



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, September 18, 2019; 12:00 P.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Duncan, Chair, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
Alfonso Starling, Vice-Chair, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Glenny Cueto, Professional Probation Services, Inc.
William Genem, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
Latronda Hayes, Court Services
Kimber Heddon, Florida Department of Corrections
Joseph Marx, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association
David H. Talley, PBC CareerSource
Louis Tomeo, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ted Booras, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Sheree Cunningham, Administrative Judge, County Court, 15th Judicial Circuit
Daniel Eisinger, Public Defender's Office
Brian Fernandes, Office of the State Attorney
Dina Keever, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Glenn Kelley, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Dave Kerner, Commissioner, Palm Beach County
Alton Taylor, Drug Abuse Foundation

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mevsim Bacaksiz, Drug Abuse Foundation
Keith Burden, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Aaron Jones, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Sarah Maier, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc
Cherel McCullough, Department of Juvenile Justice (for Major Mamine Saintil)
Josiane Mendoza, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc
Jordyn Muller, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc
Belinda Murvin, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Elsa Navarro, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc
Craig Williams, Office of the State Attorney

CJC STAFF PRESENT:

Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager
Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Commission
Althea Mones, Criminal Justice Commission
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst

I. Welcome, Opening Comments by Chairman Douglas Duncan

II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests by Damir Kukec

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

The agenda was approved.

IV. Approval and/or Amendments to the Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council April 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April 3, 2019 meeting were approved without changes.

V. Reports

A. Jail Population and In House Arrest

Major Alfonso Starling reported their facility count as of that morning was 1,884. Total In-House Arrest population was 177: 85 pretrial, including 5 direct filed juveniles; 92 county sentenced, 0 probation; 0 DJJ; AO zero. Total Pay N Gos for the month of August was 160. Chair Duncan asked how many were on work release; there were two.

B. Pretrial Services

Latrona Hayes reported that as of September 13, there were a total of 851 defendants on SOR; 582 of those individuals were on SOR only, 269 were on SOR with a money bond. Of the 851 defendants on SOR only, 17 remained in custody, with 2 awaiting treatment, and 15 on bonds or no bonds on other charges/holds. Of the 269 individuals on SOR with a bond, 79 remained in custody due to other holds. The total out of custody SOR population was 755. Of the 755 individuals out of custody, 14 failed to appear for court and 14 had no criminal activity. There was a total of 53 violations. Their SOR numbers were up when compared to this time last month and last year.

C. Juvenile Detention Center

Officer McCullough reported their population of 27 youth; two direct filed, one going to PBSO monitoring.

D. Misdemeanor Probation

Glenny Cueto reported they had a total of 173 new cases for the month of August; 2,378 total active cases; 127 successfully completed cases; 17 revoked; 52 on ICE hold.

E. Felony Probation

Kimber Heddon shared changes they are doing in their agency including: a new matrix for treatments; new programs, all of which are free to the probationers; and working with the Clerk's office and the courts to improve handling of court costs.

VI. New Business

Review of Palm Beach County's Work Release Program

Chair Duncan reminded the committee that a request came from the Sheriff for the CJC to look into the work release program; CJC Chair Richman agreed and assigned it to this committee. The committee decided to do a work plan at the last meeting.

Kristina Henson thanked Capt. Jackson and his staff for being very helpful and responsive to CJC staff's request for information. Damir Kukec talked about the data; Katherine Shover spoke to the comparative analysis among other counties' programs; and Ms. Henson gave a brief overview on her research on the authority to establish the program.

Mr. Kukec noted that they have received the bulk of the information and data they have requested and are in continuous communication with Capt. Jackson and his staff for additional questions. He also thanked Capt. Jackson and staff for their help and responsiveness. The timeframe of the review covered January 1, 2014 to August 31, 2019 which included approximately 112 applications for participation in the program. Mr. Kukec talked about the different ways how an individual may enter the program, i.e. direct application by the client, through a private attorney, and by court order. Preliminary data analyses showed acceptance rate to the program was calculated at 72%, and conversely, rejection rate was 28%; average length of stay is 108 days; and approximately 77% successfully exited the program. Additional information and discussion of the analyses will be included in complete report.

Ms. Shover reached out to the Florida Sheriff's Association and found there were only five agencies currently running a work release program. Two agencies are run by the Sheriff (Palm Beach and Duval) and the rest are run by the county (Alachua, Escambia, and Orange). All programs have dedicated facilities, and their costs vary. Ms. Shover will write up a more detailed analysis which will be included in the final report.

Ms. Henson remarked that the authority to create and run a work release program starts with Statute 951.24 Extend the limits of confinement for county prisoners. The Sheriff's office current Corrections Operating Procedures indicate that the work release program in Palm Beach County officially started on January 4, 1977.

Ms. Henson also discussed the two resolutions passed by the Board of County Commissioners in 1980 and 1984 related to the program. There is no one standing administrative order for work release in Palm Beach County; instead each judge issues their own order.

A draft of the report will be shared with the committee for review a week before the next meeting.

VII. Old Business

MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge Project Update

Ms. Henson discussed highlights from the MacArthur renewal grant application relating to the new things they have requested for in the application. She reminded the committee that they received the first implementation dollars for two years, effective October 2017, ending September 2019. They have enough funding to do a no-cost extension until September of next year. The renewal application is roughly \$1.4M for another two years starting January 2020 to end in December 2021. This partly will enhance some of the things they are already doing. Ms. Henson also talked about new things involving, e.g., new case processing strategies; new jail population monitor; increased community-based resources for inmate release; targeting admissions by reducing failures to appear; expanding court reminder system to appointment reminder system; and the mobile bus unit going in to communities, discussed by Kimber Heddon, servicing felony probationers allowing them to report to the mobile unit which hopefully will reduce failures to appear. Lastly, Ms. Henson discussed a chart prepared by Mr. Kukec highlighting a continuous reduction in jail population since the implementation of the risk assessment instrument in September 2017. They are expecting to hear from MacArthur sometime in December, and start with the new things in January 2020.

VIII. Additional Member and Guest Comments

Louis Tomeo announced that the Clerk's Office is hosting Operation Greenlight, a one-day event, on Saturday, October 19th, from 9 am to 4 pm, by their North, South, West, and Main Branch locations. They will waive the collection agency fees which is 40% on top of outstanding balance on unpaid criminal and traffic violations assessments. The statewide clerks are also having Operation Greenlight event on the week of October 12-19, with varying dates and times.

Ms. Henson mentioned about her participation in Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) survey. Senator Brand has asked OPPAGA to do a review of some aspects of criminal justice that is potentially going to be used to create some new legislation in the next session. Different criminal justice experts across the state to interview for feedback for this report. Questions relating to three things: 1) impact of the 85% sentencing law in state prison; 2) reinstatement of parole; 3) expansion of reentry program. Ms. Henson's impression is that the state is looking to transfer services back to local communities, but her opinion is that community service is not the panacea of

IX. Adjournment