CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, April 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Members Present:
Marc Pekla, Office of Policy and Management; *Charlene Russell-Tucker,* Board of Education, *Cheryl Cepelak,* Department of Corrections; *Rich Sparaco,* Board of Pardons and Paroles; *Loel Meckel*, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, *Dave Monty,* Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, *Kevin Lawlor,* Chief State's Attorney, *Tracey Miller*, CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence, *Humayun Beg,* Criminal Justice Information System, *Gary Roberge,* Court Support Services Division, *Natasha Pierre*, Office of the Victim Advocate, and *Judge Pat Carroll*, Judicial Department

I. Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introduction by *Marc Pelka, Undersecretary of CJPPD, OPM*
- Introductions by Committee Members
- Asked for more suggestions to collaborate on initiatives for future CJPAC meetings
- This year – so far – we have been successful in collaborating on data matching regarding homelessness and corrections populations and the delving into the theme of long term employment for people with criminal records
- April CJPAC was broadcast on CTN https://ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=16264
- March minutes were approved by committee members

II. Presentation

- Kendall Bobula*, Associate Research Analyst, and* Kyle Baudoin, *Planning Analyst, Research Unit, CJPPD, OPM* – Women in Jail in CT – York Interview Notes Presentation
- Tracy Miller, *Director of Post-Conviction Victim Services, CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence* and Brian Battista, *Chief Probation Officer II, Sex Offender Supervision and Special Projects* – Collaborative Post-Conviction Supervision Model Presentation

III. Agency Updates

Board of Pardons and Paroles – The CT Board of Pardons and Paroles had a 51% grant rate last month, e-pardons system currently in development, one of the first in the nation to have an online application for pardons, should be available July 1st this year.

Public Defenders Office – Waiting for legislative session to run its' course to get budget to do planning

CCADV – Their budget is increasing by $5 million this year, so they are looking to hire people as project leads for housing, civil legal advocacy, and Safe Connect (collapsing all the state hotlines to one single point of contact).

DOC – Past couple months focused on legislative and budget process. Housing has been a big theme in their agency. Focus on healthcare for DOC and juvenile efforts. DC sat on sub commission meeting this week on women and girls. The DOC has made a fair number of appointments, Eric Ellison, a program and treatment Director, 2 new District Administrators, and 5 new wardens. Total incarceration down a little over 3% and for females down about 5% since last year.

DESPP – No updates at this time

Office of the Victims Advocate – No updates at this time

CSSD – Discussions around the proposed change in the phone fund, which is funding branch positions and adult probation, this money came from DOC in 2004 and funds the majority of probation transition program and technical violation units. Now with discussions of this funding no longer being available, they are having the conversations about the impact of this on CSSD.

CJIS – Governing boarding meeting this afternoon at State Street courthouse in Wethersfield.

State's Attorney Office – Case management system finally about to come into place, when it gets implemented, and then they can get better information on cases to help everybody. Anticipation for this roll out of the case management system, a lot of time and effort has been dedicated to this project.

CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence – Sex assault awareness month, wrapping up some of these events. With the legislative session wrapping up they are keeping an eye on a couple bills.

DMHAS – no report

IV. Subcommittee Updates

- Victims Issues Committee – no update

- PJOR - Focus on the grant on employment and education.

- Behavioral Health – no update

V. Adjournment

- Chairperson Marc Pelka adjourned the meeting