

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Thursday, August 25, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

**Palm Springs Village Hall
226 Cypress Lane
Palm Springs, FL**

Members Present

Chief Javaro Sims, Chairman, Delray Beach Police Department
Chief Sarah Mooney, PBC School District Police Department
Chief Robert Mangold, Atlantis Police Department
Chief Michele Miuccio, Boca Raton Police Department
Chief Sean Brammer, Florida Atlantic University Police Department
Chief Sean Scheller, Lantana Police Department
Chief Carmen Mattox, Manalapan Police Department
Chief Richard Jones, Ocean Ridge Public Safety Department
Chief Thomas A. Ceccarelli, Palm Springs Public Safety Department (Represented by Captain Jake Ruiz)
Honorable Sheriff Ric Bradshaw, PBC Sheriff's Office (Represented by Chief Deputy Frank DeMario)
Major Robert Chandler, Florida Highway Patrol
Captain Frank Briganti, Bureau of Insurance Fraud
Sheldon Burkett, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration

Members Absent

Chief Gus Medina, Vice Chairman, Tequesta Police Department
Chief Richard Jenkins, North Palm Beach Police Department
Chief Joe DeGiulio, Boynton Beach Police Department
Chief Ed Allen, Gulf Stream Police Department
Chief Craig Hartmann, Highland Beach Police Department
Chief Brian Smith, Juno Beach Police Department
Chief David England, Jupiter Police Department
Chief John Pruitt, Jupiter Inlet Colony Police Department
Chief Wes Smith, Lake Clarke Shores Police Department
Chief Clint Shannon, Palm Beach Gardens Police Department
Chief Nicholas Caristo, Palm Beach Police Department
Interim Chief Josh Lewis, Riviera Beach Police Department
Chief Frank Adderley, West Palm Beach Police Department
Troy Walker, Special Agent in Charge, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Eric Jester, Resident Agent in Charge, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Bill Fraser, Chief Investigator, State Attorney's Office 15th Judicial Circuit
Major Dustin Bonds, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission
Lieutenant Kent Stanton, Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco
Christopher Caldwell, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Eric Chan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Assistant Chief Deputy Dan Torchia, U.S. Marshals Service

Brian Deer, Resident Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service
David Brant, Supervisory Special Agent, Internal Revenue Service
Pete Garcia, Federal Security Director, Transportation Security Administration
Angel Belen, Patrol Agent in Charge, U.S. Border Patrol
Chief Robert Crawford, VA Health Administration
Mike Barbercheck, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives

Advisory Members Present

Vincent Morton, Director, Criminal Justice Institute of Palm Beach State College
Dr. Wendolyn Sneed, Palm Beach County Chief Medical Examiner (Represented by Paul Petrino, Manager of Medical Examiner Operations)
Honorable Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit (Represented by Craig Williams, Chief Assistant State Attorney)
Shawn Fagan, CJSTC Field Services Specialist, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Michelle Johns, Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections (Represented by Deputy Chief Derek Gibson)

Advisory Members Absent

Anthony LaCosta, Managing Assistant United States Attorney
Adam McMichael, Chief: Narcotics and Violent Crimes, United States Attorney's Office
Gregory Starling, Chief Probation Officer, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
Stephanie Tew, Chief Assistant, Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution
Julie Hogan, Deputy Statewide Prosecutor

Guests

Angelique Pickett, Intelligence-Led Policing Manager, Boca Raton Police Department
Lieutenant Kevin Lashells, Florida Department of Financial Services
Chief Russ Mager, Delray Beach Police Department
Captain Randy Foley, Chair, PBC School & Community Safety Committee and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., Vice Chair, PBC School & Community Safety Committee and CEO, Children's Services Council
Daniel Villacci, Department of Children and Families
Dr. Barbara Gerlock, Pathways to Progress
Lawonda Warren, Assistant City Attorney/Police Legal Advisor, City of Delray Beach
Joshua Mindick, Assistant Chief, Boca Raton Police Department
Major Eric Coleman, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Tara Applebaum, Executive Director, Safety 4 Life Foundation
Pauline Pasquarelli, Mental Health Division Manager, 15th Judicial Circuit
Lieutenant Rodney Stevenson, Delray Beach Police Department
Regina Price, Assistant Chief, PBC School District Police Department
Captain Pete Behr, Village of Palm Springs
Louis Tomeo, Director - Court Operations, Criminal Court Services
Hal Hutchins, Assistant Chief, Florida Atlantic University
Mike Waites, Assistant Chief, PBC School District Police Department
Caitlin Fielding, Clinical Support Specialist, Florida Atlantic University
Captain John Crane-Baker, Delray Beach Police Department

CJC Staff Present

Regenia Herring, Executive Director

Katherine Shover, Interim Manager of Criminal Justice Programs

Dr. Joanna Reid, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

Dawn Caveness-Davenport, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Opening comments/Updates by Chief Javaro Sims, Chairman.**
 - A. Chief Sarah Mooney, Palm Beach County School District Police Department, recognized Mike Waites for his promotion to Assistant Chief and advised that Deputy Chief Vanessa Snow is now also working at the Department. Also, Chairman Sims mentioned that he will be retiring as of August 30, 2022, and congratulated Chief Russ Mager as the incoming Chief of the Delray Beach Police Department on August 31, 2022
 - B. Reminder the Law Enforcement Planning Council will be off in September.**
- II. Roll Call by Katherine Shover, Interim Manager of Criminal Justice Programs**
- III. Introduction of Guests**
- IV. The Agenda/Minutes** were approved by unanimous consent. The motion was made by Chief Richard Jones and seconded by Chief Sean Brammer.
- V. Presentations/Updates**
 - A. **FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD):**
Caitlin O'Brien Fielding, M.S. Ed., Clinical Support Specialist -Their mission is to provide services for individuals on the Autism spectrum or developmental delays for all age groups for their families, employers, professionals, and community and government agencies. They serve five counties: Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee, and Palm Beach. Also, if the client moves, they can connect services for the individual in their new area as there are CARD services at every major state university. CARD does not provide direct services such as therapy, speech, or occupation, but they do have an initiative that supports its constituents. CARD has adult hangout groups throughout all of the counties they serve. They have constituents who participate in the Mentor Program, and some have mentors. The mentor program is virtual, which makes it nationwide. The constituents also have the option of having local mentorships instead of virtual ones. CARD also offers a parenting course for families that are dealing with a child that is struggling with behavioral issues at home. CARD community events are A Day for Autism with PBSO, Wellington, and Jupiter PD, and Dinner with a Hero, showing Be Safe: The Movie. The purpose of these events is to get their constituents familiar with law enforcement and paramedics who wear uniforms.

Hence, they are not scared if they have to come into contact with them at any point due to sensory issues that come with Autism.

Training that CARD offers for law enforcement are PBSO CIT training, CARD Department-wide training over several days, 4-hour Intensive Training with Dennis Debbaut, Project Lifesaver (based on income level), and Safety Boxes (Car & Home decals for law enforcement, first responders, and Medipal. The decals let the law enforcers or first responders know there is someone with Autism. All of the training is free. The contact person for the trainings is Jacqueline Wood, M.S Ed. jacquelinewood@fau.edu or 561-221-7298. The direct link is at <https://www.fau.edu/education/centersandprograms/card/>.

VI. Old Business

- A. Finalize the Palm Beach County School & Community Safety Law Enforcement Planning Council Recommendations to the Criminal Justice Commission:** Chairman Sims asked if any members had any comments or questions concerning the recommendations. Director Herring mentioned that she wanted to look comprehensively at addressing mass casualties not just in public and charter schools but also private schools. Director Herring advised incoming Chief Russ Mager suggested having an MOU for private schools that law enforcement will be responding to for active shooter calls as they will be exercising a legal responsibility. Since there is a mutual understanding with the school board that law enforcement will always respond, then an MOU may not be needed. It may just cover law enforcement as a jurisdiction coming on the private school's property. Director Herring explained that the thought process of an MOU was having a coordinated written plan and wanting to have a conversation about how to address this response. It could be having a county ordinance requiring them to register. Chief Michele Miuccio explained that her jurisdiction responds regardless and does not think an MOU is necessary for Boca Raton. They meet with their private schools at the beginning of the school year and made sure their floor plans are up to date. They are also uploaded into Rhodium and follow the ASHER policy if needed. In addition, the private schools do reach out to Boca Raton PD if there is an issue. Director Herring wants to ensure the members have looked at it from all angles. Chief Deputy DeMario advised that they have responded to several calls from private schools, and their response has been no different because they have a relationship with private schools in their jurisdiction.

Chairman Sims moved forward with the recommendations. The motion was made by Chief Brammer and seconded by Chief Miuccio. All were in favor and no one opposed.

- B. **FDLE Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funding:** Director Herring advised that the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) is applying on behalf of the PBC for state and federal JAG funding. CJC staff sent out letters to all the law enforcement jurisdictions. The CJC needs 51% of the letters to proceed with the application. Director Herring advised that all the funding has gone to Reentry for the past ten years, but this year she asked that some of the money go to law enforcement, especially since they are asking agencies to sign off on these letters. They plan to get \$ 63,000 in funding for law enforcement for this application period and ask that 51% of the letters be returned by September 7th, 2022. In the future, Director Herring wants to give less money to Reentry so the program can be self-sustaining. Once the MacArthur's funding is depleted, the JAG funding will be used as seed money in addition to pursuing other grants. Also, the CJC will use JAG funding for law enforcement-related projects. Director Herring will discuss it more during planning discussions and noted that this money can be leveraged. If you have any questions, please see Katherine Shover, who is heading up the project.

VII. New Business

- A. Director Herring asked members to start thinking about comprehensive countywide projects they could pilot and then implement to scale that would benefit law enforcement in PBC. She suggested they consider outside-the-box strategies to implement in 2023, such as those for community law enforcement relations or law enforcement training. Director Herring noted that this group is about helping law enforcement build collaboration, create more synergy, and leverage partnerships so we can get maximum return.
- B. A motion was made by Chief Jones and seconded by Chief Brammer to accept the meeting schedule for 2023. All were in favor and no one opposed.
- C. Retirement of Chief Javaro Sims, Chairman- Director Herring presented Chief Sims with a plaque for his outstanding work and dedication. Due to Chief Sims retiring, the members will be voting on a new chair at the October meeting.

VIII. Liaison Updates

- A. **Community Engagement Team:** *Chief Javaro Sims, Chairman* advised that they continue to move forward with the nine recommendations with the nine cities. Director Herring reported they would be presenting these recommendations to the PBC Board of County Commissioners on August 30th, 2022, at 9:30 am. She also advised that PBC is exceptional in how they engage the community. This initiative was countywide and originated from the Police Forums due to the George Floyd tragedy, which resulted in law enforcement working with the community. Half of the recommendations going before the board will be Reentry

- initiatives. Other recommendations are from Royal Palm Beach and the Acreage area for the iCard. Also, the City of Lake Worth wants a similar program like Delray Beach to deal with its mental and substance disorder issues, where there is a community response. The School Board came up with the idea of doing true Restorative Justice Practices. In the eyes of the community, they did not think it had been done to fidelity in the past.
- B. **Recruitment and Retention Survey:** *Chief Brian Smith* was not in attendance to present, but the report was attached to the agenda package.
 - C. **Sexual Assault Response Team:** *Chief Michele Miuccio*- the Sexual Assault Response Team meeting report is included in the agenda package. There will be a quarterly meeting for only Law Enforcement. It is an excellent time to discuss cases with detectives to review what went right or wrong with the cases. The scenarios are included in the meeting minutes. Once the minutes are returned, the cases that went wrong are included with suggestions for correction. Chief Miuccio suggested looking at the minutes to see how things could be improved within the agencies.
 - D. **DV Coordinated Community Response (CCR) Team:** *Katherine Shover*- the upcoming committee meeting dates are in the agenda package. Please let Ms. Shover know if you are interested in attending any of the meetings, and she will put you in contact with the person handling the meetings. They have an Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR) CCR Coordinator position that has been filled and AVDA is hiring for an Advocate Position. The DV CCR's next meeting date is September 13, 2022, from 2 pm-3:30 pm.
 - E. **Criminal Justice Institute and Trauma-Informed Care Training Update:** *Director Vincent Morton* - Reminded agencies about the Trauma-Informed Care training for law enforcement. So far, they have 16-17 officers signed up for the training, but they want about 30 officers to attend. Everything is set for the training. Food will be provided. It is a train-the-trainer offering, so the officers can return back to their agencies and train other officers.
 - F. **Communications/Interoperability:** *Chief Robert Mangold*-nothing to report at this time.
 - G. **School & Community Safety Subcommittee:** *Captain Randy Foley*-nothing to report at this time.
 - H. **FIBRS Transition:** *Chief Richard Jones*- FDLE is still progressing. They are still trying to obtain final approval from the FBI for the transmittal of the data electronically. Training at the local level continues with FDLE. If anyone has questions, issues, concerns, or is having problems with the transition or testing, contact Chief Jones, and he will put you in contact with the proper person if he is unable to help at his level.

- I. **State Attorney's Office:** *Craig Williams, Chief Assistant State Attorney-* Craig Williams asked if any other agency is trying the new probable cause affidavit like PBSO is using with the Marsy's Law crime victim information already included on the affidavit. Chief Jones advised he is trying it electronically. It is set up for when the officer checks the Marsy's Law box, it then turns the victim's information red. The affidavit prints in color through the RMS system. Craig Williams advised that the system is going well with the Clerk's office. Once they receive the affidavit, they can redact the victim's information. If anyone has any questions, please get in touch with Craig Williams.

The Text Reminder System can be used by those individuals who get arrested. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) states that an individual has to opt into the system. Once they opt in to get text reminders through the Notice To Appear (NTA) form, then the Clerk's office sees the individual has opted in, and they will sign them up for the reminder notice. They will then be sent a text reminder for every court appearance they must attend. As a result of the Text Reminder system, Law enforcement can benefit because they will have fewer encounters with individuals getting booked into the system for Failure To Appear (FTA).

Chief Mooney informed the attendees that West Palm Beach Police Department piloted the Text Reminder program Pre COVID, which has proven very successful. She emphasized making sure that if your jurisdiction uses the system, to put an opt-in option on the form to make it easy for law enforcement because individuals will only have to opt-in by putting their signature and initials on it. Law enforcement has to ensure the contact information is accurate on the NTA forms because the Clerk's office will use the data put in the bio information. Incorrect phone numbers means the system will not work.

Craig Williams also discussed needing assistance with individuals who require translation services. In the few cases that will go to court, the State Attorney may be reaching out to specific jurisdictions to have them translated. Unfortunately, the State Attorney cannot afford to pay for the translation service, so the burden is being put back on the jurisdiction. Craig Williams hopes it is a low number, like one a month.

A county-wide translation program was suggested rather than the translation request coming back to the agencies. This might become an LEPC initiative to see how the County can develop a translation service; the State Attorney can work directly with the service to be more effective. The group will have to figure out how the County could fund the initiative.

Director Herring added that the iCard, created by the Royal Palm Beach, Wellington, Acreage, and Loxahatchee areas, will be given at the time of the NTA. The prototype is attached to the agenda package but still needs work. Director Herring understands that if the Public Defender does not deem them indigent,

they do not qualify for a Public Defender, which is one of the issues that need to be figured out. The iCard will be adding a QR code. If they lose the NTA, the individuals can use the QR code and put in their name and date of birth to provide them with their court information and the application to determine indigence. The one-page application will go to the Public Defender's office to see if they are eligible to begin the process. The iCard is a stop-gap measure to help reduce arrests due to FTAs.

- J. **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office:** *Chief Deputy Frank DeMario-* the Sheriff reached out to see if they were satisfied with the response at the last active shooting event. Due to the inquiry, an Active Shooting exercise was put together at Palm Beach Central, which went very well. PBSO would like to have more participation from agencies across PBC in the future. The practice was set up to demonstrate what the officers would do in the event of an active shooting because they are usually the first to arrive, not the supervisors. There will be more Active Shooter training in the future to ensure the officers are trained and ready in the event of a shooting. There are still some things that need to be refined, so there will be more training. He noted the increase in collaboration with Chief Mooney at the PBC School Police Department.
- K. **Palm Beach County School District Police Department:** *Chief Sarah Mooney-* appreciates the cooperation from all the jurisdictions and members of the LEPC. School safety is not just a school police issue but an issue for all agencies. Unfortunately, the School PD does not have the resources to send 100 officers into a school if an event calls for that, so they will be counting on the different agencies to assist.

The PBC schools have now implemented a panic alert system through a company called Centegix which will notify 911 centers if there is an emergency on campus. Currently, they are working through some glitches. The alert went out to 60 schools at one time. Also, Chief Mooney invited law enforcement agencies to come to the school campuses to become more familiar in the event of an incident because they will have to work together. Chief Mooney's door is open for feedback or if you need anything.

Please reach out to her if you have any ideas on how to make improvements. PBC School PD is also doing drills that are mandated. Additionally, if there is a situation going on outside the campus that could jeopardize the campus, please do not put the campus on a code red. Please call the dispatch, and they can put the campus on a code yellow lockdown. If you are serving a warrant or chasing someone outside the campus, please call so they can put the campus on lockdown and classes can continue. If you call a code red, the lights go out, and the shades are closed, which becomes scary. Therefore, they do not want to call a red if it is not necessary. Instructions will be sent out on when to call a code yellow or red,

but Chief Mooney intends to get the wording right before she sends it to other law enforcement agencies. The children and the teachers have been trained for a code red, but that is the worst-case scenario. The children contact their parents, and then the school deals with parents trying to get on campus. The parents are already dealing with anxiety with their kids at school due to the active shooter in Texas. So for issues happening outside campus, call a code yellow.

- L. **State and Federal Updates:** Major Chandler advised that House bill 399 passed, and it starts **on October 1st, 2022**. The bill addresses the issues with off-road bikes. Also, in the bill, posting and filming these activities is a misdemeanor charge. Even a vehicle carrying fuel to fuel the off-road bikes is an arrestable offense. Off-road bikes will now be called takeover rides.

- IX. **Member comments:** *Major Eric Coleman* commented regarding FTAs being the most common reason for arrest in PBC, about 10%. He noted that a group looked at why black men have been disproportionately arrested. In 2021 and 2022, black men attributed to 36% of arrests. The text reminder system will hopefully bring down arrest numbers.

- X. **Attachments**

- A. SART Update
- B. DV CCR Update
- C. FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities Presentation
- D. Palm Beach County School & Community Safety Presentation and Recommendations
- E. Staffing Survey
- F. JAG-C Information
- G. iCard and Sample NTA
- H. Proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule

- XI. **Next Meeting: October 27, 2022 9:30 AM at Palm Springs Village Hall**

- XII. **Adjournment**