

**M I N U T E S**

**MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019**

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

McEaddy Conference Room  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, FL

***Members Present:***

Marcia Andrews  
Dave Aronberg  
Sheldon Burkett  
Douglas Duncan  
George Elmore  
Carey Haughwout  
Kimber Heddon  
Joseph Ianno, Jr.  
Kevin Jones  
Nellie King  
James Martz  
Krista Marx  
Christina Morrison  
Gerald Richman  
Greg Starling  
Stephen Stepp  
Lee Waring

***Members Absent:***

Sharon Bock  
Ric Bradshaw  
Barbara Cheives  
Ellen Cohen  
William Dames  
Rachel Docekal  
Justin Fleck  
Keith James  
Randolph Johnson, Sr.  
Dave Kerner  
Barry Krischer  
Frank Mercurio  
Sarah Mooney  
Tina Polsky  
Robert Shirley

***Guests Attending:***

Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller's Office  
Dr. Angela Bess, PBC School District  
Rebecca DeLaRosa, PBC Legislative Affairs  
Dave Bernhardt, PBC BOCC District 3  
Debra Oats, Court Administration  
Vaughn Crichlow, FAU  
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office  
Mike Edmondson, State Attorney's Office  
Stacey Lampert, Jewish Community Relations Council of Palm Beach County  
Michelle Kohn, Jewish Community Relations Council of Palm Beach County  
Dave Talley, PBC CareerSource  
Starla Brown, Americans for Prosperity

***Staff Present:***

Jervonte Edmonds, Temporary Professional  
Jonathan Hackley, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst  
Kristina Henson, Executive Director  
Danny Kreshak, Financial Analyst  
Damir Kukec, Manager, Research & Planning

Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant  
Jacqueline Schoenfeld, FUSE Program Coordinator  
Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst  
Bert Winkler, Manager, Program Development

- I. Chairman Gerald Richman called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chair Richman invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The Agenda for the May 20, 2019 meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Doug Duncan and a second by Mr. George Elmore.
- V. The Minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. George Elmore and a second by Mr. Lee Waring.

#### **VI. Chairman's Comments**

- A. Chair Richman reminded members and guests the CJC will break for the summer and return on September 23, 2019.
- B. Chair Richman recognized Judge James L. Martz, who will transfer to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Civil Division on July 1, 2019, for his service to the CJC. Judge Martz will continue to serve as Chair for the LEPC School Safety Subcommittee.

#### **VII. Executive Director Comments:**

- A. Executive Director Henson announced she met with the Director of Florida Fines and Fees Justice Center, Ms. Ashley Thomas. This national non-profit Center focuses on criminal justice system fines and fees in the states of New York and Florida, using case examples of defendants caught in the criminal justice fines/fee system and unable to find resolution. The Center is beginning its efforts by focusing in Florida on Driving under Suspended license (DUS) fine and fees.
- B. Director Henson reported CJC Staff is assisting Florida State University on obtaining a Hate Crimes Research grant by reaching out to local Law Enforcement Agencies. Currently the police departments of the City of West Palm Beach and Town of Palm Beach have submitted letters of support.
- C. Director Henson announced the 38<sup>th</sup> Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy began in the Glades communities on May 6. Among a variety of topics included are 1) What To Do if Stopped by a Law Enforcement Officer; 2) A viewing of Broken Places documentary and panel discussion. The 38<sup>th</sup> session will close with graduation, a speech by Commissioner Melissa McKinlay and jail tour.

- D. Director Henson announced a new coordinating group named “Organizing against Racism Palm Beach County Alliance” (OAR). It seeks to partner agencies that are using Racial Equity Institute training including the school district, criminal justice, healthcare, non-profits and individuals who can provide assistance and education to implement equitable practices and partner on countywide cross-systems strategies.

**VIII. Old Business:**

None.

**IX. New Business:**

- A. Director Henson announced a list of proposed mostly new strategies as the basis of the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC) two-million-dollar renewal grant opportunity, due September 13, 2019. The CJC had previously directed staff to present any proposed new strategies for approval prior to grant application. Mr. Bert Winkler outlined the 12 proposed strategies as developed and approved by the SJC Core Team. Member discussion included which strategies, if any, take priority, past and present data analysis showing reduction in crime rates, jail population and recidivism. Additional discussion included whether there is a high enough level of system-wide commitment to identify and affect the target drivers of racial and ethnic disparities. Additional comments focused on the best use of new staff, the continuing work with technical experts in an effort to weave racial and ethnic disparity data in developing strategies, along with a new focus on decision point analysis. Existing strategies will continue with existing funding through September 2020 and new funding through this renewal grant. A motion was made by Ms. Nellie King to approve the 12 strategies with allowance for the SJC Core Team to make modifications as needed given then grant is due prior to the next CJC meeting. Upon a second by Mr. Lee Waring, the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Director Henson raised the issue that developed unexpectedly the week prior to this meeting where the Border Patrol informed the Sheriff that they would be releasing about 1,000 illegal immigrants into Palm Beach and Broward Counties monthly beginning in about two weeks. These individuals are to be flown in from Texas where the Border Patrol facilities are unable to process them. They would be processed within each county at Border Patrol and released into the community with no resources for housing, food, jobs, etc. The County and law enforcement agencies expressed grave concerns to Senators Rubio and Scott that the County does not have the resources to handle these individuals as it is already dealing with homelessness, as well as, an outbreak of Hepatitis A. Ultimately, the federal government withdrew this plan. PBC Legislative Affairs

Director, Ms. Rebecca DeLaRosa, informed members that they are in continual communication with the Governor's office and neighboring County partners for any updates.

#### **X. Update on CJC Initiatives:**

- A. Director Henson gave an update on SJC including: 1) A nine-member delegation attended the All-Sites meeting in San Diego, CA on May 7-9, 2019: 2) 12 Implicit Bias Training sessions with the Racial Equity Institute have been scheduled for May with the State Attorney's Office, Florida Department of Corrections, County Probation, County Pretrial Services, and the Clerk and Comptroller's office; 3) The Court Reminder System is operating at a 97% appearance rate; and 4) The Everyday Democracy organization will begin their Community Engagement Technical Assistance with a site visit in June or July with tours of the jail, courthouse and individual stakeholder meetings.

#### **XI. Member Comments:**

Ms. Kimber Heddon, Administrator of the Department of Corrections commented on how beneficial she found the REI training for her staff, Mr. Jonathan Hackley also added he had positive feedback from the attendees. Mr. Louis Tomeo and State Attorney Dave Aronberg added that they have mandated the training for their staff.

#### **XII. Adjourn:**

With no further Member comments, Chair Richman adjourned the meeting at 9:05.a.m.