

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



**CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE/
Public Safety Coordinating Council**

Palm Beach County Governmental Center
301 N. Olive Avenue, 12th Floor McEaddy Conference Room
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Wednesday, March 6, 2013; 12:00 P.M.

[HTTP://WWW.PBCGOV.COM/CRIMINALJUSTICE/TASK_FORCE/CORRECTIONS/](http://www.pbcgov.com/criminaljustice/task_force/corrections/)

- SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Douglas Duncan, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
August Bonavita, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Jeffrey Colbath, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Brian Feld, Professional Probation Services
Jenise Link, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Louis Tomeo, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rosalyn Baker, Florida Department of Corrections
Bob Bozzone, Executive Director, Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program
Rev. Chaney, Clergy Representation
Roger M. Crane, Police Chief, Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association
Michelle Dryer, Workforce Alliance
Vice-Chairman Chris Kneisley, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
James Martz, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Jill Richstone, Office of the State Attorney
Caroline Shepherd, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Alton Taylor, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation
Shelley Vana, Commissioner, Palm Beach County
Barbara White, Office of the Public Defender

GUESTS PRESENT:

Francene Adderly, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Colleen Farnsworth, DCF Legal
Lynn Powell, Office of the State Attorney
Michelle Spangenberg, Court Administration
Alfonso Starling, Captain, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office

CJC STAFF PRESENT:

Michael Rodriguez, Executive Director
Shahzia Hashmi, Criminal Justice Analyst
Craig Spatara, Palm Beach County Offender Reentry
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Welcome, opening comments by Chairman, Douglas Duncan.
- II. The agenda was approved.
- III. The minutes of the February 6, 2013 meeting were approved.

IV. Reports

A. Jail Population Report

Captain Alfonso Starling reported that jail population was 2,286; pay and go for February was 284.

B. In-House Arrest Report

Captain Alfonso Starling reported that in house arrest population was 192; 93 pretrial, including 7 direct filed juveniles; 95 county sentenced; 3 probation; and 1 DJJ Juvenile; per administrative order 1. Chair Duncan commented that he would like to see the last number up a little bit; Capt. Starling said they are working on it. Colleen Farnsworth asked if there was a minimal cost associated with their ability to take credit cards; Capt. Starling said he does not have background information yet since they just started.

At this point, Chair Duncan gave his apologies and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

C. Pretrial Services Report

Jenise Link reported as of the beginning of March, a total of 660 defendants on SOR, noting that this time last year, it was 625, so they are up slightly this year; 483 of these individuals were on SOR only, 177 were on SOR with a money bond. Of the 483 on SOR only, 12 remain in custody due to other charges or awaiting treatment. Total SOR population out of custody was 660. Judge Jeffrey Colbath pointed out that last month the people who were on SOR was higher, and the people who were out of custody was lower, so someone is doing a very efficient job plucking out the people who should not be in jail. Chair Duncan noted that this would reflect the first full month of our new judges at Gun Club, to which Ms. Link agreed.

D. Juvenile Detention Center Report

No juvenile detention report.

V. Old Business

No old business.

VI. New Business

No new business.

VII. Updates

A. High-Yield Corrections

Shahzia Hashmi said the article was about how different states were using justice reinvestment strategies to reduce recidivism.

B. Conference of Chief Justices - Resolution #3

Ms. Link reminded everyone that around this time last the Pretrial Justice Institute gave a presentation on statewide risk assessment; however this tool was not widely accepted. So they waited to see the report issued by the Chief Justices as well as looked at other risk assessment instruments. She also mentioned that they are interested in partnering with the Sheriff's Office in using a validated risk assessment tool. She noted that the Chief Justices' endorsed the paper written by the State Court Administrators, making sure that every pretrial agency uses a risk assessment tool, which is fortunately Palm Beach County has been doing since the inception of pretrial services. Chair Duncan clarified whether the Conference of Chief Justices is in Florida; Ms. Link said it is national.

At this point, Chair Duncan congratulated Judge Colbath as the newly elected Chief Judge of Palm Beach County effective July 1.

Chair Duncan asked if the Chief Justices had adopted the risk assessment tool from the State Court Administrators. Ms. Link said that they have not endorsed any specific risk assessment tool, but endorses the adoption of an evidence-based risk assessment. She added that out of the six counties in the state that were chosen to do the study, only one county implemented it completely, and one county implemented it partially.

C. Oppose Shifting State Inmates to Local Jails

Col. Gauger indicated that they looked at the proposal and estimated that it will cost the county \$3-\$4 million. The cost of absorbing the state inmates is an unfunded mandate and the shift will be a burden to the county and will create additional problems of space. Michael Rodriguez noted that, at least in theory, DOC does not support this change and the Governor is not trying to move this forward so it looks like it is not going to go anywhere. He added that the CJC has already given the approval to write a letter should this proposal go forward, and suggested that this committee also have a letter ready. Col. Gauger talked about how the state of California had already passed a similar legislation in order to create more space in their state and county facilities for individuals that cannot be

released. Judge Colbath asked how many inmates qualify under this requirements; Col. Gauger said he only knew of one inmate. Capt. Starling said he does not know the exact numbers. Mr. Rodriguez said that Major Kneisley had already provided that number with an explanation of how this proposal will affect us locally. Further discussion of how this proposal may affect the county followed. Judge Colbath made a motion to write a letter supporting the Sheriff's Office in opposing the proposal, and the motion was carried.

D. Additional member and guest comments

Mr. Rodriguez mentioned about two issues that had been raised at the CJC relating to doing a preliminary fact finding regarding idea of a DUI court, and one regarding adult civil citation. He asked if the committee would want the results of the fact finding to be brought back to this committee since it might impact corrections more than the court system; Chair Duncan concurred.

Chair Duncan reported that the CJC is working with Representative Kerner on legislation regarding Sunshine Law in trying to get exemption for our political office holders to be able to sit at the table and be able to do their job once they leave the meeting and not be subject to the Sunshine Law restrictions or violations. He said that they are pretty optimistic, although Mr. Rodriguez said he was not sure considering the current climate in Tallahassee.

Chair Duncan asked Lynn Powell if she is the new representative from the State Attorney's Office; Ms. Powell replied that she sitting in for Jill Richstone just for today.

Colleen Farnsworth and the rest of the committee wished Shahzia Hashmi best of luck on her impending delivery.

Mr. Rodriguez reminded everyone about the upcoming CJC Annual Planning Meeting on the 25th of this month at 8:00 a.m. at the Clay Hutcheson Agricultural Center; everyone will receive an email announcement.

E. Adjournment