

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council



Meeting Minutes April 11, 2023

Opening

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council was called to order at 8:03 a.m. on April 11, 2023 via teleconference by Lauren Phillips.

Voting CJCC Members Present:

Chief Dennis Delp, Walt Pesterfield, Honorable Ruth Ann Jakubowski, Honorable Dorothy Wilson, Stephanie Medina, Maria Fields, Don Schlimm

Attendees:

Rebecca Young, Lauren Phillips, Meg Ferguson, Celena Falline, Mark Millspaugh, Kevin Ledford, April Lewis, Hilary Siakor-Sirleaf, Brittany Jackson, Tanya Smith, Amy Park, Aimee Bollinger-Smith, Kathy Wallace, Lisa Morris

Welcome Remarks

Lauren Phillips, Assistant Deputy Administrative Officer for Public Safety, welcomed and thanked the members for attending. Ms. Phillips informed the members she emailed them the NCJA stakeholder report a week prior, following the interviews conducted by NCJA with them. She noted the report recommended a return of both in-person meetings, and topic-driven discussions for the CJCC; both of which will be implemented for the June meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 14th meeting were presented. Mark Millspaugh requested the statement made by James Dills regarding the surge in mental health cases and pressuring the Board of Health for more beds be either reworded or stricken, as he does not recall that comment. Ms. Phillips asked for a review of the minutes, and that the recommended change be made. The February 14th minutes will be presented again at the June meeting.

Committee Reports

- **Domestic Violence Coordinating Council – Aimee Bollinger-Smith:**
 - The DVCC report was sent in. They met February 10th and had several presenters, who spoke on AIP and body attachment. Report outs from subcommittees were provided, and they are working on court accompaniment and conference discussions.

- Tanya Smith asked what the acronym AIP stood for. Ms. Bollinger-Smith replied that it stands for Abuser Intervention Programs – the treatment component for those who have been mandated into treatment.
- Forensic Mental Health Workgroup - Tanya Smith:
 - Nothing new to report.
- Pre-Trial Supervision Enhancements – Stephanie Medina:
 - No new updates, but would like to thank Rebecca Young for moving so quickly on the installation of the lighting in the gravel parking lots.

Roundtable Updates

- Mark Millspaugh – Department of Health and Human Services:
 - The Baltimore County Department of Health has, for the first time, been accredited, which only a small handful of counties in Maryland have achieved. HHS has documented and met over 100 standards in order to reach this accomplishment. A press release went out last week to announce, and several celebrations are planned for the next several weeks.
 - Walt Pesterfield congratulated Mr. Millspaugh, and the department on this accomplishment.
- Chief Dennis Delp – Police Department:
 - An additional training academy facility has been established at Stevenson University’s Greenspring Campus, which will enhance the department’s ability to train across the county and assist with overlapping classes.
 - Gun buyback program with the NAACP will take place on April 15th, from 10-2, at the Drumcastle Government Center.
 - Auto thefts are up at this time – by approximately 58% - mainly because several models of Kia’s and Hyundai’s are very easy to steal. Working with crime prevention to hand out wheel locks for vehicles. The uptick is a state and nationwide trend. There are currently YouTube video’s demonstrating how to easily pop the ignition on these makes and models, and vehicle theft has become an increasing problem among juveniles.
- Celena Falline – Department of Juvenile Services:
 - An evening reporting center was started yesterday for the west side of Baltimore County. Transportation is available for the youths to and from the site, where several evening program options are provided (cognitive, financial education, tutoring, arts and crafts, etc.). A meal is also provided. An RFP has been put out for a center for the east side of Baltimore County as well, and they hope to have it up and running before the next school year begins.
- Maria Fields – District Court:
 - Busy and running dockets as normal.

- Brittany Jackson – Circuit Court:
 - No specific updates – would just like to note that they are busy and up and running with jury trials as normal.

- Honorable Judge Ruth Ann Jakubowski – Circuit Court:
 - Busy and criminal cases are up a bit. Murder cases are up and are specially assigned – and juries are chosen daily at the American Legion space. The new jury assembly area is amazing, they are hopeful the space will be ready by September. The judge and many staff members have toured the facility. The space will accommodate seating for approx. 200 jurors, as well as a lock-up area, and separate voir dire rooms.
 - State has approved a new judge and magistrate for Baltimore County, so we’ll be getting a 21st judge, which will help with dockets and criminal juries. Looking at fall or end of year for the new judge. Advertising for the magistrate position will begin this week, and will be primarily a family law magistrate, but cross-trained in juvenile and taking on responsibilities in the guardianship area as well.
 - Judge Jakubowski recommends that the Pre-Trial Supervision group be reconstituted. Director Pesterfield had mentioned to her that the focus now is on pretrial services and looking at the release and pre-trial assessment that was never done. Judge Wilson has most of the historical knowledge of the group; however, she believes the group consisted of circuit court judges, some district court judges and representatives of the jail. Most of the people have retired. Since she is retiring in two months, she suggests her successor is looped in and, along with Judge Wilson and Director Pesterfield, have them identify appropriate people for the group. In addition, those folks, with the assistance of statisticians, should look at how pre-trial assessment is working.

- April Lewis – Baltimore County Public Schools:
 - No new updates, but students return from spring break today.

- Amy Park – Department of Health and Human Services:
 - FDA approved Naloxone for over the counter distribution. That will not change the standing order in the state of MD or the way they distribute Naloxone. They will still have staff in multiple settings doing Naloxone training. Those interested in having staff trained can either call the REACH helpline at 410-88-REACH (410-887-3224), or contact Ms. Park directly to schedule via email. They also have staff who are doing screenings in district and circuit courts who can provide trainings to anyone interested.

- Don Schlimm - LMB:
 - Nothing new to report.

- Honorable Judge Dorothy Wilson – District Court:
 - Thank you to Director Pesterfield and Rebecca Young for taking the time to meeting with her and her staff.
 - Thank you to Amy Park for sending information re: Naloxone training – several staff members have signed up already; and is helpful as they get started with the Adult Recovery program. Unfortunately they’ve had instances where individuals have come to court for criminal case and they’ve had to call 911 because of an overdose.
 - Back to business as usual for the district court, and all courtrooms are up and running. As of March 30th, they have their 15th judge and are at full staff when it comes to the bench.
 - Met with all of their division chiefs and are getting the next round of dockets structured to move forward for July-December. Criminal series traffic dockets, in terms of number of cases and courtrooms should pretty much stay the same. In consideration of the staffing issues for both the public defenders and state’s attorney’s offices, their docket structure has accommodated those issues.

Next Steps

The next CJCC meeting will be held in Room 118, on June 13th. A WebEx link will be provided for those who cannot attend in-person.

Rebecca Young, Deputy Administrative Officer for Public Safety, strongly encourages everyone to appear in-person if possible, in an effort to make these meetings as productive as possible.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Pre-Trial Risk Assessment and Pre-Trial Supervision for both the District and Circuit Courts will be the topics of next month’s meeting; however, because this is such a broad topic, with many agencies involved, they’ll be split between the June 13th and August 8th meetings. District Court, Circuit Court and BCStat will present at the June 13th meeting. SAO, Public Defender’s Office, BCDC and DJS will present at the August 8th meeting. Agencies will be asked to discuss/present any concerns, challenges, on-going initiatives, requests for help, etc. Roundtable updates will still be included in the CJCC meetings going forward. Though these will not be the main focus of the meetings, they will not be omitted as there has been positive feedback about them.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 a.m. by Lauren Phillips. The next general meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. on June 13, 2023, in Towson, Maryland.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Morris

Approved by: Name