



Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission



Annual Report 1993

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F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr.
Chairman

L. Diana Cunningham
Executive Director

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 Detention Subcommittee

 Probation Subcommittee

 Pretrial Subcommittee

Court System Task Force

 Drug Court Subcommittee and Implementation Committee

 Traffic Warrants Subcommittee

Crime Prevention Task Force

Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS)

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Diversity In Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Agencies Staffing Committee

Drug Abuse Trust Fund Committee

Juvenile Justice Facilities Siting Committee

Juvenile Justice Forum Steering Committee

Law Enforcement Planning Council

Law Enforcement and Public Safety Communications Committee

Legislative Issues Committee

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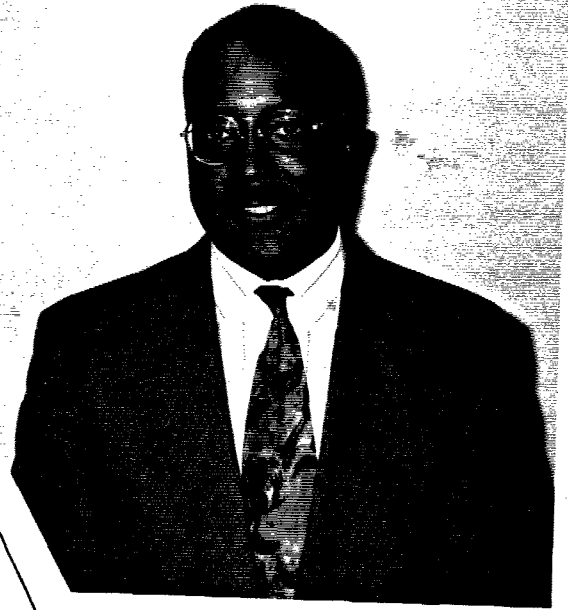
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Weed and Seed

OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Message from F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr. Criminal Justice Commission Chairman



CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., Chairman
Sidney A. Stubbs, Jr., Vice Chairman
D.E. Ruggs, Secretary
Don Mathias, Treasurer



L. Diane Cunningham, Executive Director
3111 South Dixie Hwy., Suite 147
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December 31, 1993

Dear Fellow Criminal Justice Commission Members:

The Criminal Justice Commission was tremendously successful in 1993. I want to congratulate and commend you, the members, on dedicating your time and talents to enhance the criminal justice system in Palm Beach County. Your accomplishments during 1993 will have a definite positive impact on the County.

Some of these accomplishments include: (1) The Civil Drug Court/Pretrial Intervention Program, our highest priority for 1993, has been established; (2) The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) continues to progress; (3) The Truancy Interdiction Program is truly successful; (4) A federal "Weed & Seed" site was established in Northwest Riviera Beach; and (5) The cooperation that has developed among members enabled us to obtain HRS funding for the siting of juvenile justice programs.

You recognized the importance of crime prevention in 1993, with many important developments including jobs for our youth during the summer and school year, expanded use of the schools for after school activities, recreational programs and a One-By-One mentorship program. 1994 promises to bring even greater strides in this area.

You have accomplished a process of cooperation and collaboration among the private and public sectors in Palm Beach County that is unique. Your efforts and hard work will help to ensure a bright future for generations to come.

Again, I applaud you and look forward to an even more productive 1994.

M. Cunningham
F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr.
Criminal Justice Commission

Message from L. Diana Cunningham Criminal Justice Commission Executive Director



L. Diana Cunningham, Executive Director
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CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., Chairman
Sidney A. Stubbins, Jr., Vice Chairman
B.R. Aggs, Secretary
Don Mathis, Treasurer



January 1, 1994

Dear Criminal Justice Commission Members:

On behalf of your staff, I would like you to know that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you in 1993. The Criminal Justice Commission has become recognized throughout the State of Florida and many areas of the United States, as the model for progress in the improvement of the criminal justice system.

I speak, and provide technical assistance on your behalf, to hundreds of individuals, cities, civic and professional groups, legislators in city, county, state and federal government and to business representatives. Each are, without fail, amazed that you, the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, have been able to come together in a unified voice to take on the tough crime related issues other counties too often avoid or ignore.

I am proud of your accomplishments, which are reflected in this annual report. The untold hours donated by each of you is a tribute to the commitment you have to Palm Beach County's betterment. Palm Beach County is extremely fortunate to have individuals of your caliber working on their behalf.

I look forward to a very exciting and progressive 1994. Thanks to each of you, especially F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., for the support and extraordinary enthusiasm that leads us!

Sincerely,

L. Diana Cunningham
L. Diana Cunningham, Executive Director
Criminal Justice Commission

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

1993 ANNUAL REPORT (January - December, 1993)

1993 was a year of progress for the Criminal Justice Commission. It was a very successful year with regard to the continued strengthening of interagency coordination in all areas relating to the criminal justice system in Palm Beach County. The Criminal Justice Commission takes great pride in bringing together the representatives of the varying agencies to work cooperatively and solve problems jointly. This is the key to enabling us to achieve our mission of making Palm Beach County's criminal justice system more cost effective and efficient.

Introduction

Throughout the year, several major projects were initiated, some continue, and many were completed, such as the establishment of a drug court with a full treatment continuum for both criminal offenders and civil clients; a Truancy Interdiction Program (TIP) was established with a center and expanded countywide; gaining County cooperation to donate land to HRS to provide siting for juvenile justice residential facilities; creation of a federal "Weed & Seed" site in a low income neighborhood with a history of violence and crime; and the cooperative efforts by the State Attorney, Public Defender, courts, and law enforcement on prosecution procedures which reduced the jail population, permitting a delay in opening floors of the new 3,000-bed jail.

The Task Forces and their subcommittees, representing over 200 criminal justice agencies and concerned citizens of Palm Beach County, were active in identifying priorities, assessing alternatives, and recommending solutions to local problems. The organization of the Criminal Justice Commission will differ as we enter 1994. The Criminal Justice Commission, its Task Forces, Committees and staff are enthusiastic and eager to continue generating positive change in 1994.

The mission of the Criminal Justice Commission remains the same since its inception in August of 1988 when the Commission was formally established by County Ordinance No. 88-16. The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners undertook a bold and unique initiative when they acknowledged the need to reduce the criminal activity in Palm Beach County. The Criminal Justice Commission was established to study all aspects of the criminal justice and crime prevention systems within the federal, state, county, municipal, and private agencies in Palm Beach County. The Criminal Justice Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and is in place to make recommendations to the Board on policies and programs designed to accomplish the following: 1) to provide an overall coordination of law enforcement and crime prevention efforts; 2) to provide for an efficient, cost-effective and timely criminal justice system; and 3) to effect a reduction of crime in Palm Beach County on a permanent basis. The mission is broad, as is the range of possibilities for improvement, adjustment, and change within our criminal justice system.

History and Mission

The CJC is now respected as the forum for review and recommendation by representatives of all criminal justice agencies located in Palm Beach County for any policy, procedure, program or issue that may positively or negatively impact other criminal justice agencies or the County's budget.

1993 Membership

The membership of the Criminal Justice Commission consists of thirty-three members, twenty one primarily from the public sector who serve by virtue of their position and twelve primarily from the private sector who are nominated by the Economic Council of Palm Beach County and affirmed by the Board of County Commissioners. Membership of the Criminal Justice Commission for 1993 included the following individuals:

1993 Officers

CHAIRMAN: F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., Esq.
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Sidney A. Stubbs, Jr., Esq.
SECRETARY: Chief B.R. "Billy" Riggs
TREASURER: Don Mathis

Executive Committee

- Officers as noted above -

M.A. "Al" Coogler

Chief Judge Jack Cook

Honorable Richard Jorandby

Honorable Mary McCarty

James G. McAdams, III, Esq.

Susan Petersen

Gerald Williams, Esq.

Honorable Richard Wille



Executive Committee At Work

Full Criminal Justice Commission

Clerk of the Palm Beach County Circuit Court
Dorothy Wilken

Crime Prevention Officer's Association President
Officer Jay Spencer

Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent-in-Charge
John Wagner

Federal Bureau of Investigation Senior Representative
Robert W. Neumann

Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Chief Judge
Honorable Daniel T.K. Hurley (through March, 1993)
Honorable Jack H. Cook (assumed April 1, 1993)

Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Administrative Judge, Juvenile Division
Honorable Karen L. Martin

Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement, Senior Special Agent
Mike Loffredo

Florida Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole Administrator
15 Judicial Circuit
Valerie Rolle

H.R.S., District IX Administrator
James A. Hart, Acting (November 1992 - August 1993)
Suzanne Turner (Assumed August 16, 1993)

***Public Sector
Members***

Municipal League President
Honorable Robert McDonald

Palm Beach County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Carey Haughwout, Esq.

Palm Beach County School Board
Beverly Green

Palm Beach County Sheriff
Honorable Richard P. Wille

Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation
Honorable Edward J. Healey

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners Chair
Honorable Mary McCarty

Palm Beach County Police Chief's Association President
Chief Bruce Sekeres, North Palm Beach Police Department

Public Defender, 15th Judicial Circuit
Honorable Richard L. Jorandby

State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Honorable Barry Krischer

United States Attorney's Office, Southern District
Administrator West Palm Beach
James G. McAdams III, Esq.

U.S. Treasury Department - Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms
Daniel McBride

West Palm Beach Police Department Chief
Chief B.R. "Billy" Riggs

**Private Sector
Members**

M.A. "Al" Coogler, Jr., Esq., Adams, Coogler, Watson & Merkel

F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., Esq., Cunningham & Self

Mr. Howard Feldman, Managing Partner, Arthur Andersen & Co.

Kevin J. Foley, President, The Foley Company

Dr. Effie C. Gear, Principal, Glades Central High School

William Jenner, Pratt Whitney (February 1992- February 1993)

Don Mathis, Regional Director, Southern Bell Telephone

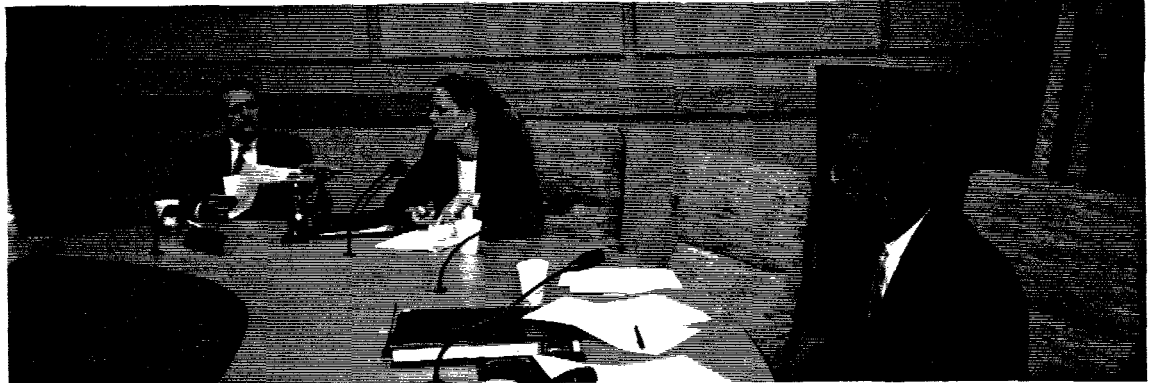
Donald M. Middlebrooks, Partner, Steel, Hector & Davis

Susan Petersen, Deloitte and Touche

Fernando Prieto, President, Team Architecture, Inc.

Sidney A. Stubbs, Jr., Esq. Jones, Foster, Johnston, and Stubbs

Gerald A. Williams, Esq., Mack & Bernstein



Criminal Justice Commission At Work

Criminal Justice Commission Staff

Staff of the Criminal Justice Commission consists of an Executive Director, two Senior Planners, and an Administrative Secretary. Ms. L. Diana Cunningham, hired in November, 1990, continues as the Executive Director. Ms. Patricia Sheffield continues as Senior Criminal Justice Analyst; Ms. Janice Alger applied for and accepted a position as the Director of the Sheriff's Substance Abuse Awareness Program in September. Ms. Kristina M. Gulick was hired on temporary status in September and permanent status in December as Senior Criminal Justice Analyst; and Ms. Ann B. Conforti is the Administrative Secretary. The staff is highly qualified. Ms. Cunningham has a Masters in Criminal Justice and 21 years experience in the criminal justice system. Ms. Sheffield has a Juris Doctor, a Masters in Public Administration, 6 years experience in the practice of law and 6 years experience in the criminal justice system. Ms. Gulick has a Masters in Political Science and 4 years experience in the criminal justice system. Ms. Conforti has 7 years secretarial experience.

In addition to the above mentioned staff, the Criminal Justice Commission was fortunate in 1993 to have had the assistance of a Senior Aide, Ms. Shirley Gelband, and a summer PIC student employee, Ms. Angelica Harris. Both were invaluable to the Criminal Justice Commission, and their assistance is greatly appreciated.

Criminal Justice Commission staff had the assistance of volunteers who have contributed numerous hours, including evening hours, to help staff complete projects. The efforts of Mr. Fred Hammond, Mr. Robert Kedell, and Mr. Al Ramsey are tremendously respected and appreciated.

It is also important to note that, as in 1991 and 1992, many criminal justice agencies cooperated greatly with the need for additional manpower and provided loaned staff at various times in 1993. These agencies include, but are not limited to, the Palm Beach County Division of Probation and Victim Services, the Sheriff's Office, the Children's Services Council, the Health and Human Services Planning Association, a number of the local Police Departments, the Department of Corrections Division of Probation and Parole, H.R.S, and others. This agency cooperation is vital to Criminal Justice Commission success, and it too is greatly welcomed and appreciated.



Patricia Sheffield
Senior C.J. Analyst

Kristina Gulick
Senior C.J. Analyst

Ann Conforti
*Administrative
Secretary*

Diana Cunningham
Executive Director



Janice Alger
*Former Senior
C.J. Analyst*

The Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County created the Criminal Justice Commission in 1988 as an innovative method for receiving recommendations on criminal justice issues. In Florida, County government is responsible for a large proportion of criminal justice costs but has little authority in determining these costs. The only effective way to control costs is through a more effective criminal justice system.

Since its inception, the Board of County Commissioners have been supportive, with the Chair being an active member of CJC. Mr. Vince Bonvento, Assistant County Administrator, provides oversight, administrative guidance, and tremendous support for the Criminal Justice Commission.

**Palm Beach
County
Board Of
County
Commissioners
and
Administration**

Message From The Board Of County Commissioners

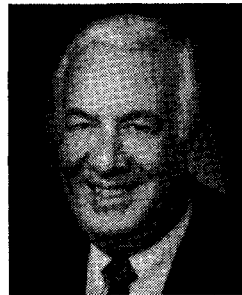
"The Criminal Justice Commission provides an effective mechanism for the many participants in the criminal justice system to meet at one table to discuss problems and design solutions.

One of the most distinctive aspects of the CJC is the private sector's high level of interest and involvement. A fundamental goal of Palm Beach County's 'reinventing government' efforts is to explore innovative and cost-effective solutions that are community-based. In this and other ways, the CJC helps us better serve the public."

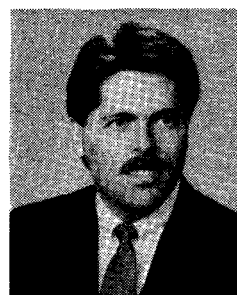
Mary McCarty, Chair



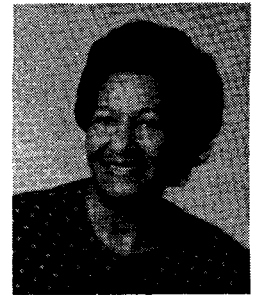
Mary McCarty, Chair
District 4



Burt Aaronson
District 5



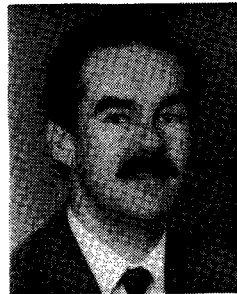
Ken L. Foster
District 6



Maude Ford Lee
District 7



Karen Marcus
District 1



Warren H. Newell
District 3



Carol Roberts
District 2

Message from Vince Bonvento Assistant Palm Beach County Administrator



County Administrator
Robert Weisman

Board of County Commissioners
Mary McCarty, Chair
Ken L. Foster, Vice Chairman
Karen T. Marcus
Carol A. Roberts
Warren H. Newell
Burt Aaronson
Maude Ford Lee



January 2, 1994

Malcolm Cunningham, Esq.
Chairman, Criminal Justice Commission
3111 South Dixie Highway, Suite 141
West Palm Beach, FL 33405

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

I am pleased to extend my congratulations to you and the Criminal Justice Commission on your successful year in 1993. Your accomplishments have been outstanding.

The CJC was established as a unique initiative of both private sector and criminal justice leaders to advise the Board of County Commissioners on crime prevention efforts, to provide overall coordination of law enforcement and criminal justice system, and to effect a reduction of crime in Palm Beach County. You are certainly fulfilling your mission. It is rewarding to read in our local newspapers of the FDLE report that the number of serious crimes has dropped in Palm Beach County for the first six months of 1993 compared to the same period in 1992. May this decline continue in 1994.

I have enjoyed working with you this year and look forward to another successful year in 1994.

Sincerely yours,

Vince G. Bonvento

Vince Bonvento
Assistant County Administrator

"An Equal Opportunity - Affirmative Action Employer"
Box 1989 West Palm Beach, Florida 33402-1989 FAX: (407) 355-3982



Palm Beach County and Crime

Palm Beach County is one of the fastest growing counties of comparable size in the nation, and the fastest growing urban area in the State of Florida. Its 1993 estimated resident population was 918,119 permanent plus 120,000 seasonal for a total of 1,138,119. This represents a 185% increase from 1980. The rapid expansion of the 1980s brought strong economic development and opportunities to some areas while others saw an increase in criminal activity.

Palm Beach County is unique in that it is comprised of 37 separate incorporated municipalities, with 31 separate law enforcement agencies, and a Board of County Commissioners who govern the entire unincorporated area. The majority of the municipalities are located in the eastern part of the county. There is an one-to-three mile wide corridor running north-south through the entire County, along the railroad tracks, paralleling the coast but two-to-three miles inland, that is relatively poor with a high percentage of people living in poverty where violent behavior and crime has assumed epidemic proportions.

South Florida's crime rate is said to be the worst of all the nation's largest metropolitan areas, according to 1992 statistics released by the FBI in October, 1993. Although the FBI study shows Palm Beach County ranked fourth last year in serious crimes when compared to the nation's 78 other largest metropolitan area, we feel strongly that since the crime rate reflects the number of Part I crimes reported per 100,000 residents, this depiction is extremely inaccurate. The population used in the formula is from the 1990 census. Palm Beach County's population is actually much higher than the census reflects due to our heavy seasonal influx of Northerners, 6 months per year, who claim primary residence elsewhere. If these residents were included along with the influx of migrants/seasonal workers, the number of crimes per 100,000 residents would reflect a far lower ratio. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), which compiles Florida's statistics, reports that Florida's urban areas have led the U.S. in crime for nearly ten years. On the positive side, however, in their most recent report released on December 9, 1993, FDLE found the number of serious crimes dropped in Palm Beach County in the first six months of 1993 compared to the same period in 1992. The agency said violent crimes in the county declined by more than 6% and property crimes dropped 2.3% countywide. The drop includes declines in most of the county's cities. Police officials speculated that the reduction in crime is tied to stepped-up efforts in community policing, crime watch and crime prevention.

Substance abuse is considered by criminal justice experts to be the most significant contributor to crime in Palm Beach County. The State Attorney's Office has estimated that 80% of all cases filed are drug or drug-related. Other key factors to explain the high crime rate include the large elderly population, the pipeline of cocaine through the Bahamas from South America which hits the U.S. shore in South Florida and the rapid influx of immigrants - both legal and illegal. Being a tourist area, Palm Beach County has a large number of strangers and is a cash-oriented society. Police leaders say tourists, new immigrants and other strangers are the important factors in explain-

ing higher crime ratio. Also, punishment is uncertain because of crowded state prisons. Juveniles are committing more violent crime, but with little punishment because of their age and the shortage of commitment programs.

Palm Beach County has been coping with gangs at least since the 1970s. These gangs were older and mature and concentrated on the sale and distribution of narcotics, mostly marijuana and cocaine. They tended to be very organized, without the turf squabbles of smaller "kiddie gangs" whose activities were mostly limited to property crime and graffiti. The boom development period of the 1980s and the increased population translated to less open space for the gangs to operate in and fueled the increase in home invasions, property crimes, and auto thefts to support gang operations. Turf battles and drive-by shootings escalated, mostly concentrated in the West Palm Beach and Riviera Beach area. A total of 37 gangs have been documented in Palm Beach County. The Interim Report of the 10th Statewide Grand Jury (1992) on gangs and gang-related activity found the increase in gang and gang activity over the last decade was one of the contributing factors in increased crime statewide. Gang organization in southern Florida is influenced by gangs from other parts of the country--California, New York and Chicago. Gangs, being very mobile, have moved north into Palm Beach County. While some of the gangs are strictly "graffiti gangs," the majority of gangs in Florida commit crimes as serious as drive-by shootings. National law enforcement statistics reveal approximately 50% of these incidents result in death or injury to innocent bystanders.

Over the past few years, Palm Beach County has felt the weight of crime and poverty. Public officials, law enforcement agencies, social agencies and community residents have been struggling to formulate solutions. There is an increasing realization that the answer is not law enforcement alone. The County has made significant accomplishments over the past few years in its efforts to address the problems of violent crime, gangs, drug use, and drug trafficking.

In 1992, the County's 31 police chiefs and the County Sheriff joined forces in the Law Enforcement Planning Council created by the Criminal Justice Commission to coordinate crime-fighting efforts and save money by sharing services. Earlier that same year, upon recommendation by the Criminal Justice Commission, the multiagency Violent Crimes Unit was created under the direction of our Sheriff and to target crime, drive-by shootings, and violent crime on the streets. The Unit represents city, county, state and federal law enforcement and prosecutors working cooperatively to combat localized violent crime. The efforts of this Unit virtually eliminated the severe problem with drive-by shootings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1993 MAJOR PROJECTS

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION EXPERIENCED GREAT SUCCESSES IN 1993. The process of collaboration and cooperation among criminal justice agencies in Palm Beach County, established in the years past, resulted in tremendous progress 1993.

Executive Summary

• The CJC, the Sheriff's Office, the Palm Beach County Courts, the Department of Corrections, the Health Department and the State Attorney's Office worked arduously to obtain funding and establish the Civil Drug Court/Pretrial Intervention Program, a most significant accomplishment. It will begin February 1, 1994.

The CJC's Law Enforcement Planning Council made a tremendous accomplishment in the development of a mutual aid pact among the 31 municipal law enforcement agencies, the School Board Police and the Sheriff's Office in Palm Beach County, as well as uniform policies on the use of force and high speed pursuit.

• The CJC worked with the Palm Beach County Office of the U.S. Attorney in submitting a grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Justice to establish a Weed and Seed Program in crime-ridden Northwest Riviera Beach. This project required collaboration among local offices of the FBI, ATF and FDLE, as well as, municipal law enforcement, the Health Department, residents, schools, churches, the City of Riviera Beach, private industry and the State Attorney's Office. The Weeding component began on September 12, 1993.

• The CJC worked with the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the District IX/Juvenile Justice Board, local law enforcement, the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, the Palm Beach County Economic Council, the Palm Beach County School Board Police, and Juvenile Court Judges to prepare, coordinate and host a Juvenile Justice Forum for the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation. The purpose of the Forum was to bring all of the components of the juvenile justice system together to determine the primary issues of concern with the system and to propose legislative recommendations for improvement. Members of the Forum presented five issues--youth violence, zoning juvenile facilities, parental responsibility, delinquency prevention and failures to appear--to the Delegation which included recommendations to amend the Florida Statutes.

• The CJC worked with the Public Safety Coordinating Council, the State Attorney's Office, and the Sheriff's Office in expanding the use of in-house arrest,

through electronic monitoring, for qualified nonviolent offenders, a substantial savings to the County for incarceration costs.

- The CJC in collaboration with numerous public and private community boards and agencies developed an objectionable opinion to Secretary Towey's proposed methodology for distribution of HRS funds to the District. The original methodology, if implemented, would have totaled approximately \$8 million less in state funds.

- A Cost Containment Committee was created to work with the Joint Committee To Increase Government Efficiency (also known as the Mini-Grace Committee) and the County's Office of Financial Management and Budget, in order to identify expenditures and revenues of the criminal justice system in Palm Beach County and to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners to improve efficiency and cost effectiveness.

In 1993, the membership of the Criminal Justice Commission, its Executive Committee, Task Forces, Committees and Subcommittees consisted of over 200 criminal justice experts, officials, and concerned citizens of Palm Beach County. This overwhelming interest and commitment are what makes the Criminal Justice Commission effective. These people dedicated time and talent to address the specific issues of the various Task Forces and Committees of the Criminal Justice Commission. Following is a brief mission statement of each Criminal Justice Commission Task Force and Committee, as well as a summary of their major accomplishments in 1993.

- The **COST CONTAINMENT COMMITTEE** was established at the beginning of 1993 to include members of the Criminal Justice Commission and the Joint Committee to Increase Government Efficiency (also known as the Mini-Grace Committee) in order to evaluate and identify criminal justice costs in the county and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for improvements in efficiency and cost effectiveness. The Committee spent the year reviewing the Palm Beach County Courts. It concentrated attention on evaluating court programs and the fine collection and assessment process. Reports in both of these areas are in draft form and, once finalized, will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners.

- The **COURT SYSTEM TASK FORCE** was established in January, 1991 to review local policies and practices and to make recommendations to the affected agencies in order to improve the caseload and overall efficiency of the courts. Its Traffic Warrants Subcommittee made recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners to improve the traffic fine collection process to decrease the number of warrants issued for nonpayment, which results in costly arrests. Through its Drug Court Subcommittee it established a Civil Drug Court/Pretrial Intervention Program to provide alternatives to incarceration for offenders and high risk civil clients under the umbrella of the Sheriff's Substance Abuse Awareness Program.

• The **CRIME PREVENTION TASK FORCE** was established in January, 1991 to evaluate, propose and improve crime prevention efforts of County law enforcement, health and human services, public safety and school agencies. Six action teams were created to address specific issues including summer jobs for youth, a school mentorship program, TV-20 age-group forums, the Palm Beach County Bar Association/CJC youth jobs program, the use of schools for youth recreational activities and the Truancy Interdiction Program (T.I.P.). All of these activities have been very successful. Most have already been implemented while others are in the final stages of implementation.

• The **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CJIS) TASK FORCE** was established in 1991 to develop plans for implementing an interfaced computer information system for all criminal justice agencies in Palm Beach County. Task Force duties were assumed by a newly created CJIS Policy Board, which includes the Constitutional Officers and agency heads of the participating entities. The County's Department of Information System Services is coordinating the program development with assistance from a management committee and a user's group, but the CJC remains very active in continuing to support the cooperation necessary for the development of this integrated computerized information system for criminal justice agencies in the County.

• The **DISTRICT IX/PALM BEACH COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARD** was first established as the Juvenile Delinquency and Gang Prevention Council by Florida Statute in late 1992. The Florida Legislature, during its 1993 session, amended the statute to provide its current name. Its mission is to develop a comprehensive juvenile justice plan for the County to be updated annually. This plan was completed in early 1993 and provides information and direction for County agencies involved in the juvenile justice system. It also developed a countywide interagency agreement between law enforcement, the School Board and HRS to encourage cooperation, collaboration and the appropriate sharing of information among these agencies providing services to the youth of Palm Beach County. The Board coordinated funding applications to the Attorney General's office, resulting in immediate funding for a Choices Wilderness Program in the Boca Raton School System and a Truancy Interdiction Program in Belle Glade.

• The **HUMAN DIVERSITY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES STAFFING COMMITTEE** was established in late 1993 to further a diverse work force within the County's criminal justice agencies. The Committee has developed a work-plan and strategy for studying employee diversity in criminal justice agencies and is consulting with experts in this field to determine approaches to improve current staffing patterns.

• The **DRUG ABUSE TRUST FUND COMMITTEE** responsibility was transferred to the CJC in 1992 to track assessments and collections and to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on expenditures of these funds. This Fund was created to obtain court ordered funds from offenders to be used for drug pre-

vention and treatment efforts. To increase the amount of assessment to this Fund, The State Attorney, in response to a request by the Committee, offered to include in all felony and misdemeanor plea agreements, a condition that each offender pay \$25 or \$50 (according to the offense) toward this Fund. This, in effect, cut the amount of funding the Prosecutor receives for cost of prosecution in half, in order to help generate funds for treatment. The Committee successfully recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that these funds be allocated toward the establishment of a Civil Drug Court/Pretrial Intervention Program in Palm Beach County.

- The **LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL** was established in mid-1992 to meet monthly in order discuss, evaluate and develop law enforcement policy issues for the County. The membership consists of the police chiefs of the municipalities, the School Board and the Sheriff in Palm Beach County, fifteen of whom are voting members. In 1993 the Council researched and improved the efficiency of DUI processing time, methods for confiscated drug disposal, the evidence disposal process and county hurricane preparedness emergency plans. The Council also developed a countywide mutual aid agreement among all law enforcement agencies and is currently proposing and coordinating a statewide 1994 Gun Confiscation Project with the Palm Beach County Economic Council.

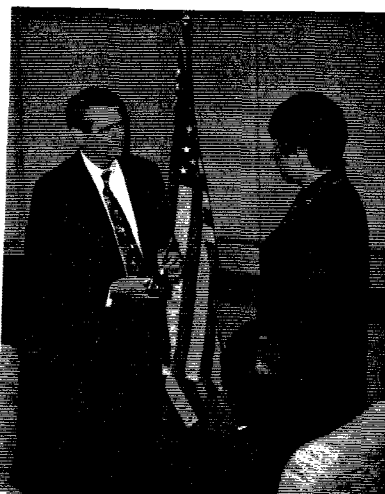
- The **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE** was established in 1992 to provide information countywide to all law enforcement, public safety and municipalities concerning the 800 megahertz radio system being developed in Palm Beach County. The Committee hosted several presentations for county officials to keep them abreast of current developments and at the request of the CJC have now included an opportunity for every municipality to participate in this endeavor.

- The **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES COMMITTEE** was established in 1992 to research and develop annually a criminal justice legislative recommendation package for the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation. The Committee developed legislative proposals received from Criminal Justice Commission Task Forces and Committees as well as its own recommendations. The Committee has completed a package including 16 legislative proposals for the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation for the 1994 legislative session.

- The **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL** was established in 1992 by Florida Statute 951.26 to evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, on the correctional needs of the County. The Council is an independent body that is staffed by the Criminal Justice Commission. The Council concentrated its efforts on researching and recommending possible approaches for alternative sentencing within the County, which it believes will not only aid in reducing criminal justice costs, but, will also further rehabilitation for those offenders who can be helped.

• The **WEED AND SEED PROGRAM COMMITTEE** was established in early 1993 to bring together CJC members, several local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, private industry, residents and other government agencies in developing a proposal to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice for the funding a Weed and Seed Program in the County. The Committee selected Northwest Riviera Beach as a pilot program site and has completed and submitted its proposal to obtain site designation status. The U.S. Attorney in Palm Beach County received very positive responses to this proposal from the Department of Justice for the prospect designation and future federal funding.

• The **JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITY SITING COMMITTEE** was established in mid-1993 to study and propose possible juvenile facility sites for Palm Beach County as well as to aid in alleviating some of the difficulties with establishing these sites. It has received a firm commitment from HRS to locate at least 20 juvenile treatment beds in the County and made three site recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, which were approved. The first site was obtained with the assistance of the Sheriff and is located in South Bay at a sugar cane barracks. HRS has contracted with Eckerd Foundation to initiate program operations in February, 1994. Representatives from many agencies have worked very diligently in bringing this effort to fruition.

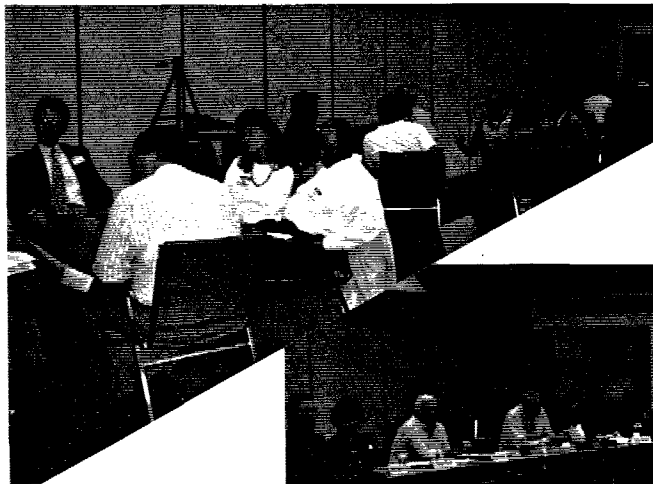


CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION 1993 ANNUAL REPORT

'FOCUS 93' 1993 Annual Advance

On January 9, 1993, the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission held their second annual "ADVANCE." We call it an "ADVANCE" rather than a "RETREAT" because it represents a time to move forward. The 'ADVANCE' was moderated by Dr. Herbert Marlowe, a Professor at the University of Florida specializing in Organization Development. He has worked with the Palm Beach County government for the past four years. The "ADVANCE" began with Dr. Marlowe reviewing the principles of Osborne & Gaebler's *Reinventing Government*, and their effect on local government. Commissioner Mary McCarty explained that the principles had been adopted by the Palm Beach County Commission, the Mini-Grace Committee, County Department and Division Heads, Constitutional Officers, and key personnel at a workshop facilitated by Ted Gaebler. These presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion on how *Reinventing Government* applies to the criminal justice system in Palm Beach County. Twelve issues were identified: a funding pool, public health, crime prevention/treatment, public outreach, education, new approach to drug treatment and education, community responsibility, juvenile focus, and the effect of the press/media.

"FOCUS 93" was also the opportunity for members to work and get acquainted with new members and to develop its 1993 priorities.



The Bylaws Committee was established to review issues including Criminal Justice Commission membership (both by Ordinance and by Economic Council appointment), elections, quorum issues, and the process and impact of changing Criminal Justice Commission bylaws. As the Bylaws Committee completed a full review of the CJC bylaws during 1992, which were presented and approved by the full Criminal Justice Commission, and forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners, the only significant change in 1993 was the provision that the terms for members representing the Board of County Commissioners, the School Board, the Legislative Delegation, and the Municipal League shall be for a period of two years. The remaining public sector members' term of membership is for the duration of their position entitling them to sit as a member of the Criminal Justice Commission.

*Bylaws
Committee*

At the request of County Administration on November 25, 1992, the Criminal Justice Commission reviewed a Board of County Commissioners agenda item recommending the implementation of a community services program by the Court Administrator. A community services work group, consisting of Criminal Justice Commission members and representatives from the State Attorney's and Public Defender's Offices, the County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, Court Administration and the Judiciary, was given the charge to review a proposed community services program which would become a viable sanctioning option for Palm Beach County. The Workgroup recommended to the Criminal Justice Commission that the Court Administrator's community service program proposal be supported in the interim, until the probation RFP process is completed, as the RFP should include a community services provision component.

*Community
Services
Workgroup*

At the request of the Board of County Commissioners, the Criminal Justice Commission was directed to create a joint task force with the Joint Committee To Increase Government Efficiency, also known as the Mini-Grace Committee, and make recommendations to the Board regarding criminal justice expenditures and revenues. The Board of County Commissioners directed the County's Office of Financial Management and Budget identify all expenditures and revenues by Palm Beach County for criminal justice purposes. The Joint Task Force was requested to evaluate those expenditures that are mandated and those that are optional and accordingly make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding future spending. The first meeting resulted in prioritizing the Courts as the first phase of the project.

*CJC/Joint
Committee To
Increase
County
Government
Efficiency Cost
Containment
Committee*

In the Committee's efforts to ensure a cost-efficient criminal justice system, a survey of 12 court programs was conducted. A total of 250 surveys were sent to various criminal justice representatives and other Palm Beach County officials. CJC staff has prepared a report based on the responses and is awaiting the Committee's reviews and recommendations to be made to the Board of County Commissioners. The report on the Court Program Survey found all 12 programs studied were believed to be necessary. The study revealed a slow decrease in State funding, which results in the County absorbing these costs.

In its continued examination of Palm Beach County's court system expenditures and revenues, the Cost Containment Committee is reviewing the costs and processes of:

- law library
- court ordered assessments/collections

The Committee investigated preparing a request to the State Justice Institute (SJI) for technical assistance funds for the Justice Management Institute to assist with the evaluation of Palm Beach County's criminal justice expenditures and revenues. However, it was determined that SJI's proposal was not appropriately focused on the mission of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the possibility of recommending a shadow public defender's office. It was determined that a review needed to be done of the projected savings from the current use of contract teams before making a recommendation. The Committee endorsed the OFMB request for full management studies of Pretrial Services, the Drug Farm and the Criminal Justice Trust Fund. A cost/benefit analysis of various municipal targeted stings and reverse stings was reviewed upon Commissioner Burt Aaronson's request.

The Committee sought a report from the Clerk of the Court staff on fine tracking procedures, past and present. They continue to study the fine collection process in an effort to assure that a greater number of fines do not go unassessed or unpaid.

Corrections Task Force

Detention Subcommittee

The Detention Subcommittee submitted a final report on February 9, 1993 in response to the Board of County Commissioners' directive, regarding the status gender equity in Palm Beach County's jails. Issues addressed include the number of female slots available at the Drug Farm, prenatal medical care, personal hygiene articles available, equity in access to religious programs, work release/job opportunities, exercise and recreational facilities, educational/vocational programs, and visitation. Upon submission of its report, the Subcommittee disbanded.

The Probation Committee was established to study county probation and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners how the services can be most effectively provided. The Committee made a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners, at a January 26, 1993 workshop, that there be only one provider of county probation services and that Palm Beach County be the provider. Although the Board accepted the first recommendation, it decided to contract for county probation services rather than provide them in-house. The Probation Committee participated in the development of a Request For Proposal (RFP) for probation services in Palm Beach County. They also contributed to the evaluation and scoring of the submitted proposals. The Executive Director participated on the probation RFP Committee. Due to a requirement for the vendor to provide a bond to the County, no proposals received were considered responsive, thus the RFP was reissued, deleting this requirement. Only three proposals were responsive in this second round of advertising. PRIDE Inc., was selected and awarded the contract.

**Corrections
Task Force**

*Probation
Subcommittee*

Following approval by the CJC Executive Committee, the Department of Public Safety recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the establishment of a standing committee of the CJC to serve as the Probation Advisory Committee to monitor the contracted provider. This was approved on December 7, 1993 and the Board of County Commissioners directed the CJC to create a permanent standing committee to monitor the probation contract.

The Committee has been inactive since the inception of the program, as Chief Judge Hurley created an Oversight Committee of Judges to monitor the program. However, the County has authorized and contributed 50% of the \$18,000 fee for a program evaluation which is currently being performed by American University. The CJC had requested the evaluation at the time the program was implemented.

**Corrections
Task Force
Pretrial
Subcommittee**

At the direction of the Committee, the Criminal Justice Commission staff, with the assistance of the Sheriff's Office, Department of Corrections, Health Department, and the State Attorney's Office, completed the plans for a Pretrial Intervention/Civil Drug Court. It was presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) at a workshop held February 23, 1993. The BoCC requested more funding cooperation from other agencies. This occurred with funds from the Drug Trust Fund, the federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act, the Sheriff, and cooperative commitments from Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) and Florida Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Board unanimously approved the plan on May 4, 1993. WHAT A SUCCESS !! Despite very tight budget constraints this year, the Board agreed with us on the importance of this program and allocated approximately \$800,000. The Sheriff will administer the treatment

**Court System
Task Force**

*Drug Court
Subcommittee
and
Implementation
Committee*

components under the umbrella of his comprehensive Substance Abuse Awareness Program (SAAP).

The Request For Bid (RFB) for private treatment providers was advertised in October and a consortium bid by a coalition of treatment providers in Palm Beach County was accepted. Staff includes SAAP Manager Janice Alger, former CJC Senior Criminal Justice Analyst, Court Services Coordinator Tracy Gonzalez, and Corrections Coordinator Theresa Smelser. An evaluation component is being designed with the Health and Human Services Planning Association using a model developed by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, obtained by CJC staff. The program will begin in February, 1994.

Upon request of the CJC Executive Committee, the Drug Court Implementation Committee reviewed the effect of House Bill 257 (an act relating to a pretrial intervention program, expanding it to include persons charged with felonies of the second or third degree for the purchase or possession of drugs) and its potential effect on the Palm Beach pretrial intervention program for substance abuse, aka Drug Court. It was determined that since Palm Beach County had already created a Drug Court, there would be no effect.

The Traffic Warrants Subcommittee of the Court System Task Force participated in a Board of County Commissioners workshop on February 9, 1993 and recommended that:

- the County contract with a private collection agency for outstanding civil traffic infraction fines;
- the Clerk of the Circuit Court identify the fiscal impact of implementing the payment of fines by credit card;
- the Clerk determine the cost effectiveness of having satellite offices for the payment of fines.

Court System Task Force

Traffic Warrants Subcommittee

County Administration Staff assisted the Purchasing Department in the development of a Request for Information (RFI) for a private collection agency to collect outstanding civil traffic infraction fines. However, County Administration recalled the RFP to determine the effect of the newly enacted statute prohibiting the issuance of motor vehicles tags when there are outstanding traffic fines. The Committee is reviewing the status of previous recommendations and the voice/telephone credit card payment system in Broward County.

The scope of the review by the Committee was broadened to include the review of

assessments and collections for any criminal offense rather than the limited focus of traffic offense fines.

The Crime Prevention Task Force met regularly throughout 1993 in an attempt to create a crime prevention strategy for Palm Beach County. It has been the desire of the Task Force to successfully prepare a crime prevention strategy for a County which would necessitate the expertise of a consultant to evaluate past and present crime prevention needs and recommend a future course of action. Budget constraints in 1992-3 made this impossible.

Crime Prevention Task Force

Upon completion of the 1993-94 goals and objectives, the Chair established six action teams to address the major tasks. These include Private Sector Jobs Initiative Team, PIC (Private Industry Council) Jobs Initiative Team, Recreational Programs/Initiative Team, Pre K-10 years old Team, 11-15 years old Team, and Over 15 years old Team.

The Task Force, in conjunction with the Law Enforcement Planning Council and the Criminal Justice Commission, hosted representatives from the Hennepin County, Minnesota, Attorney's Office, who made a presentation regarding their "Drop Your Guns Month." The presentation was made in January at the School Administration building, where approximately 40 criminal justice representatives attended. Although the Task Force recommended against a similar gun buy-back program for Palm Beach County, they are working with the State Attorney's Office on the development of a "Guns for Jobs" program, based on a similar program in Los Angeles. The Economic Council is assisting as a liaison with the private sector.

Recognizing that the summer is a time when out-of-school youth have a great amount of free time, the Task Force contacted the Palm Beach County Bar Association and assisted them in developing a Bar Association Summer Jobs Program. The pilot program was very successful and will be expanded in 1994.

The Task Force also assisted the Private Industry Council (PIC) in their "Summer Challenge" program which placed more than the goal of 880 youths. Task Force representatives made presentations before the Northern Palm Beach County Business Forum and the Northern Palm Beaches Chamber of Commerce in June to encourage the involvement and commitment of the private sector for jobs for youth. Many of the employed youth continued their employment through the school year. The Task Force also hosted representatives from area Recreation Departments for roundtable discussion regarding the availability of (or lack of) summer programs for Palm Beach County youth. Recreation Departments represented included Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, Riviera Beach, Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, and Lake Worth. The Task Force made this information available to Law Enforcement throughout the County.

The Task Force investigated a dual pilot program to coincide with the recent Board of County Commissioners funded West Boca program expanding the use of schools for recreational purposes for the Glades community. Funds are being sought from the MacArthur Foundation. Recognizing that activities for youth are essential to prevent delinquency and crime, the Task Force is seeking potential funders for other after school recreational programs.

The Task Force is establishing an Academic Mentor Program which pairs senior retirees and role-model residents with middle school students. The pilot program will take place at Bear Lakes Middle School. The program places each student with a mentor for one class period per week which provides students personalized attention. The program will attempt to match youth and mentors by race and gender. The Task Force will serve as facilitator for the first year to initiate the program. The proposal received endorsement of the full CJC in December. The Program will target high-risk truancy students in the 7th Grade SUCCESS Program at Bear Lakes Middle School. It will be a pilot program with the potential for expansion.

The Task Force developed "age-group" meetings to be aired on Channel 20, County sponsored T.V., where students, a psychologist, and a school representative discuss current issues. The first taping was on November 30 in conjunction with the Bear Lakes Middle School Media Program.

The Task Force, after extensive review of the progress and success of the Truancy Interdiction Program (TIP), made a recommendation that the Criminal Justice Commission urge the Children's Services Council to allocate continuation funding and expand the TIP program throughout Palm Beach County. This was accomplished with Children's Services Council (CSC) funding with the Sheriff's Office to begin the program in the Delray/South County area and a consortium in the Belle Glade/West County. Motor Vehicle Theft funds are providing crisis counseling in the Delray/South County area.

The Task Force reviewed a presentation by the Community Corporation regarding a retail theft program. A recommendation was made in April to the Criminal Justice Commission that the Task Force was not comfortable endorsing individual vendors, i.e., the Community Corporation, without the benefit of an Request For Information (RFI) process, however endorsed the concept.

The Committee Chair, Tony Brown resigned as he has accepted a promotion with Barnett Bank in Jacksonville. A new Chair is expected to be appointed in January, 1994.

The Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) remains on schedule. A civil component has been added and CJIS has been renamed JIS (Justice Information System). The initial design activities for Phase I application areas has begun and the detail design workshops in Phase II continue.

**Criminal
Justice
Information
Systems
(CJIS)**

The Criminal Justice Commission is represented on the JIS Policy Board and the Executive Director participated during 1993 with the JIS Management Board, and coordinated with the Computer System Project Staff regarding JIS involvement of HRS, probation, and law enforcement.

The Juvenile Delinquency & Gang Prevention Council, established by the CJC in late 1992, was renamed the District IX/Palm Beach County Juvenile Justice Board pursuant to statutes enacted during the 1993 Legislative Session. It is an independent, statutorily mandated Board, and is also a standing Committee of the Criminal Justice Commission.

**District IX
Palm Beach
County
Juvenile
Justice Board**

The Board developed its one-year, short term Juvenile Justice Plan, a comprehensive plan for Palm Beach County, which was required for State Community Juvenile Justice Program grants to local agencies. Priorities for 1993/1994 include: 1) intervention for truants; 2) alternatives to school suspensions; 3) truant and suspended student counseling and family intervention; 4) after school activities; and 5) comprehensive approaches to gangs/gang activities. The plan is currently being expanded to cover all juvenile justice issues.

The Board created a Speaker's Bureau for the three areas of: school programs, organized sport activities for youth, and community awareness. Included is a gang issue component, with special training provided to Crisis Line operators for the "gang activity and intervention" component.

The Board collaborated with Children's Service Council for the focus of CSC's juvenile justice Request For Proposal (RFP) for \$40,000 (FY93) to be annualized in 1994.

The Board assisted the Office of the Attorney General in hosting a Town Meeting in July to review new juvenile justice legislation and to provide information and applications for Community Juvenile Justice Partnership Grants. This grant program is statewide and is funded through a surcharge in driver's licenses. The Board obtained the required letters from the Juvenile Justice Board Chair and HRS confirming the proposed program's compliance with the Juvenile Justice Plan. Fourteen grants were submitted from Palm Beach County (out of 250 applications statewide for the available \$2 million grant funds). The Board also developed a list of contacts at HRS, the School Board and area law enforcement agencies to facilitate the interagency agreement spe-

cific to each grant proposal. Two law enforcement agencies in Palm Beach County were recipients of these grants. The Boca Raton Police Department received a grant for a CHOICES Youth Program which is modeled after a program in California. It involves 5 components: personal and social skills training; academic enhancement; parent skills training/parental involvement; a wilderness experience; and follow-up club. The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office received a grant for a crisis counseling in the Truancy Interdiction Program (TIP) to established in South County. The other grant applications were for deserving programs and many will be resubmitted for the next funding cycle in March, 1994.

The Board developed a countywide interagency agreement between law enforcement, the School Board, and HRS to encourage cooperation, collaboration, and the appropriate sharing of information among these agencies providing services to youth in Palm Beach County. The Board recognized that a combined and coordinated effort is necessary to effectively address the problem of juvenile crime. The agreement was developed pursuant to statutory authority and specified the nature and extent of contributions each agency would make in achieving the goals of the Juvenile Justice Plan and their commitment to the sharing of information useful in carrying out these goals to the extent authorized by law.

The Board Chair participated in the Regional Interagency Conference sponsored by the Florida Commissioner of Education in November.

**Diversity
In Law
Enforcement
and Criminal
Justice
Agencies
Staffing
Committee**

The Diversity in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Agency Staffing Committee was created to address Criminal Justice Commission concerns over diversities in the work force of criminal justice agencies. It has developed a work-plan and strategy to study employee diversity of Palm Beach County's criminal justice agencies. A questionnaire has been developed and will be distributed to appropriate agencies. The initial survey will be distributed to all the police departments in Palm Beach County to determine the diversity of the law enforcement community after review by the Law Enforcement Planning Council.

The Committee is consulting with Roger Zimmerman from the Criminal Justice Institute on Diversity issues regarding law enforcement and with Rolle Ritfield, Vice-President of the Palm Beach Guardians, a minority police officers association.

Research is in progress on determining the possibility of establishing an Assessment Center in Palm Beach County to be used by all police departments for hiring. It is believed that such a center will not only aid in providing a more diverse police force, but will also reduce costs.

The Drug Abuse Trust Fund Committee was created to track the Drug Abuse Fund, report to the CJC Executive Committee income and expenses, and to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners as to how the Fund is spent. The function was previously under the Palm Beach County Department of Community Services, who requested the transfer to the Criminal Justice Commission.

**Drug Abuse
Trust Fund
Committee**

Although Criminal Justice Commission staff developed a comprehensive Request for Proposal (RFP) and assessment process to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for allocating the funds, it was not used because on May 4, 1993 the Board of County Commissioners, at the recommendation of the Criminal Justice Commission, allocated these funds toward the establishment of the comprehensive Drug Court under the auspices of the Sheriff's Substance Abuse Awareness Program.

The Chair of the Drug Abuse Trust Fund Committee, the Chief Assistant Prosecutor, and the Criminal Justice Commission Executive Director met with local judges to request assistance in their sentence considerations to include the drug abuse trust fund assessment. 100% cooperation was received.

Once the funds from the Drug Abuse Trust Fund were allocated to funding the Drug Court, the State Attorney committed to 50% of the cost of prosecution fees being allocated to the Drug Abuse Trust Fund to increase the monies collected.

The Sheriff refunded the \$50,000 transfer that was unspent in FY93 due to a late start-up of the SAAP drug court. It will be recommended that these funds be reallocated to the Sheriff in FY94 for the same purpose.

The Juvenile Justice Facilities Siting Committee was created to assist HRS Juvenile Justice in obtaining sites for level 4, 6 and 8 commitment facilities in Palm Beach County. It prepared five proposals for submission to the Board of County Commissioners for new juvenile justice facilities in the County to be funded by HRS.

**Juvenile
Justice
Facilities
Siting
Committee**

The Committee examined the problems, especially zoning, associated with establishing juvenile justice facilities in the County and formulated recommendations to the Legislative Delegation and the Board of County Commissioners to alleviate these problems.

HRS made available \$8-million statewide for 366 new treatment beds in November 1993. The Committee worked with HRS in locating 3 sites: 1) County owned land

adjacent to the Sable Palm Youth Center; 3) currently owned land west of the stockade; and 3) sugar barracks owned by the Sugar Cooperative in South Bay. The Board of County Commissioners approved the proposal on December 21, 1993. HRS has now contracted with Eckerd Corporation who will be coordinating the program for the South Bay site and hopes to be operational in February, 1994. The current plan is then to develop the 45th Street and Australian Avenue site for levels 6 and 8 youth commitment programs in prefab buildings for 2-3 years, then relocate to the site at the stockade permanently.

Juvenile Justice Forum Steering Committee

The Committee worked to develop legislative recommendations on improving the juvenile justice system. These recommendations included proposed amendments to the Florida Statutes and were presented to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation in a Forum, as well as a White Paper. The Committee developed five issues--youth violence, zoning juvenile facilities, parental responsibility, delinquency prevention and failures to appear.

All of the issues presented were consensus issues of the entire Committee which was composed of all of the components of the juvenile justice system. This provided a concerted effort and combined determination on the part of Palm Beach County's juvenile justice agencies, which was illustrated to the Legislative Delegation.

Law Enforcement Planning Council

The Law Enforcement Planning Council, established by the Criminal Justice Commission in 1992, consists of the police chiefs of every municipality in Palm Beach County, fourteen of whom are voting members, along with the Sheriff. Their mission is to promote a thorough and efficient law enforcement program throughout Palm Beach County by the cooperative participation of all law enforcement agencies of the various towns, villages, cities, and other jurisdictional entities in Palm Beach County. The Council is designed to be a centralized mechanism to identify law enforcement program needs and will monitor and evaluate methods to improve the cooperation and coordination efforts between Palm Beach County law enforcement agencies.

The Planning Council discussed with, and provided input to, the Assistant County Administrator and the Department of Public Safety Director, on Palm Beach County's emergency plans for future hurricane preparedness, in the wake of Hurricane Andrew.

The Planning Council, in response to a directive from the Criminal Justice Commission, established a Prostitution Subcommittee which developed a set of recommendations regarding the prostitution problem in Palm Beach County. The Subcommittee

consisted of representatives from law enforcement, drug treatment facilities, the health department, and municipal governments. Their recommendations were approved by the full Criminal Justice Commission. A resolution outlining the recommendations was adopted and forwarded to all involved agencies, including the Florida Legislature.

The Planning Council, in agreement with the Crime Prevention Task Force, recommended against the development of a gun buy-back program, based upon the one in Hennepin County, Minnesota. However, recognizing the problem of guns on the street, they endorsed a recommendation made by the Chair of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County to hold all confiscated firearms for one year, at which time they will be transported to the Capitol building in Tallahassee, while the Legislature is in session, for viewing.

The Planning Council provided input on proposed legislation regarding forfeiture of vehicles involved in DUI offenses. They also developed a countywide mutual aid agreement for use by all Palm Beach County law enforcement agencies which has been adopted by all the agencies.

The Planning Council has agreed on a new process for evidence disposal that will aid in keeping the number of items stored at a minimum. It also developed and approved a proposal/contract with the Solid Waste Authority to dispose of confiscated and illegal drugs countywide via incineration. Prior to this time, drugs had to be transported to Tampa for burning. Burning locally will save hundreds of man-hours. The first burn took place in May, 1993.

The Planning Council assisted the Private Industry Council in its "Summer Challenge Program" to provide jobs to needy Palm Beach County youth by distributing informational flyers throughout the County.

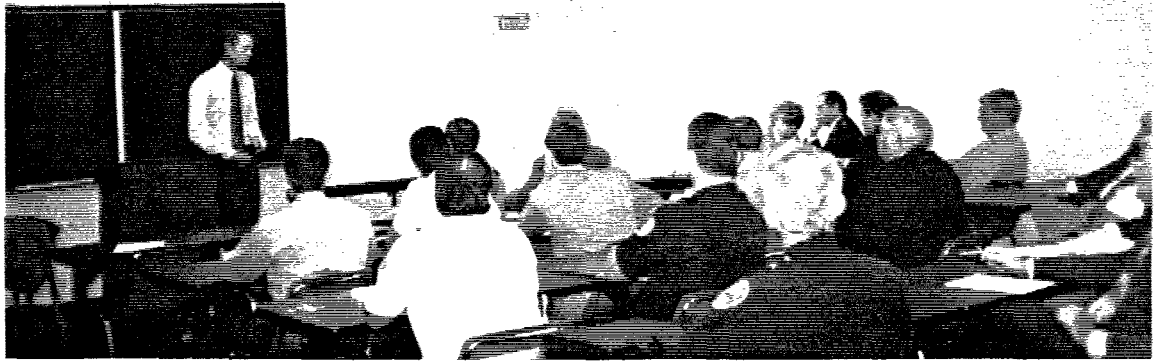
The Planning Council raised the issue of lengthy processing time for DUI cases, resulting in fewer DUI arrests. They worked with the State Attorney's Office to develop a plan to expedite the DUI processing time. The simplified procedure shortened the previous 6 separate reports requiring 6-8 hours processing time to complete to only 2 reports requiring 2 hours. An unnecessary second set of on-camera physical tests were also eliminated.

The Planning Council is developing an "Operation Bootstrap" program where Chiefs of Police may attend local corporate training programs in a public-private partnership.

The Planning Council recommended that a countywide Community Oriented Policing proposal be developed and submitted for the Board of County Commissioners' Economic Summit, held June 8, 1993. The Economic Summit did not prioritize criminal justice issues. The Planning Council is currently working on a proposed County ordinance to mandate that all gas stations require prepayment for gasoline sales to avoid to

use of police resources to track down violators who drive-off without paying. The Planning Council continues to study the problem of the increase in graffiti in Palm Beach County and what preventative measures can be taken. It is investigating the possibility of a countywide graffiti ordinance.

The Planning Council coordinated a training seminar for Council members and law enforcement officers on the changing Sentencing Guidelines, with Ken Selvig of the State Attorney's Office as the instructor.



Ken Selvig and law enforcement personnel at Sentencing Guidelines seminar

Law Enforcement and Public Safety Communications Committee

The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Communications Committee was created to provide information countywide to all law enforcement, public safety, and municipalities concerning the 800 mhz radio system being developed in Palm Beach County. Originally planned by the County and Sheriff to use the reserved FCC licenses that are due to expire in September 1994, the system was expanded countywide on request of the Criminal Justice Commission. They met throughout the year to provide a forum for an update on the proposed 800 mhz radio system for law enforcement and public safety agencies in Palm Beach County. Recently, the possibility was raised of a joint effort in Palm Beach County using the West Palm Beach backup system as a short-term method to establish an 800 mhz system sufficient to use/keep the reserved FCC licenses. This is currently being considered along with proposals by vendors.

A countywide presentation in April was made for all law enforcement and fire chiefs, city managers, and CJC members by the consultants on the tentative plans for the 800 mhz radio system for Palm Beach County. Subsequently, the Committee hosted a "round table discussion" follow-up meeting to address additional issues for the consultants.

The Committee continues as a forum for distributing information about the 800 mhz radio system and for exchanging information between communication experts of the agencies. Several agencies in Palm Beach County already have their own 800 mhz system and they share information and experiences with agencies who contemplate joining the countywide system. A tour was arranged for members to see the working of West Palm Beach's system.

The Committee received proposals from Criminal Justice Commission task forces and committees. They prioritized these proposals into a legislative package totaling 16 issues which were endorsed by the CJC for presentation to the Legislative Delegation.

**Legislative
Issues
Committee**

The Public Safety Coordinating Council, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, submitted a request to the Florida Department of Corrections for continuation funding in the amount of \$150,000 to provide continued halfway house beds for Phase III of the Sheriff's Substance Abuse Awareness Program (SAAP).

**Public Safety
Coordinating
Council**

The Council reviewed and adopted a "purpose and tasks" plan, outlining its statutory mandated mission. The plan includes, but is not limited to the following components: to divert nonviolent offenders from prison to save prison beds for the most dangerous to the community; to create a State and County partnership with programs to obtain state funds to contract with counties to build and operate correctional and public safety programs; to provide alternative sanctions; and to reduce the percent of nonviolent felons sent to prison, in order to increase the length of prison stay for violent offenders.

Criminal Justice Commission staff along with staff from the Department of Corrections and the Sheriff's Office, at the direction of the Public Safety Coordinating Council, examined the potential for an Alternative Sentencing Plan Agency for Palm Beach County, which would assist our Judges via the development of alternative sentencing plans for offenders who may have otherwise been sentenced to jail. The group concluded it would be more cost effective to expand the existing Comprehensive Alternatives Program, that is run by the Office of the Public Defender, to include misdemeanors.

Staff gathered data on the potential for the expanded use of electronic monitoring during both the pretrial and sentencing phases of the criminal justice system. Input was provided from the Sheriff, Public Defender, State Attorney, and Chief Judge. Upon receipt and evaluation of the information, the Coordinating Council recommended that the Sheriff expand the program to include use by indigent defendants being held pretrial. The existing program by the Sheriff's Office is currently capable of meeting the volume of need. They will recommend to the Board of County Commissioners at their February 1, 1994 meeting, that the cost per client be increased from \$9 to \$12.

The Council recommended that the Palm Beach County Juvenile Justice Board examine the potential for court-ordered community service for juvenile perpetrators of hate crimes. They also requested that the Criminal Justice Commission reexamine the issue and fiscal impact to the County of stings and reverse stings targeting prostitutes and solicitors.

The Council heard a presentation by the U.S. Border Patrol regarding their successful intervention at the jail to identify and properly handle illegal immigrants. This intervention is assisting in the reduction of the jail population.

The Coordinating Council recommended that the Sheriff expand the use of stockade jail facility tours, as a condition of certain probation cases. This practice has proven successful in reducing the recidivism rate of probationers. The Sheriff agreed.

The Council coordinated, with the Juvenile Justice Board, a recommendation that Juvenile Judges include education geared toward cultural sensitivities as community service when sentencing youthful offenders with offenses such as anti-semitic graffiti.. They are working on revising the Community Corrections Partnership Act Five-Year Plan. They monitor and assisted in the progress of the Sheriff's Office SAAP Program.

The Council expressed concern over the proposed HRS cuts to Palm Beach County in a letter and phone calls to the Governor and to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation. Although the final cut is still unknown, the cut promises to be considerably less than the \$8 million that was originally proposed.

**Public Safety
Coordinating
Council**
*S.L.A.P.
Pass Program
Committee*

A program plan was reviewed to provide for community service work projects for juvenile traffic offenders who are legally ineligible for sentencing to either the Juvenile Detention Center or the County Jail. However, it was decided to table the plan until the Florida Statutes are amended to provide facilities to hold juveniles when sanctioned, when failure to comply also could not be sanctioned.

**Weed and
Seed**

The local representative of the U.S. Attorney's Office proposed to the Criminal Justice Commission that federal Weed and Seed site designation be sought in Palm Beach County. The CJC Executive Committee agreed and elected to serve as the Steering Committee for the proposal.

The Steering Committee targeted one of the six Community Development Corporations (CDC) sites in Palm Beach County initiated by the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). The qualifications are similar and the social infrastructure, necessary for the weeding process, was in place.

The Site Selection Committee visited three of the sites and presentations by CDCs and Police Chiefs of N.W. Riviera Beach, Boynton Beach and the Pleasant City area of

West Palm Beach were made to the CJC Executive Committee who chose the N.W. Riviera Beach CDC as the first Weed & Seed site.

“Weeding” and a “Seeding” committees have been created to coordinate efforts. The Weeding Committee is developing an interagency strategy and the Seeding Committee is developing short, medium and long term programs to meet their goals. Due to heavy drug activity near the elementary school located in the targeted area, “seeding” began on September 12, 1993. Statistics for the period of September 13 through December 31, 1993 show that a total of 9,389 man power hours were worked by the different law enforcement agencies involved in the program. The hours resulted in 551 cases and 270 arrests with a total of 500 cases cleared.

The Weed and Seed proposal has been submitted to the Weed and Seed Program Director in Washington D.C.

Endorsed the State Attorney’s Community Based Prosecution proposal.

Participated in the planning and development of the 8th National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community held in West Palm Beach April 21-24, 1993. Staff coordinated the publicity efforts for the Conference, and the Criminal Justice Commission was one of the host agencies of the Conference.

Other Special Projects

Coordinated with HRS staff a Law Related Education Program presentation for youthful offenders.

Assisted the Hillsborough County Public Defender in their planning to create a Pretrial Services Agency.

Assisted Bethel House, Inc. and the State Attorney’s Office in their preparation to apply for a Florida Department of Labor contract for Wagner-Peyser funds for youth employment. Following extensive review, both organizations opted against submitting a proposal this year.

Participated in several activities arranged for National Victims Rights Week, April 26-30, 1993. Past Chair Al Coogler was a speaker at the opening ceremonies.

Coordinated contracts with the Drug Abuse Foundation and CARP to provide halfway house beds for those graduating from the Sheriff’s Drug Farm, via State DOC funding.

Endorsed a one-day seminar by the Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Palm Beach County and CARP designed to cover law enforcement involvement in handling psychiatric drug and alcohol abuse emergencies.

Attended meetings to initiate Partnership for A Drug Free Community and assisted volunteers with Red Ribbon Week preparation.

Developed with the Sheriff's Office staff a grant application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for Corrections Options - Part I funds for Youthful Offenders to expand the Drug Court and Drug Farm.

Endorsed Governor Chiles' "Safe Streets" Initiative and assisted in public relations efforts on this issue. The Chair and Executive Director participated in the Governor's televised Town Hall Meeting on May 10, 1993.

The Chairman represented the CJC at the Black Caucus on Crime in Tallahassee on September 23, 1993.

Sponsored a county training session on September 24, 1993 on criminal justice topics. A tour of the county jail, presentations from criminal justice officials and sitting in on first appearance hearings provided for a successful and educational session

Executive Director

The Executive Director:

Attended:

- Monthly Department Head meetings
- Quarterly Department/Division Head meetings
- Bimonthly Department Head Council meetings

Coordinated with the Children's Services Council for hiring a part time staff person for the Juvenile Delinquency & Gang Prevention Council.

Attended the Palm Beach County Chief's of Police Association meetings on behalf of the Criminal Justice Commission.

Facilitated a criminal justice orientation presentation for new members of the Board of County Commissioners and their aides on February 19, 1993.

Attended the Criminal Defense Lawyers Association meetings on behalf of the Criminal Justice Commission.

Provided orientation to new Criminal Justice Commission members: Susan Petersen, Suzanne Tomey, Jorge Dominicis, Jay Spencer, Jim Hart, Bruce Sekeres, Dorothy Wilken, and Don Middlebrooks.

Assisted with the continued planning and implementation of the PEG (Probationer's Educational Growth) Program.

Served on the Board of Directors for Leadership Palm Beach.

Served on the CJIS Management Team.

Provided technical assistance, with Chief Riggs and Chairman Malcolm Cunningham, to Hillsborough County in their development of a Criminal Justice Commission.

Met with Department of Corrections , Palm Beach County Department of Community Services, HRS, Sheriff's Office to attempt to align all treatment contracts with same cost.

Served on the Lake Worth High School Criminal Justice Academy Advisory Board.

Assisted West Palm Beach, Boca Raton and Riviera Beach with grant proposals for hiring law enforcement.

Provided extensive assistance/information to public and press on numerous issues including privatization of corrections, juvenile justice, etc.

Developed a research package for the Board of County Commissioners Workshop, July 27, 1993 on privatization of jails.

Attended National Night Out Against Crime at the Palm Beach County fairgrounds.

Prepared the interview process for selection of the SAAP manager at request of the Sheriff's Office.

Assisted Florida Association of Counties with orientation and information on criminal justice costs to counties project and attended September 10, 1993 meeting in Orlando.

Assisted with Challenge for Change grant application by the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Participated in meetings with Health and Human Services Planning Association, United Way, Palm Beach County Department of Community Services, HRS, Community Chest and other funding organizations to initiate coordination of funding for similar agencies and services.

Assisted DOC in obtaining two new FDLE Florida Crime Information Center computer terminal accesses for branch offices.

Assisted State Attorney, Public Defender and West Palm Beach Police Department in obtaining computer access, through Justice Data Center, to State of Florida, DOC, HRS and DHMV, Professional Regulation, contracts, fiscal and employee record systems.

Participated in Palm Beach County Reinventing Government Workshop September 14, 1993 at Okeehelie Park.

Obtained the approval of the CJC and acceptance of the Florida Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Affairs to conduct an evaluation of the Criminal Justice Commission since its inception in 1988.

Presented a proclamation, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, proclaiming "National Police Week" in Palm Beach County.

Participated with the MacArthur Foundation Committee to develop "Partnerships for Neighborhood Initiatives."

Participated in Leadership Palm Beach Public Issues Committee which held two forums. The first was at Old School Square in Delray Beach, with the Palm Beach County School Board, County Commission, local legislative delegation and the legislative committee of the Municipal League to generate a consensus on Palm Beach County's top five legislative priorities for 1994. The second was to introduce the new CHPA Board Members to the community at PGA National Resort on December 7, 1993.

Assisted West Palm Beach in attaining over \$300,000 to provide youth employment for dropouts through the Governor's Office Youth Conservation Corps. Contract initiated in November 1993 with subcontract to Rev. Odom's Bethel House.

Organizational Chart

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission

Functional Organizational Chart

March 1993

