

Criminal Justice Commission
Court Systems Task Force

Tuesday, October 9, 2012 – 12:00 Noon
McEaddy 12th Floor Conference Room
301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Final Minutes

Members Present:

Nellie King, Criminal Defense Attorney's Association
Chief Matt Immler, City of Boynton Beach
John Rivera, Public Defender's Office
Michelle Spangenberg, Court Administration
Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller
Deputy Ed Jablonski, PBC Sheriff
Terri Skiles, State Attorney's Office
Judge August Bonavita, Judiciary
Judge Jeff Colbath, Judiciary

Staff Present:

Rosalind Murray
Becky Walker
Mike Rodriguez
Damir Kukec
Katherine Hathos

Guests Present: Christy Altero, Dorrie Tyng, Public Safety

I. Welcome:

The meeting was opened by Chairperson Nellie King at 12:10 pm.

II. Roll Call and Guests:

Ms. Murray provided a roll call and introduction of guests. A quorum was present.

III. Approval and/or Additions to the Draft Agenda

There was a motion made by Judge Colbath and seconded by Terri Stiles to approve the agenda as presented.

IV. Approval Final April 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes

There was a motion made by Judge Colbath and seconded by Terri Stiles to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting as presented.

V. Chairman's Comments – Chairman King noted that the Court Systems Task force is in need of projects. If you have any ideas or opinions on issues that should be taken up, please bring to her attention. She noted that staff along with her and Michelle Spangenberg gathered to discuss the history of the Task Force and ideas for programs. Several topics were discussed including asking the Legislature to change the Forfeiture laws changed to support areas like Drug Court.

VI. New Business : Update on the Courts by Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc

The Judge provided important general information regarding the Criminal Courts. He discussed that it was the rotation season for the judiciary. He discussed the many factors that go into the

decision for where judges are placed. He discussed some statistical information on criminal court. He discussed the number of 1st appearances, and the Book and Release program and its expanded criteria. He stated that the Book and Release program has saved the county money. He discussed that foreclosures had been reduced by half. There is additional funding for foreclosures extending until June 30, 2013. He stated that a new Chief Judge will be appointed on July 1, 2013. He noted the new Senate Bill 1960 passed by the Legislature ties the payment overruns which used to come from the state now come from the court's budget. This also gives Judges the approval over the Limited Registry of court appointed attorneys. He has appointed Judge Fine to oversee this aspect. The Exceeds Cap for this project is \$102,000. If attorney's fees exceed this amount it will come out of the circuit's budget. He also stated the lack of increase in the number of Judges since 2006 there has been no increase. He discussed ways that technology is improving the courts such as live streaming 1st appearances.

B. Interim Report: Outcome Evaluation Program Monitoring and Evaluation – Damir Kukec
Mr. Kukec discussed the ongoing monitoring project. He is currently in the midst of providing evaluations for Adult Drug Court, Civil Drug Court, and Juvenile Drug Court. These three projects receive funding from the CJC. We will invite feedback as the project nears completion.

VII. Old Business – Michael Rodriguez

Mr. Rodriguez discussed the funding for the court programs under CJC pervue. All programs are safe for another year.

VIII. Updates and Initiatives

A. Adult Drug Court:

Dorrie Tyng commented that as of November will be in the 13th year of Adult Drug Court There are 130 graduates this year. The evaluation will cover an eight year period.

B. Delinquency Drug Court/ Juvenile Drug Court is the recipient of a new federal grant courtesy of the CJC. It is to include co-occurring disorders. The grant will begin by early 2013.

IX. Member and Guest Comments:

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm. **The next meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 2013.**