

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)
MINUTES
FOR
THURSDAY, April 25, 2013 MEETING**

Members Present: Chairman Mike Lawlor, *Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM*; Josh Howroyd *Legislative Program Manager, Department of Children and Families*; Bill Carbone, *Executive Director of Court Support Services, Judicial Branch*; Laura Cordes, *Executive Director, Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services*; Pat Rehmer, *Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services*; Dan Bannish, *Director of Behavioral Health, Department of Correction*; Rueben Bradford, *Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection*; Chief James Kenny, *Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association*; Kevin Kane, *Chief State's Attorney*; Laurie Deneen, *Esq. Public Member*; Erika Tindill, *Chairwoman, Board of Pardons and Paroles*; James Dzurenda, *Interim Commissioner, Department of Corrections*, Sean Thakkar, *Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information Systems*, Karen Jarmoc, *Executive Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence*, Nancy Turner, *Offender Risk Reduction Coordinator, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence*, Cheryl Cepelak, *Deputy Commissioner, Department of Correction*, Richard P. Healey, *Esq., Public Member*.

I. Welcome and Policy Update

Chairman Lawlor convened the meeting at 9:09 a.m. Chairman Lawlor announced three new appointments to CJPAC two of which were appointed by the governor: Garvin Ambrose, State Victim Advocate; Sean Thakkar, Executive Director of Criminal Justice Information Systems. Chairman Lawlor announced James Dzurenda as the Interim Commissioner of the Department of Corrections.

Chairman Lawlor introduced the presenters of this month's CJPAC meeting. He also discussed legislative updates and the comprehensive legislation that has been passed in response to the Newtown tragedy. Several areas that are covered include mental health, firearms, sentencing issues, school security and safety issues.

Chairman Lawlor discussed the two tasks that were assigned to CJPAC members by the governor, both of which were related to firearms. Also, discussed the role DESPP will play.

Chairman Lawlor concluded that there will be significant changes in procedures, processes, and standards with the Board which will be consistent with the legislation that was enacted. Chairman Lawlor welcomed the input of CJPAC members and to reach out to Arielle Reich at Arielle.Reich@ct.gov with any suggestions.

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented

III. Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2013

Minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment

VI. Presentation from Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

- Karen Jarmoc, Executive Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Nancy Turner, Offender Risk Reduction Coordinator, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Copy of PowerPoint presentation:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/bip_cjpac_april_2013_rev_3.pdf

Link to presentation at CJPAC meeting:

<http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=8940>

VII. Agency Updates

Garvin Ambrose, State Victim Advocate – Stated that he had started on March 15, 2013 and described his activity thus far. He discussed meeting with various state agencies and court houses in an effort to build relationships. Mr. Ambrose is also examining the services that are currently being offered.

Commissioner Rueben Bradford, Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection- POST currently has two recruit classes filled. Each class has approximately 50 recruits. As a result of P.A. 13-3, the Division of State Police licensing and firearm unit is very busy. Efforts down at the state crime lab still continue to address the back log.

Kevin Kane, Chief State's Attorney, Office of the Chief State's Attorney – Still attempting to deal with the back-log of appeals and cases moving through the Appellate Court. The office continues to work with the Office of the Chief Public Defender on a collaborative effort with the Innocence Project and Eyewitness Identification Task Force.

Laura Cordes, Executive Director, Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services – April is sexual assault awareness month. Announced CONNSACS has started a law enforcement training with POST, the Police Chiefs Association and State Police to identify and create curriculums that they can use for recertification throughout the state.

James Dzurenda, Interim Commissioner, Department of Corrections – Commissioner

Dzurenda expressed his appreciation for the continued corporation and support from DOC's sister public safety agencies and from the governor's office. DOC is actively recruiting 120 new correctional officers which will start a new academy class in mid-June. He believes it will help with offenders reentering the community and programs that are offered as well as assist in ensuring proper supervision.

At the time of the April CJPAC meeting, the inmate population was 16,648, down 224 last year at this time. In the community, the total supervised offenders were 4,186 which were down 118 from last year. There were 118 offenders out in the community on DUI confinement supervised by DOC staff.

Erika Tindill, Chairwoman, Board of Pardons and Paroles – Discussed that there has been a slight delay in the refresher training by Carlton University due to some funding issues on the federal level. Training is being conducted in preparation of SCORES.

Sean Thakkar, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information Systems – Mr. Thakkar announced the latest CISS (Connecticut Information Sharing System) initiative. His agency is getting ready to start three projects which will help with the progress of the latest CISS initiative. Mr. Thakkar expressed the agency's enthusiasm and excitement for the project and appreciates the participation of the collaborating agencies. He anticipates the accelerated progress of CISS's initiative in the coming months.

Josh Howroyd, Legislative Program Manager, Department of Children and Families – Indicated that one area of interest to Commissioner Katz is increasing the awareness of child sex trafficking. Over the past few years, DCF has seen a drastic increase in the number of cases that have been brought to DCF's attention. Out of 100 cases in the last few years, approximately 98 have had some interaction with the child welfare system. DCF staff is working with the law enforcement community to increase awareness by offering training.

Bill Carbone, Executive Director, Court Support Services Division
Stephen Cox, Ph.D., Institute for the Study of Crime and Justice, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, CCSU.

Link to PowerPoint presentation at CJPAC meeting:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjac/sdp_cjpac_presentation_april_2013.pdf

VIII. Behavioral Health Subcommittee

The Behavioral Health Subcommittee met on April 4, 2013. A new CIT clinician was hired in New Haven to fill a position which has been vacant for three years. While the program is funded by DMHAS, it is run by CABLE (Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement). A discussion took place regarding the preliminary data regarding gun seizure warrants. Since the statute went into effect in 1999, there have been almost 700 warrants referred to DMHAS. At the time of the meeting, Dr. Norko stated there were no outcome data to report. DMHAS is currently working with the Judicial Branch to expand the database to be able to capture what the outcome

was at the hearing.

IX. PJOC Subcommittee

Deputy Commissioner of Administration Cheryl Cepelak updated the group on the work of the Prison Jail Overcrowding Commission. They met the week of April 15, 2013. Deputy Commissioner Cepelak highlighted the discussion on the pretrial population and the collaboration with Court Support Services Division, Office of Policy and Management and the Department of Corrections.

X. Other Business

There was no other business.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m. The next CJPAC meeting will be Thursday, May 30, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 2B.