



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

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

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

Wednesday, November 1, 2017, 2017; 12:00 P.M.

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

### **- MEETING MINUTES -**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Douglas Duncan, Chair**, Roth and Duncan, P.A.  
**Glenny Cueto**, Professional Probation Services, Inc.  
**Jenise Link**, Manager, Court Services  
**Tommy Richards**, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association  
**David H. Talley**, PBC CareerSource  
**Louis Tomeo**, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller  
**Caroline Shepherd**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Alfonso Starling, Vice-Chair**, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office  
**Barbara White**, Public Defender's Office

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Rosalyn Baker**, Florida Department of Corrections  
**Marni Bryson**, Administrative Judge, County Court, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Brian Fernandes**, Office of the State Attorney  
**William Genem**, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.  
**John Kastrenakes**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Dina Keever**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Dave Kerner**, Commissioner, Palm Beach County  
**Alton Taylor**, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation

#### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Mevsim Bacaksiz**, Drug Abuse Foundation  
**Ted Booras**, Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Colleen Farnsworth**, DCF Legal  
**Latronda Hayes**, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency  
**Mark Strach**, Florida Department of Corrections (for Rosalyn Baker)  
**Mike Rachel**, Office of the State Attorney (for Brian Fernandes)  
**Mamine Saintil**, Superintendent, Department of Juvenile Justice  
**Michelle Spangenberg**, Court Administration  
**John Viola**, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association

**CJC STAFF PRESENT:**

**Kristina Henson**, Executive Director  
**Allison Orr**, Administrative Assistant  
**Katherine Shover**, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst  
**Candee Villapando**, Criminal Justice Analyst  
**Bert Winkler**, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

**I. Welcome, Opening Comments by Chairman Douglas Duncan**

**II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests by Candee Villapando**

**III. Approval and/or Amendments/Additions to the Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**IV. Approval and/or Amendments to the September 6, 2017 Minutes of the Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting**

The minutes of the September 6, 2017 meeting were approved without amendments.

**V. Reports**

**A. Jail Population Report**

Major Alfonso Starling reported the total population as of that morning was 1,909 which was down.

**B. In House Arrest Report**

Total In-House Arrest population was 172: 98 pretrial, with 3 direct filed juveniles; 74 county sentenced, 0 probation; 0 DJJ; 0 Administrative Order. Total Pay N Gos was 204.

**C. Pretrial Services Report**

Ms. Jenise Link reported that as of yesterday, there were a total of 1,001 defendants on SOR; 563 of these individuals were on SOR only, and 438 were on SOR with accompanying money bond. Of the 563 defendants on SOR, 17 remained in custody, with 4 awaiting treatment and 13 with other holds or charges. The total out-of-custody SOR population is 873. For September violations, they had 59 total signed warrants which was very similar compared to this time last year; and decreased on the amount of SORs by about 18 compared to this time last month.

**D. Juvenile Detention Center Report**

Superintendent Mamie Saintil reported a total population of 55; 50 males and 5 females.

## **E. Misdemeanor Probation Report**

Ms. Glenny Cueto reported that as of yesterday, they had 212 new cases; 1,957 total active cases; 106 successfully completed cases; 25 revoked. Currently they have 37 defendants on ICE hold; 10 were confirmed deported.

## **VI. Old Business / Updates**

### **A. MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge Project Update – Kristina Henson, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission**

Ms. Kristina Henson shared the good news that they were awarded the maximum amount of \$2 million for the MacArthur Safety & Justice Challenge which will be spread over a period of two years. Bert Winkler, CJC Senior Criminal Justice Analyst and lead on MacArthur Safety & Justice Challenge Project talked about two of the project's several initiatives, i.e., the court date reminder system and the FUSE project.

Mr. Winkler noted that the most effective strategy demonstrated nationally to reduce failures to appear is a simple call or text-messaging system reminding people of court dates. They are probably going to contract with a company called Uptrust, which does this nationally, and start with a target population to determine the most effective use initially. Robert F. Kennedy human rights organization in New York City will be funding the first year of the pilot project which will save \$40,000-\$50,000 from the MacArthur project on the first year.

FUSE, which stands for Frequent Users Engagement Program, identifies individuals who were in and out of the jail and have been serviced by the homeless as well as the behavioral health system in the county. They will have a pilot project of 25 individuals in the first year who will be placed in supportive housing with wrap-around services to try to stabilize their lives. This will have tremendous benefit to the individuals themselves and to the public in terms of cost-savings from hospital ER costs, jail and court costs, and for behavioral health services. Mr. Winkler gave a status update on the project, and Ms. Henson discussed briefly a couple of data points to provide the implications of these two projects as well as the other strategies they are working on.

Judge Caroline Shepherd asked how they are picking the 25 individuals. Mr. Winkler said they are starting with the list of 25 individuals who have been arrested three or more times within the past year, and run that list by HMIS (Homeless Management Information System); these two criteria are mandatory. Lastly, they will run the list by the Southeast Florida Behavioral Network crisis management system to further refine it. They are currently refining the criteria.

Chair Duncan asked about the court navigator. Barbara White said it is probably going to be a paralegal investigator person for the Public Defender's Office to look at all the bookings. A discussion also followed regarding looking at individuals in jail with \$3,000 bond or less who remain in jail for more than four days for a

“second look”. Ms. Henson added that Damir Kukec is currently looking at the data for the MacArthur project to see how many people they would potentially capture to see whether it will be useful or not.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Risk Assessment Instrument and Matrix – *Kristina Henson***

Ms. Henson discussed about the Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument – Revised (VPRAI-R) which their committee selected among a variety of many risk instruments. This tool has been in place in the state of Virginia for more than 20 years, used in different jurisdictions across the country, and validated on numerous occasions (most recently on race, ethnicity, and gender), so it is viewed as neutral. The instrument has eight criteria for which they have created definitions, and assigned points which Pretrial staff refer to. Ms. Henson explained the instrument and the committee discussed it in more detail. Ms. Henson emphasized that this instrument is based on detailed science that goes into what predicts failure to appear and, basically, success on pretrial release, and clarified that the judges still have discretion. They are going to be evaluating the instrument in terms of its predictability.

Ms. Henson noted that while the risk assessment tool itself was validated based on science, the pretrial risk management matrix, on the other hand, was crafted specifically for our local jurisdiction. Ms. Link explained the managing and mitigating risk for pretrial services program supervision. Chair Duncan asked if it has been put into an administrative order; Ms. Michelle Spangenberg said no. Mr. Winkler added that it was his understanding that they want look at the data from the pilot project and go forward from there. Ms. Henson addressed Mr. John Viola and said they did not put the bond on there because it is up to the judges depending on the bond schedule and each individual judges’ discretion.

### **B. PEACE Community ID Program – *Kristina Henson***

In 2014, PEACE staff went through the booking roster online and identified 500 individuals who they claimed were in jail for no other charge but driving under a suspended license and potentially did not need to be there. The PEACE organization came to County Administration with a proposal to create a community ID program that would be run through Legal Aid society funded by the County for \$75,000. The idea is to provide an ID to people who do not have any form of identification that law enforcement, depending on the agency, could use. The Board of County Commissioners asked the CJC to vet the program and provide recommendation. The CJC is not necessarily advocating that the police departments use it, but they are currently in the process of vetting it by looking at impact to the jail data, as well as what types of information or documents, etc., would an individual need to bring to Legal Aid in order to obtain such an ID, if this program were to be recommended.

**C. U.S. Department of Justice \$850,000 SMART Reentry Grant Award – *Kristina Henson***

Ms. Henson shared another good news regarding the Reentry Program staff that transferred from CJC to the Public Safety Department which just received the three-year \$850,000 SMART Reentry Grant primarily for job training and other case management services. The numbers for reentry are very positive – the recidivism rate for adult reentry clients is down to only 11% versus 25%-45% depending on how you look at recidivism; and down to 2.1% for juveniles. They are working with the jails and the prisons, and are doing a really good job to keep those people from coming back.

**VIII. Additional Member and Guest Comments**

Judge Ted Booras announced that the Veteran's Court is celebrating its 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Monday at 12 pm and invited everyone. Chair Duncan remarked that the Veteran's Court is one of their great programs and accomplishments, and complimented Judge Booras on a great job.

**IX. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: December 6, 2017; 12:00 P.M.**