on the criminal justice system. The changes in percentages of nolle, dismissed and conviction dispositions between the two years was discussed. OPM presented findings from interviews of nine different prosecutors located throughout the state on the topic of nolle and the decision-making process that leads up to a nolle.

IV. Criminal cases disposed in CT courts in 2019 presentation from the Division of Criminal Justice

Richard Colangelo, Jr., Chief State's Attorney, Division of Criminal Justice

Ivan Kuzyk, Manager of Research and Planning

Kyle Baudoin, Division of Criminal Justice

DCJ presented data analysis of new data to provide a fuller understanding of the criminal courts in Connecticut. Presenters indicated case inputs such as seriousness of the instant offense, the defendant and their criminal history, and strength of the case can affect outcomes. Data on economic, social, educational and victimization disparities in the state was presented. Discussion was held regarding conviction rates based on race, gender, judicial district, and seriousness of the charges. DCJ received new data from the Judicial Branch that allowed for analysis of outcomes based on a defendant's prior criminal history and discussed what they found regarding conviction rate disparity when accounting for criminal history.

V. Adjourn

Chairman Pelka thanked the presenters and members of the commission for their participation. Ivan Kuzyk received thanks for his state service and well wishes as today was his last day before retirement.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

The next meeting is October 28, 2021 at 9:00am on Teams videoconference.