

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Thursday, October 26, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

Palm Springs Village Hall
226 Cypress Lane
Palm Springs, FL

Members Present

Chief Michael Coleman, Riviera Beach Police Department *(Represented by Kevin A. Coppin Deputy Chief of Police)*
Chief Wes Smith, Lake Clarke Shores Police Department
Chief Sarah Mooney, PBC School District Police Department *(Represented by Major Richard Moore)*
Chief Daniel Kerr, Jupiter Inlet Colony Police Department *(Represented by Detective Sergeant Robert Beckmann)*
Honorable Sheriff Ric Bradshaw, PBC Sheriff's Office, *(Represented by Chief Deputy Frank DeMario)*
Bill Fraser, Chief Investigator, State Attorney's Office 15th Judicial Circuit
Lt. Anthony Mozealous, Bureau of Insurance Fraud *(Represented by Briganti)*

Members Absent

Chief Richard Jones, Gulf Stream Police Department
Chief Michele Miuccio, Boca Raton Police Department
Chief Robert Mangold, Atlantis Police Department
Chief Sean Brammer, Florida Atlantic University Police Department
Chief Sean Scheller, Lantana Police Department
Chief Nicholas Caristo, Palm Beach Police Department
Chief Scott McClure, Ocean Ridge Public Safety Department
Chief Russ Mager, Delray Beach Police Department
Chief Gus Medina, Tequesta Police Department
Chief Richard Jenkins, North Palm Beach Police Department
Chief Joe DeGiulio, Boynton Beach Police Department
Chief Carmen Mattox, Manalapan Police Department
Chief Craig Hartmann, Highland Beach Police Department
Chief Brian Smith, Juno Beach Police Department
Chief David England, Jupiter Police Department
Major Robert Chandler, Florida Highway Patrol
Chief Clint Shannon, Palm Beach Gardens Police Department
Chief Frank Adderley, West Palm Beach Police Department
Major Dustin Bonds, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission
Christopher Caldwell, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Chief Thomas A. Ceccarelli, Palm Springs Public Safety Department
Assistant Chief Deputy Dan Torchia, U.S. Marshals Service
Pete Garcia, Federal Security Director, Transportation Security Administration
Angel Belen, Patrol Agent in Charge, U.S. Border Patrol
Chief Robert Crawford, VA Health Administration

Brad M. Uhl, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration
Eric Chan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Mike Barbercheck, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives
Captain Carolyn Fanale, Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco
Brian Deer, Resident Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service

Advisory Members Present

Dr. Catherine Miller, Palm Beach County Chief Medical Examiner (*Represented by Paul Petrino*)
Anthony LaCosta, Managing Assistant United States Attorney
Gregory Starling, Chief Probation Officer, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Advisory Members Absent

Vincent Morton, Director, Criminal Justice Institute of Palm Beach State College
Derek Gibson, Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections
Honorable Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Adam McMichael, Chief: Narcotics and Violent Crimes, United States Attorney's Office
Mark Osborne, Chief: Financial Crimes, US Attorney's Office
Shawn Fagan, CJSTC Field Services Specialist, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Jonathan Bridges, Chief Assistant, Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution

Guests

Dr. Barbara Gerlock, Organizational Development Consultant, Pathways to Progress
Jonathan Hackley, Compliance Officer III, Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Major Steven Thomas, Riviera Beach Police Department
Stuart Robinson, Director of Investigations, Palm Beach County
Andrea Rocha, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller
Scott Penney, Public Defender's Office
Assistant Chief John Bonafair, Boynton Beach Police Department
Alexa Lee, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition
Captain Scott Privitera, Delray Beach Police Department

CJC Staff Present

Regenia Herring, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Commission
Katherine Shover, Manager of Criminal Justice Systems
Dawn Caveness-Davenport, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Welcome and Opening Comments** – *Regenia Herring, Executive Director of the CJC*
- II. Roll Call/Sign-in** – *Dawn Caveness-Davenport, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst of the CJC*
- III. Approval of the Agenda for October 26, 2023**
- IV. Approval of the Minutes for August 24, 2023**
- V. Discussions**

a. School and Community Safety Initiative recommendations have been approved by the CJC Board- At the last full CJC meeting, the School and

Community Safety Initiative recommendations were presented and approved by the CJC board. Initiatives of the subcommittee include the Aware and Care campaign and website. These efforts were implemented to combat mass violence by educating the community on identifying signs of potential threats and providing resources for those experiencing mental health issues. This effort was Palm Beach County's response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragedy to make sure there were protocols in place to prevent future tragedies. Captain Randy Foley, School and Community Safety Committee Chair, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) and Lisa Williams-Taylor, Vice Chair and CEO, Children's Services Council were recognized for their leadership of the committee. Due to the work of the committee and many of the Chiefs stating concerns about homelessness and behavioral health issues, the CJC has elected and agreed to create a Behavioral Health task force. Executive Director Regenia Herring stated the task force would look at behaviors and the intersection with crime. Therefore, it is not criminalizing that behavior, but it is something that can be dealt with on the front end of the system.

There was a discussion regarding the Delray Beach Police Department's Outreach Team and the completion of Florida Atlantic University's first-year report. The report will provide insights into scalability of the program to determine if it is working, reducing crime, and getting people linked to services. This may be an option versus putting individuals with mental health issues into the criminal justice system.

b. FDLE grant was submitted 9/26/2023 for Reentry (\$240,342) and County-wide Law Enforcement Equipment Requests (\$82,114) - On September 26, 2023, the CJC submitted the FDLE grant applications. Executive Director Herring thanked the agencies for their support in providing the 51 percent letters, which was a big help. She further explained that over the last 10 years, the funding has gone to Reentry, but this year LEPC should get funding for equipment as proposed in the grant request.

c. PBC CJC LEPC Historical Update 1992-2023 – Executive Director Herring led a discussion regarding the LEPC's work with the CJC over the last 31 years. The Historical Update Report is attached for review. The goal of the CJC is to support the work that is being performed across the systems, not just law enforcement, but also courts, corrections, prevention, etc. The CJC is a recommending body to the Board of County Commissioners. It is not a legislative body. The goal is to look at everything across the county. Moreover, continue to help Palm Beach County (PBC) be the best place to live, work and play. The meeting attendees agreed to continue the work and the collaboration between LEPC and the CJC.

d. 2024 LEPC Work Plan- US Attorney Anthony Lacosta stated their priority this year is the fentanyl crisis and gun violence. One area he would like to improve is dealing with fraud cases, more specifically those affecting the elderly community due to the high population of elderly in PBC. Please reach out to his office directly if you need any help with these cases, especially financial crimes. His office can especially help if you have fraud in multiple counties and multiple incidents as they can put those together in one indictment, in one case. One advantage is they can work the case statewide. The US Attorney's office is also able to put together unrelated cases, for example, if your agency has cases involving drugs, gun

violence, robberies, or a group that commits multiple acts, they can put them into one charging incident. So one trial, one case instead of one victim there will be a dozen which makes the case stronger. In those ways, the US Attorney's office sometimes has strategic advantages. He encouraged agencies to reach out to their federal law enforcement partners directly if they have a case where there is a conspiracy involving multiple people. This might be something where the federal system may have more resources. Some of the smaller agencies are also dealing with manpower capacities especially when the cases span to other states.

Secondly, Executive Director Herring advised that LEPC will continue to address behavioral health and homelessness issues. In addition, there are issues with salaries not keeping pace with the cost of living, people cannot afford to purchase homes, or the cost of living in PBC, which is contributing to the homeless population.

Major Moore reported the schools are dealing with current events happening in the Middle East. This affects the school system when you have two different communities in a school. There was a call for a national walkout today for students put on social media. They try to provide an alternative as opposed to, walking out.

Paul Petrino reported the Medical Examiner's office has seen a drop in drug overdoses this year. In the last three weeks, they have seen a big bump in suspected fentanyl deaths. This could mean there is a hot batch in the community that is causing spikes from time to time. That is just conjecture on their part that something is going on in the community. Alexa Lee, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition stated, yes, they have seen a trend, particularly with overdoses pertaining to youth, but it is over-the-counter medications. The Behavioral Health Coalition was just awarded two Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grants. They would love your partnership working on underage drinking and substance prevention with youth, particularly in the Hispanic community. They could use the support for compliance checks and then an action plan, so having the law enforcement perspective on this is crucial to move forward to do something impactful. It was suggested that there be a presentation at the next LEPC meeting to specify what support is needed from law enforcement. Executive Director Herring suggested looking at the impact of Narcan in the community now that mostly if not all PBC law enforcement is able to carry it.

Chief Starling of Probation for Juvenile Justice discussed the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. Currently, they do not have representation from PBSO on the board. Their dashboard shows a low utilization of civil citations for various reasons; there are some disqualifying offenses that the State Attorney has charted out, like domestic violence and things surrounding weapons. They have increased capacity over at the youth shelter, but right now, law enforcement will still bring all those kids to the juvenile assessment center, which affects some of the opportunities for civil citations. This results in those particular juveniles, 10 years from now, being disqualified from armed services and certain jobs. The parents were calling law enforcement agencies for every single thing when there was a mental health episode going on, as opposed to calling crisis mobilization which could be utilized in most cases. Therefore, Chief Starling appreciates the opportunity to have these meetings to discuss these matters with everyone around

the table. If there is anyone who has any needs concerning juvenile justice, they will come out to meet your line staff and train them. They would provide full access to the juvenile justice information system. If you have, designees that you would like to train to have access please reach out to Chief Starling if you have any questions.

Executive Director Herring added to the juvenile conversation, thanks to Keith Oswald the Palm Beach County School District, a Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM); project with Policy Research Institute will be hosted. They will look at the criminal justice system from every intercept dealing with the youth. The SIM will help Chief Starling's request and all of law enforcement because the whole point of that mapping is to identify any gaps and determine how they can be addressed.

VI. Old Business

- a. N/A

VII. New Business

- a. New LEPC chair and vice chair are still needed
- b. 2024 Meetings will be held quarterly, which equates to four meetings due to having the summer months off.

VIII. Liaison Updates

- a. **Sexual Assault Response Team: Chief Michele Miuccio-** No updates
- b. **Criminal Justice Institute: Director Vincent Morton-** No updates
- c. **State Attorney's Office: Craig Williams, Chief Assistant State Attorney -** No updates
- d. **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office: Chief Deputy Frank DeMario-** mentioned Captain Randy Foley would be receiving an award for the work he does around Risk Protection Orders across the country with the FBI. He explained that PBC has ten teams, ten detectives, and ten therapists. They work together and follow up on cases to see what resources are available to help individuals get back on the right track.

He also discussed the NIBIN system. They get so many hits, and by sending them out, they do not know if they are being followed up on, or if individuals know how to follow up a lead on an item. If all the Chiefs are on board, they can send a Liaison detective from each municipality to be trained.

Lastly, Chief Deputy Demario discussed a need for all the agencies to have a Real-Time Crime Center. He stated that PBSO has the capacity to set up the IT.

- e. **Palm Beach County School District Police Department** – Major Moore provided an update earlier in the meeting.
- f. **State and Federal Updates-** Jonathan Hackley liaison with the Florida Highway Safety Board, discussed working on a grant to investigate and analyze the uniformed traffic citations in the state of Florida, which would look at the utilization, timeliness, and, function with the uniform traffic citations in the state.

Lastly, Paul Petrino reported the Medical Examiner's Office building is going to undergo a big upgrade, replacing the building, and expanding the morgue area.

IX. Member Comments

X. Attachments

- a. Florida Department of Health Presentation package was attached for review
- b. LEPC 2024 Meeting Schedule

XI. Next Meeting: January 25, 2024 at 9:30 AM at Palm Springs Village Hall

XII. Adjournment