

CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE



Also sits as the Public Safety Coordinating Council and Criminal Justice Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council

Virtual Meeting (Zoom) Wednesday, February 3, 2021; 12:00 PM

- MINUTES -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Duncan, Chair, Roth and Duncan, P.A.

Alfonso Starling, Vice-Chair, Colonel, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office

Ted Booras, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit

Charles Burton, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit

Cheryl Caracuzzo, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit

Sherri Collins, Administrative Judge, County Court, 15th Judicial Circuit

Glenny Cueto, Professional Probation Services, Inc.

Daniel Eisinger, Public Defender's Office

William Genem, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.

Latronda Hayes, Court Services

David H. Talley, PBC CareerSource

Alton Taylor, Drug Abuse Foundation

Louis Tomeo, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller

Craig Williams, Office of the State Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michelle Johns, Florida Department of Corrections

Dave Kerner, Commissioner, Palm Beach County

Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mevsim Bacaksiz, Drug Abuse Foundation

Ian Cairnes, Hanley Foundation

Lea Vail Compton, Florida Department of Children and Families

Michelle Cruz, County Administration

Rachel Docekal, Lyrae Group, LLC

Mike Edmondson, Office of the State Attorney

Colleen Farnsworth, DCF Legal

Jeffrey Jackson, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office

Carey Haughwout, Public Defender

Felicia A. Scott, Riviera Beach Civil Drug Court

John Viola, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association

CIC STAFF PRESENT:

Regenia Herring, Executive Director

Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager

Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Analyst

Rosalind Murray, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant

Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst

Bert Winkler, Criminal Justice Programs Manager



I. Welcome and Opening Comments, Chairman Douglas Duncan

Chair Douglas Duncan welcomed Judge Charles Burton at Gun Club effective January; and expressed appreciation for Judge Laura Johnson for her past service.

II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

Members and guests signed in the chat box for attendance in lieu of roll call and introductions.

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved without changes.

IV. Approval of January 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The minutes was approved without amendments.

V. New Business

A. Status of active COVID-19 cases in the jail, as reported on the Palm Beach Post, 1/27/2021

Colonel Alfonso Starling provided an update on the status of active COVID-19 cases in the jail and explained their procedures in handling these cases. Chair Duncan congratulated Colonel Starling on becoming a Colonel.

John Viola brought up an issue arising from temporary modification to bonds schedule pursuant to A0 4.202, paragraph 2, wherein the bond schedule was temporarily reduced to a \$1,000 bond to try to release the defendants. He wanted to request for a modification of the AO. Chair Duncan asked Mr. Viola to send a written recommendation to the committee to clarify his request as his call was not coming through clearly.

The issue relating to the transport of inmates to DOC was discussed as an update was requested by Dan Eisinger. Mr. Eisinger made a motion, seconded by Alton Taylor, to request PBSO to prioritize for transport inmates with lesser sanction. The motion was carried unanimously.

B. Florida Department of Children and Families, Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse (CJMHSA) Reinvestment Grant Program Application

Rachel Docekal, CJC Treasurer introduced Jan Cairnes, CEO of Hanley Foundation. Hanley foundation is seeking CJC's support in their planning grant application. Ms. Docekal gave an overview of the Hanley Foundation which is focused on behavioral health and has been operating locally for nearly 40 years, as well as throughout the state of Florida. The planning grant is \$100,000 for one year. Ms. Cairnes elaborated on what they plan to do, if awarded the grant. Regenia Herring noted that this committee as the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) will forward the request to the CJC, which will then in turn make the recommendation to the Board of County



Commissioners. The committee voted and unanimously agreed to move forward with the recommendation at the CJC Executive meeting on Monday.

VI. Old Business

A. Subcommittee to study widening racial disparities in the jail

Ms. Herring suggested there is no need to create a new subcommittee. She recommended transitioning the work of Racial Equity Team under the Safety and Justice Challenge that will be sunset, as they essentially look at the same issues. Ms. Herring will make this recommendation to the CJC Executive Committee at the meeting on Monday.

B. Updating Corrections Task Force Resolution No. CJC-96-1 (Discussed out of order, after VII. Reports)

Ms. Herring briefly discussed the differences between the CTF and the PSCC. One difference is that the CTF includes seven more members not listed in the PSCC according to the statute. Ms. Herring recommended amending original statue to combine the two entities to make a comprehensive resolution. Staff will write the draft and send to Chair Duncan for review, before submitting to the county attorney.

Ms. Hayes suggested adding a Pretrial Services designee in the amendment. Ms. Herring remarked having a designee is not a concern as long as there is someone who can make a decision, and they have consistency throughout.

VII. Reports

A. Jail Population and In-House Arrest

Colonel Starling reported their total population as of this morning was 1,873. In-house arrest was 191: 145 adults; 5 juveniles; 39 county sentenced; 2 Probation; 0 DJJ; 0 AO. Pay n Go for January was 139.

Mr. Eisinger asked about a study previously proposed by the CJC comparing success rate between people on monetary bond versus those on nonmonetary bond. Ms. Herring said Mr. Kukec would be getting back to the committee on this. Ms. Haughwout added it is a problem not having trials which leave some individuals sitting in the jail. It will be helpful to see comparisons on length of stay, for example, from two years to today to analyze how much of the increase is the result of the delays in the court system due to additional arrests, higher bonds, fewer bond hearings, etc.

B. Pretrial Services

Latronda Hayes reported that as of January 29th, there were a total of 1.067 defendants on SOR; 794 of those individuals were on SOR only, 273 were on SOR with a money bond. The total out of custody SOR population was 956. There were 111 defendants that remained in custody; 2 were awaiting treatment. For the month of January, 9 failed to appear for court and 17 had new charges. They had a total of 47 technical violations. Granted supervised release by race: 621 white, 438 black. For population that remain in custody: 60 white, 51 black.



C. Juvenile Detention Center No report was presented.

D. Misdemeanor Probation

Glenny Cueto reported they had a total of 153 new cases for the month of January; 1,444 total active cases; 90 successfully completed cases; 7 revoked; 19 on ICE hold. Total active cases broken down by race: 497 black; 332 white, 397 black/Latino, 218 white/Latino.

E. Felony Probation No report was presented.

VIII. Additional Comments

Candee Villapando spoke briefly on behalf of Louis Tomeo on the Clerk's Office's upcoming Operation Greenlight to be held March 1-5. A flyer will be distributed as it becomes available.

IX. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2021; 12:00 P.M.