



Public Safety Coordinating Council

301 N. Olive Ave., 12th Floor, McEaddy Conference Room
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Agenda

Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 12:00 PM

Members Present:

Commissioner Michael A. Barnett, *Chair*

Nellie King, *Criminal Defense Lawyer, Co-Chair*

Jenica Lopez, *State Attorney's Office, Assistant State Attorney, State Attorney's Office, 15th Judicial, represented by Craig Williams*

Dan Eisinger, *Assistant Public Defender, Public Defender's Office, 15th Judicial Circuit*

Judge Daliah Weiss, *Administrative Judge, Criminal Division, 15th Judicial Circuit*

Major Michael Devoter, *Commanding Officer, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office*

Barbara Dawicke, *Trial Court Administrator, 15th Judicial Circuit, Represented by Michelle Cruz*

Shantel Drayton, *Manager Court Services, Public Safety Department Justice Services Division*

Ann Berner, *Chief Executive Officer, Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network*

Julia Dattolo, *President and Chief Executive Officer, CareerSource PBC*

Andrea Rocha, *Criminal Courts Director, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller (nominee), represented by Zach Ibez*

John Viola, *PBC Bail Bond Association*

Members Absent

Judge Ashley Zuckerman, *Administrative Judge, County Criminal Court, 15th Judicial Circuit (nominee)*

Chief Gregory Starling, *Chief Probation Officer, Department of Juvenile Justice*

Derick Gibson, *Circuit Administrator, Region IV Circuit 15, Florida Department of Corrections*

Alton Taylor, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Drug Abuse Foundation of PBC, Inc.*

Chief Gus Medina, *President, Association of Chiefs of Police, Chief of Tequesta Police Department*

Jessica Durant, *Regional Community Forensic Liaison, Office of Substance Abuse & Mental Health, Florida Dept. of Children and Families*

Mornae Randall, *Lived experience*

Jan Underwood, *Lived Experience Representative*

Nancy McConnell, *Lived Experience Representative (nominee)*

CJC Staff Present:

Christopher Slydell, *Criminal Justice Analyst, CJC*

Damir Kukec, *Research and Planning Manager, CJC*

Katherine Shover, *Criminal Justice Systems Manager*



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- I. Welcome and Opening Comments** – *Commissioner Michael A. Barnett, Chair*
- II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests** – *Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager, CJC*
- III. Approval of and/or Additions to the Meeting Agenda for April 3, 2024-** *Motioned by John Viola and 2nd by Judge Daliah Weis*
- IV. Approval of Minutes from the March 6, 2024 meeting-** *Motioned by Major Michael Devoter and 2nd by John Viola*
- V. Discussion Items:**
 - A. Well Path discussion and Comparison Chart – *Well Path staff and Major Devoter, PBSO* - Stephanie Peskowitz, the division manager over contracts compliance at Palm Beach Sherriff's Office (PBSO), was present for WellPath. WellPath provides medical and mental health services at the PBSO jail. Questions were raised regarding the process for individuals ordered into JFK for treatment and monitoring. Concerns were expressed about the lack of monitoring for inpatient treatment at JFK and the need for a mechanism to ensure individuals remain in custody until a judge's order for release is obtained. The need for collaborative meetings and education with receiving facilities was emphasized to address these issues. Additionally, questions were asked about the provision of medical services for inmates with insurance and the process for obtaining outside medical evaluations. It was noted that WellPath is responsible for arranging and paying for necessary medical services, regardless of whether the inmate has insurance. Finally, concerns were raised about the backlog in transporting inmates with Baker Act orders to the appropriate facilities, although it was mentioned that the backlog has decreased significantly due to ongoing efforts.
 - B. Data Review discussion regarding Monthly Jail Trends – *Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager, CJC* - During the meeting, Damir Kukic, the Research and



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Planning Manager at the Criminal Justice Commission, presented information about the development of a data dashboard using data from the BIRS system. The dashboard aims to inform the PSCC and support their work with the MacArthur Foundation. Mr. Kukic highlighted key aspects of the dashboard, including information on average daily population, baseline comparisons, and targets. He explained how data on admissions and length of stay contribute to understanding average daily population trends. Additionally, he addressed the importance of accurately identifying individuals confined in the jail and mentioned efforts to improve data visualization for easier comprehension. Mr. Kukic invited feedback and suggestions from the task force members for further enhancements to the dashboard.

- C. Pretrial Service report – *Shantel Drayton, Manager Court Services, Public Safety* - Based on the report presented, as of Friday, March 29th, 2024, there were a total of 116 persons in custody, with 21 on supervised release OR, only in custody, and 95 persons on supervised release OR plus bond in custody. Additionally, there were 736 persons out of custody on supervised release OR. The breakdown by race for persons remaining in custody was 11 white, 9 black, 1 Hispanic, and 0 other. For those granted supervised release, the breakdown by race was 424 white, 338 black, 67 Hispanic/Latino, and 2 other. There were a total of 72 unsuccessful terminations, which included reasons such as failure to appear, new criminal activity, failure to report, failure to complete treatment, and testing positive for alcohol or illegal substances. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the current status of individuals in custody and on supervised release, broken down by race and reasons for termination. Any questions or comments on the report were welcomed.
- D. Jail and Population and In-House Arrest - *Major Devoter, PBSO* - The group discussed the in-house arrest program, particularly regarding the use of landlines



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as a means of ensuring the location of individuals on pretrial house arrest. The PBSO highlighted the importance of landlines as an additional measure to ensure the individuals are within their residences, especially when GPS signals are lost or unreliable. It was emphasized that while cellular phones with GPS capabilities are used in the program, landlines provide a more precise location within the residence and are not affected by issues such as signal drift or spotty coverage in certain areas. Additionally, they mentioned that the process of obtaining a landline is relatively quick, taking an average of three days to a week.

The discussion also touched on the cost of landlines versus the state program's fees, with the conclusion that while landlines may seem antiquated, they provide an essential layer of security for the program. Furthermore, it was noted that failure to pay for the landline has not been a significant issue compared to other factors leading to individuals being remanded back into custody. Overall, PBSO expressed appreciation for the cooperation and responsiveness of the alternative custody unit and emphasized the importance of their work in ensuring the appropriate management of individuals in custody and on supervised release.

- E. Felony Probation, *Derek Gibson, Florida Department of Corrections* - During the discussion, it was highlighted that Palm Beach County utilizes electronic monitoring for both community control one and community control two cases, with a total of 145 probationers on electronic monitoring for community control two and 183 sex offenders on electronic monitoring. Additionally, there are 60 probation cases on community control one without electronic monitoring. It was noted that Palm Beach County is unique in its use of electronic monitoring for house arrest, as other counties primarily use it for sex offenders. Concerns were raised about the high number of cases on electronic monitoring and the associated costs. The discussion also covered the functionality of electronic



monitoring devices, including GPS boundaries, curfew schedules, and the process for setting up exclusionary zones for victims.

- G. Bond Schedule Evaluation parameters will be discussed at the May 1, 2024 meeting presented by *Jennifer E Copp, Associate Professor Florida State University College of Criminology and Criminal Justice* - Jennifer Kopp from FSU provided an update regarding an upcoming event scheduled for May 1st. It was mentioned that they will need to analyze at least six months of data, and the evaluation process will take an additional two months.

VI. New Business

- A. Revising the meeting time to 1.5 hours - *Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager, CJC* - there was a discussion about potentially extending the duration of the meetings to accommodate more conversations. However, it was decided that the current one-hour timeframe is sufficient, with the possibility of occasionally extending the meeting if necessary due to lively discussions. No formal action was taken, and the meeting duration will remain unchanged for now.

VII. Old Business

- A. Reinvestment Grant update and input from the board – *SEFBHN staff* - there was an update provided regarding the submission of a reinvestment grant. The grant application was successfully submitted, and now the team is waiting for the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to post the award by April 22, 2024. The update also mentioned that they were able to reach their 100 percent match requirement, with some assistance from various organizations including CJC, the Public Defender's Office, Mental Health America, Palm Beach County, and Circuit 15 Court Administration. There was a suggestion to share copies of the grant application via email, as it was a lengthy and extensive document. The team appreciated the support and assistance they received in meeting the match requirement.



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B. Development of a Work Plan/Committee Priorities for 2024 (CJC and PSCC work plan attached) – Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager, CJC – There was a discussion revolved around the development of a work plan and committee priorities for 2024. However, the work plan document was not readily available in the meeting packet. Katherine suggested tabling the item to the next meeting. Additionally, there was an inquiry about the progress of the search for a new Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). Katherine provided an update, stating that interviews for the position were scheduled for the next day, with four candidates in contention: Damir Kukec, Vaughn Cricklow, Angelique Pickett, and Frank Briganti. The County Administrator will make the final decision, and Katherine offered to forward the Zoom link for those interested in attending the interviews.

VIII. Attachments

- A. March 6, 2024 Minutes
- B. Monthly Jail Trends
- C. PBC Pretrial Services Program Public Safety Coordination Council Report
- D. Palm Beach County Sheriff Jail Data for January and February 2024
- E. Reinvestment Grant

IX. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 301 N. Olive Ave., 12th Floor, McEaddy Conference Room West Palm Beach, FL 33401

X. Adjournment