

Criminal Justice Commission  
Court Systems Task Force

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – 12:00 Noon  
McEaddy 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
301 N. Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Draft Minutes

Members Present:

Nellie King, Criminal Defense Attorney's Association  
Feirmon Johnson, DJJ  
John Rivera, Public Defender's Office  
Michelle Spangenberg, Court Administration  
Diane McCarthy for Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller  
Deputy Ed Jablonski, PBC Sheriff  
Terri Skiles, State Attorney's Office  
Judge Ron Alvarez, Judiciary  
Judge Jeff Colbath, Judiciary

Staff Present:

Rosalind Murray  
Becky Walker

Guests Present: Todd Bonlarron, and Melissa McKinlay of PBC Legislative Affairs, 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 February 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

There was a motion made by Judge Colbath and seconded by Terri Stiles to approve the minutes of the February 14, 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.

**VI. New Business : Presentation of 2012 Legislative Session by Todd Bonlarron, PBC Legislative Affairs**

Mr. Bonlarron discussed issues that might impact the Courts, Law Enforcement or other related items. Four thousand jobs were cut from the state's workforce. Some Medicaid reform took place. There was an ongoing struggle over the leadership roles in the house

and senate over the next 2-4 years. Prison reform failed. Redistricting took up a great deal of the session. The Clerks across the state are the biggest losers with a cut of over \$30 million and projected 900 jobs lost. There will be the opportunity to charge for some crime lab fees. Misdemeanor Pre-trial will be expanded. There is a small recovery on the way in the state of Florida.

#### **VII. Old Business – Update on CJC Annual Meeting**

Some of the highlights of the meeting were that the CJC created its list of priorities which are Crime Prevention, Reentry, Drug Court, and Juvenile Issues. Funding comes from two primary sources, FDLE, and Department of Justice. Finance Committee will meet soon to discuss the dispersal process. It is anticipated that funding will be at least \$50,000 less than 2011-2012. An evaluation of all Drug Courts will take place this year. Judge Alvarez discussed expanding Juvenile Drug Court if we could encourage the State Attorney to change the eligibility requirements. This would allow for many more participants. It was suggested that perhaps Ms. White Chief of Juvenile and others be invited to the next meeting. Also residential treatment is needed and High Ridge might be a grand location in that it has 26 empty beds.

#### **VIII. Updates and Initiatives**

##### **A. Adult Drug Court:**

Dorrie Tyng commented that there are 200 participants, 1, 246 graduates and the evaluation will cover an eight year period. Staff will be attending national training in Nashville, TN.

##### **B. Delinquency Drug Court: Report provided previously.**

#### **IX. Member and Guest Comments:**

There were comments made to invite Major Kneisley to determine if there could be an ATM machine added to the Jail for inmates who want to bond out. Ms. Murray will follow up.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 12, 2012.