



**Baltimore County, Maryland
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
February 14, 2023
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM**

Teleconference

MINUTES

Attendees

Shina Castain, MD Division of Parole & Probation
Dennis Delp, Chief, Baltimore County Police Department
James Dills, Public Defender's Office
Celena Falline, Department of Juvenile Services
Meg Ferguson, Baltimore County Police Department
Maria Fields, District Court for Baltimore County
Michael Fried, Office of Information Technology
Mia Gogel, Baltimore County Executive Office
Brittany Jackson, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Judge Ruth Ann Jakubowski, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Kevin Ledford, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
April Lewis, Baltimore County Public Schools
Stephanie Medina, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Mark Millspaugh, Department of Health & Human Services
Amy Park, Department of Health & Human Services
Walt Pesterfield, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Lauren Phillips, Baltimore County Executive Office
Cheryl Rill, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Don Schlimm, Local Management Board
Tanya Smith, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Judge Dorothy Wilson, District Court for Baltimore County
Rebecca Young, Baltimore County Executive Office
Michael Zarchin, Baltimore County Public Schools

Welcome/Approval of Minutes

Rebecca Young introduced herself; she is the Deputy Administrative Officer for Public Safety. Ms. Young welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the Baltimore County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

- Ms. Young introduced Lauren Phillips, Assistant Deputy Administrative Officer. She will be staffing the CJCC and be the point of contact moving forward. Ms. Phillips introduced herself and provided her background.
- Ms. Young thanked both Co-Chairs, Chief Hyatt and Director Watts, who previously led the CJCC.

- Ms. Young also thanked the representatives from the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) for attending this morning's meeting. The NCJA has finished their interviews with the CJCC members. We are waiting for their final report.

Minutes of the October 11, 2022 meeting were presented. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the minutes as written.

Committee Reports

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: Mark Millspaugh made the following comments –
The primary topic of their last meeting was their annual Domestic Violence Conference. They would like to go back to an in person conference; they will be making a decision on it soon.

Forensic Mental Health Workgroup: Tanya Smith provided the following update –

- There were 20 people waiting for MDH beds last month.
- There are 18 people waiting for MDH beds at this time.

Pre-Trial Supervision Enhancements: Judge Ruth Ann Jakubowski provided the following update –

- Suggested changing the meeting agenda from Pre-trial Supervision Enhancements to Circuit Court Update
- Welcomed Lauren Phillips to the CJCC group
- Thanked Rebecca Young for meeting with her yesterday.
- There are several new positions/personnel at Circuit Court:
 - Stephanie Medina is the new Court Administrator (Tim Sheridan left in early October)
 - Cheryl Rill is the new Deputy Court Administrator; she will be the program administrator and handle HR
 - Kevin Ledford is handling Court operations issues and budget
 - Brittany Jackson is their Criminal Case Manager
- They resumed jury trials on March 7, 2022
- Judge Cahill is their lead criminal judge; he prioritizes cases
- They do not have a backlog at this time
- Two cases from 2020 were sent back for re-trial.
- New jury rooms will be done September 2023; until then, they are still using the American Legion space. They have demoed the old 911 Center.
- Going to be requesting another judge; they have chambers available. Will be going to Annapolis tomorrow to make the request
- Met with Detention Center regarding Home Detention criteria. They have modified the criteria, which has doubled the number of people on Home Detention.
- Met with Rebecca Young regarding pre-trial detention issues
- They have 70 pending murder cases for trial; they are busy and have a lot of serious cases.

Judge Dorothy Wilson mentioned that the District Court is included in the Pre-Trial Enhancement process (part of the meeting agenda). She advised that Judge Barbera impaneled a meeting to promote this process. She would suggest that we leave it as Pre-Trial Enhancement. Judge Wilson also mentioned that risk assessment has never been validated for Baltimore County (but continue to use).

Judge Jakubowski thanked Judge Wilson for providing the background/history on this. She suggested a break out on the agenda for both judges to speak on both courts.

Rebecca Young advised that she will check into validation. Baltimore County can apply for the grant. There is a jail piece to it. Judge Wilson advised that it can be managed by the jail.

Rebecca Young advised that she spoke to Derek regarding BCSTAT. They are going to do a deep dive into pre-trial numbers. Judge Jakubowski advised that there may be money out there for pre-trial assessments.

Lauren Phillips asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, she proceeded with the Roundtable Updates.

Roundtable Updates

Mark Millsbaugh, on behalf of Dr. Branch, Hhealth and Human Services – mentioned that the Opioid epidemic is the forgotten pandemic.

Amy Park, Health and Human Services –

- Reminder that their “Reach” line (warm line), 410-887-3224, is open 8:30 a.m. to midnight, Monday to Saturday, for those looking for resources.
- They will be holding a Trauma-Informed Training on April 17, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. She will send the flyer to Rebecca for distribution.

Walt Pesterfield, Department of Corrections –

- He has been the Director for a couple months; he is working on several projects with Renard Brooks.
- He will be testifying on a mental health bill in Annapolis

Shina Castain, Parole and Probation –

- They have 52 new agents; academy class in progress.
- Another class starts in April
- She is sure they will be getting more requests for assistance.

Chief Dennis Delp, Police Department –

- The department just launched a new Recruitment Website.
- We will hold a Community Hiring Event on February 25th at the Public Safety Building
- We will assist the NAACP, Baltimore County Branch, with their Gun Buy Back event on April 15th
- Our next Citizens’ Academy will begin on April 5th. It’s a 9-week course held in the evenings and one Saturday
- Provided an update on two officers injured during an extended incident and related search- one officer released to home; one officer still at Shock Trauma
- Using a new virtual reality system for training at the Police Academy

James Dills, Public Defender’s Office –

- They are looking to hire more attorneys.
- They have noticed a surge in mental health cases; they are trying to get more beds for the mental health patients at BCDC.

Celena Falline, Department of Juvenile Services –

- In April, they are starting up reporting centers for two evenings a week. One is in Reisterstown Plaza; they are looking for space on the east side. (They are in the procurement process for space on the east side.)

Maria Fields, District Court –

- They are very busy, but in good shape.
- They continue to monitor the dockets.
- They are hiring and are almost at full staff.

Mike Fried, Office of Information Technology –

- They are in the recruitment process for a “Public Safety Lead” for OIT. He will forward information to the group.
- It’s great to meet everyone.

Judge Dorothy Wilson, District Court –

- Their backlog was substantial; 8,000 – 10,000 cases. She is pleased to advise that they currently have no backlog. It took a lot of effort to resolve. They are grateful to James Dills and Scott Shellenberger.
- They are scaling back – 50-60 cases on docket; it’s more manageable.
- They have shifted precincts from the District Court in Essex (their smallest court). Moved one to Towson and one to Catonsville.
- Judge Kathleen Murphy has started; her public investiture will be on 3/30/2023.

Lauren Phillips ended the Roundtable Updates. She advised that the next meeting will be on April 11. Please submit recommendations for topics by March 24. We will select a topic for the June meeting, and will assign work for that topic/meeting. She will send out a timeline for what’s due.

Ms. Phillips asked if there was any further business.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 11, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wallace
Baltimore County Police Department