

**Minutes for the  
Correctional Staff Health and Safety Sub-Committee**

Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009, 1:00pm  
State Capitol, Room 410  
Hartford

Members Present: Joe Vecchitto, Luke Leone, Lt. Catherine Osten, Mayor Scott Kaupin, Moises Padilla, Kevin Brace, Chief Joel Hurliman, Shayne Wilson, Todd Sokolowski, Brett Owen, Lt. Brian McLean (Department of Public Safety), Director Michael Lajoie (Department of Correction), Julienne Giard designee of Sabrina Trocchi (Department of Mental Health and Addictions Services), Marie Desousa and Albert Chiucarello

Others Present: Undersecretary Brian Austin, OPM; Senator John Kissel; Representative Karen Jarmoc

- Meeting was opened by Brian Austin, chairperson of the state's Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission at 1:05 pm, and members introduced themselves.
- Undersecretary Austin discussed the need for a chairperson of the subcommittee from its membership and indicated that two members had contacted him to volunteer to serve as chair: Kevin Brace and Scott Kaupin. Undersecretary Austin then opened the floor to motions. A motion was made by Chief Hurliman and seconded by Lt. Catherine Osten that Kevin Brace serve as chairperson of the Sub-Committee. The motion was then discussed. Another motion was made by Albert Chiucarello and seconded by Todd Sokolowski to table the selection of the chairperson to the next meeting. A vote was held on the motion to table and the motion failed by a vote of 8 to 6. A vote was then held on the motion to elect Kevin Brace chairperson and the motion passed 10 to 2 with 2 abstentions.
- Undersecretary Austin then turned the meeting over to Kevin Brace.

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- Future meeting days were discussed and Lt. Catherine Osten suggested that a yearly meeting schedule be formulated. It was agreed that Chairman Brace would draft a list of future meeting dates pending approval by the Sub-Committee at the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - Freedom of Information Amendment (LCO No. 9241) to HB-6709 was discussed by the Sub-Committee. It was agreed by all that the Sub-Committee would endorse a bill in the 2010 Legislative session supporting a bill protecting Correctional Staff for Freedom of Information requests.
  - Nursing Staffing Level Reductions by UCONN Managed Healthcare statewide was discussed. It was agreed to table the discussion until more information could be obtained.
  - The impact of the closing of Webster Correctional was discussed by the Sub-Committee. It was agreed that Chairman Brace would contact the Connecticut Department of Corrections and request the following information:

- Maximum beds per facility, including historical and current data on the number of inmates that have and are currently housed in “non-housing areas”.
  - Facility capacity per facility from opening to present.
  - Correctional Nursing staffing levels per shift in all DOC facilities.
  - The Department of Correction’s Secession Plan submitted to Governor Rell recommending the closing of Webster Correctional Institution.
- A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Brace and seconded by Shayne Wilson. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:35pm