

CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE



Also sits as the Public Safety Coordinating Council and
Criminal Justice Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday, January 13, 2021; 12:00 PM

- M I N U T E S -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Duncan, Chair, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
Alfonso Starling, Vice-Chair, Colonel, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Ted Booras, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Cheryl Caracuzzo, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Sherri Collins, Administrative Judge, County Court, 15th Judicial Circuit
Glenny Cueto, Professional Probation Services, Inc.
Daniel Eisinger, Public Defender's Office
Latronda Hayes, Court Services
David H. Talley, PBC CareerSource
Alton Taylor, Drug Abuse Foundation
Louis Tomeo, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brian Fernandes, Office of the State Attorney
William Genem, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
Michelle Johns, Florida Department of Corrections
Dave Kerner, Commissioner, Palm Beach County
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association

GUESTS PRESENT:

Chenise Bonilla, Public Safety Reentry
Capt. Butler, Department of Juvenile Justice
Jerry Casal, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association
Jessica Hidalgo, Public Safety Reentry
Jeffrey Jackson, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Arlene Griffiths, Public Safety Reentry
Rick Riffard, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association
Stewart Saalfied, Court Administration
Felicia A. Scott, Riviera Beach Civil Drug Court
Tamara Starks, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
John Viola, Palm Beach County Bail Agent Association

CJC STAFF PRESENT:

Regenia Herring, Executive Director
Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager
Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Commission
Rosalind Murray, Criminal Justice Commission
Allison Orr, Criminal Justice Commission
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Commission
Bert Winkler, Criminal Justice Commission

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

II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

Members signed in the chat box for attendance in lieu of roll call and introductions.

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved without amendments.

IV. Approval of December 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved without amendments.

V. Old Business

A. Private attorneys' access to desktop video visitation with clients housed in the jail update

Major Alfonso Starling provided an update. Several attorneys are doing beta testing which have been going well so far. They hope to finalize procedures at the end of the month, after which it will be opened up to all attorneys. Chair Duncan remarked that he used it for the first time the day before and it worked out great.

B. Overall decline in jail ADP, but with widening racial disparities

Damir Kukec presented their monthly report which showed a slight increase in the average daily population but a larger disparity in terms of race. The committee agreed to study and look deeper into the reasons for this disparity. Some of the issues raised included whether the number of arrests by race is proportional to those held in jail; the reasons for the arrest or types of offenses or charges; the reasons for the differences in the length of stay; behavioral health issues and how are they being addressed. Chair Duncan recommended forming a subcommittee to study this issue and invited anyone interested to be part of the subcommittee.

C. Operation Green Light

Louis Tomeo gave an update on Operation Green Light which was a one-week event that took place in mid-November, and completely virtual due to Covid. Collection agency fees were waived for unpaid cases that have been forwarded to collection agencies. They closed out over 1200 cases; 670 people had their license reinstated. There will be another event in March 1-5 with the same parameters, also virtual.

VI. New Business

Corrections Task Force Resolution No. CJC-96-1

Regenia Herring called attention to revising/updating this resolution to ensure the committee is in compliance with the statute, in terms of serving the role as the CTF and PSCC. Chair Duncan requested staff to prepare an agenda item for the next meeting to address this issue.

VII. Reports

A. Jail Population and In-House Arrest

Major Alfonso Starling reported their population as of that morning was 1,915. As of December 31st the total population was 2,190: 1,024 blacks and 942 whites. Total In-House Arrest population was 189: 146 pretrial, including direct filed juveniles; 37 county sentenced, 1 probation; 0 DJJ; AO zero. Total Pay N Gos was 108.

B. Pretrial Services

Latronda Hayes reported that as of December 31st, there were a total of 1,116 defendants on SOR; 839 of those individuals were on SOR only, 277 were on SOR with a money bond. Of the 1,116 defendants on SOR only, 54 remained in custody, with 1 awaiting treatment, and 53 on bonds or no bonds on other charges/holds. Of the 277 individuals on SOR with a bond, 64 remained in custody due to other holds. The total out of custody SOR population was 998. Of the 998 individuals out of custody, 5 failed to appear for court and 16 had new criminal activity. In December, Failure to Appear rate was 1%, and new criminal activity rate was 2%. There was a total of 72 technical violations. Those remaining in custody, broken down by race were 62 whites and 56 blacks. For granted supervised released, there were 658 whites and 458 blacks. Their SOR numbers were up when compared to this time last month, and when compared to last year. Ms. Hayes also explained what a technical violation is.

C. Juvenile Detention Center

Captain Butler reported there are 21 youth in secure detention 3 youth facing direct file review.

D. Misdemeanor Probation

No oral report was presented, but monthly report hand out was attached.

E. Felony Probation

No report was presented.

VIII. Additional Comments

Damir Kukec provided his contact information and encouraged everyone to give him a call for a discussion.

Jerry Casal asked a question about who were in the jail being held for other jurisdictions, in terms of how it relates or translates to costs. Major Starling reported there are 192 inmates awaiting transfer to DOC. He also shared that DOC dictates the number of inmates that they can receive weekly, which used to be twice a month.

IX. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 3, 2021; 12:00 P.M.