



## **PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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

Palm Beach County Governmental Center  
301 N. Olive Avenue, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Criminal Justice Commission  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Wednesday, October 2, 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.  
**Roger M. Crane**, Police Chief, Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association  
**Brian Feld**, Professional Probation Services  
**Brian Fernandes**, Office of the State Attorney  
**John Kastrenakes**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Jenise Link**, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency  
**Louis Tomeo**, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller  
**Shelley Vana**, Commissioner, Palm Beach County  
**Barbara White**, Office of the Public Defender

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Rosalyn Baker**, Florida Department of Corrections  
**August Bonavita**, Administrative Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Bob Bozzone**, Executive Director, Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program  
**Rev. Chaney**, Clergy Representation  
**Michelle Dwyer**, Workforce Alliance  
**Vice-Chairman Chris Kneisley**, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office  
**Brandy Macalusso**, Victims Rights Coalition  
**James Martz**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Tommy Richards**, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association  
**Caroline Shepherd**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Alton Taylor**, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation

#### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Colleen Farnsworth**, DCF Legal  
**Alan Fuhrman**, Captain, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office

#### **CJC STAFF PRESENT:**

**Michael L. Rodriguez**, Executive Director  
**Shahzia Jackson**, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Welcome, opening comments by Chairman, Douglas Duncan.
- II. The agenda was approved without any changes.
- III. The minutes of the September 4, 2013 meeting were approved.

**IV. Reports**

**A. Jail Population Report**

Vice-Chairman Chris Kneisley reported jail population of 2,316 for September and 2,339 for August; the low for the year was 2,186.

**B. In House Arrest Report**

Vice-Chairman Kneisley reported total in house arrest population was 177; 77 pretrial; no direct filed juveniles; 93 county sentenced; 2 probation; 5 DJJ. Book and release was 245.

Chair Duncan announced that pursuant to the recommendation by Chief Crane the committee sent out a letter to all police chiefs requesting them to remind their officers to issue a Notice To Appear if the offense is one that they can do it, instead of bringing individuals to the jail, processing, and then releasing them to OR. Chief Crane thanked Chair Duncan for the letter and remarked that he had conversations with some of the chiefs about it. He also announced that he will be retiring on November 12. Chair Duncan thanked Chief Crane and recognized him for his tremendous help and participation in the committee, and also in the Law Enforcement Planning Council.

**C. Pretrial Services Report**

Jenise Link reported as of October 1<sup>st</sup> there were a total of 900 defendants on SOR; 539 of these individuals were on SOR only, and 361 were on SOR with a money bond. Of the 539 on SOR only, 11 remain in custody awaiting treatment or due to other charges or holds. Total SOR population out of custody was 788. Compared to this time last year, SOR was 639 so we are seeing an increase. Judge Martz asked if this is a good or bad thing. Ms. Link noted that the largest increase actually was the number of SOR plus the bond. Judge Martz asked input from the committee, and Judge Booras and Mr. Brian Fernandes shared their opinions. Brian Fernandes asked about violations of SOR. Ms. Link said before they had issues about individuals not reporting for their very first appointment which resulted in violations, but they had addressed that issue (mainly improving staff communications) and resolved the problem. She said that these violations have stayed around 4%.

**D. Juvenile Detention Center Report**

Mr. Douglas Kane reported current juvenile detention center population of 25 males and 5 females. Their staff vacancy has been reduced to 4. Their population numbers are down and right now they are officially classified as a 65-bed facility, from 98 previously and can have as many as 106 kids at a given time. The population has fluctuated between 20 and 51 over the last seven-month period.

Chair Duncan inquired about the JAC and whether it is fully operational. Mr. Kane indicated that they have the JAC onsite, co-located with the detention center. He said that it is up and running except for several State Attorney's Office representatives' offices which he anticipates will be occupied in the next few weeks.

#### **E. Misdemeanor Probation Report**

Brian Feld reported that for the month of September, they received 250 new cases bringing their total active cases to 2,342, pretty much what it was last month. They closed 189 cases successfully, with 77 were revoked by court, bringing the total to 266 closed cases.

### **V. Old Business**

#### **A. 2009 Exploratory Study of the County Jail Population Report**

Shahzia Jackson gave background information on the report which was done by the Research and Planning Unit of the CJC. She asked the committee to review the report and provide feedback as to what they want to add or changes they want to make. Vice-Chairman Kneisley asked if it would be possible to make 2009 and 2013 comparison to see what has changed. Chair Duncan said that they should put in the book and release program also. He encouraged everyone to look at the report and discuss the suggestions at the next meeting.

#### **B. FL Statute 951.26- Recommendation to clarify language**

Ms. Jackson provided a quick summary on the issue, noting that Mike Rodriguez may talk more about it at the next meeting. The statute created the Public Safety Coordinating Council, also known as the Corrections Task Force. It is not very clear who needs to be appointed by the BCC. So the committee will be drafting a letter addressed to the BCC asking for clarification, specifically for letters G through K.

#### **C. FL Statute 948.30 amendment feedback**

Brandy Macalusso reported that she received this House Bill that is going into session in 2014 from Congressman Pafford's Office asking for feedback from anyone it may pertain to. It is in regards to sex offenders and they want to amend the language in the bill. Chair Duncan, Mr. Fernandez, and Rosalyn Baker provided some feedback.

### **VI. New Business**

No new business.

## **VII. Updates**

### **A. Veterans Court**

Judge Booras announced that Veterans Court will be celebrating its 3<sup>rd</sup> year on Monday, November 4, 2013. He said their numbers for the first two years were at 800. Michelle Spangenberg will have the numbers for this year at the next meeting. The guest speaker is Ted Deutsch. Colleen Farnsworth asked if other jurisdictions still come to observe and model their court, to which Judge Booras said yes.

## **VIII. Additional member and guest comments**

Chair Duncan shared an email he received about a meeting with the Chief Judge and Court Administration announcing a system, specifically the Clerk of Court that will start collecting restitution through an income payroll deduction program the garnishment of wages.

Chair Duncan asked Louis Tomeo about e-filing in the criminal courts, and Mr. Tomeo responded that it is going well. He reported that they had about 110 filings since yesterday. He thanked Chair Duncan and his staff for piloting with them. He said there may be some issues that still need to be tweaked, but overall, it is going great. Mr. Fernandes concurred from their office's end.

## **IX. Adjournment**