



## PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

### CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE/ Public Safety Coordinating Council

Palm Beach County Governmental Center  
301 N. Olive Avenue, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor McEaddy Conference Room  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Wednesday, March 3, 2010; 12:00 P.M.

[HTTP://WWW.PBCGOV.COM/CRIMINALJUSTICE/TASK\\_FORCE/CORRECTIONS/](http://www.pbcgov.com/criminaljustice/task_force/corrections/)

### - SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES -

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Chairman Douglas Duncan**, Roth and Duncan, P.A.  
**Vice-Chairman Chris Kneisley**, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office  
**August Bonavita**, Administrative Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Bob Bozzone**, Executive Director, Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program  
**Maureen F. Brickous**, CEO, County Probation, PRIDE Integrated Services, Inc.  
**Patrick Cannan**, Workforce Alliance  
**Jeffrey Colbath**, Administrative Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Roger M. Crane**, Police Chief, Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association  
**Krista Marx**, Administrative Judge, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
**Tommy Richards**, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association  
**Jill Richstone**, State Attorney's Office  
**Alton Taylor**, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation  
**Louis Tomeo**, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller  
**Charles Trotta**, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency  
**Shelley Vana**, Commissioner, Palm Beach County  
**Barbara White**, Public Defender's Office

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Rosalyn Baker**, Florida Department of Corrections

#### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Colleen Farnsworth**, Department of Children and Families, Legal  
**Barry Fondiller**, Jail Counselor, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office  
**David Gillert**, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, SAAP Program Manager  
**Shelby King**, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office  
**Elizabeth Parker**, State Attorney's Office  
**Nicole Saunders**, Director, Palm Beach County Justice Services  
**Michelle Spangenberg**, Manager, Court Administration  
**Audrey Wolf**, Director, Palm Beach County Facilities Development & Operations

#### **CJC STAFF PRESENT:**

**Jenise Link**, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst  
**Michael Rodriguez**, Executive Director  
**Candee Villapando**, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Chairman Duncan welcomed the members and guests of the task force.
- II. The agenda was approved without additions or deletions.

III. The minutes of the January 6, 2010 meeting of the CTF/PSCC were approved.

IV. **Reports**

A. **Jail Population Report**

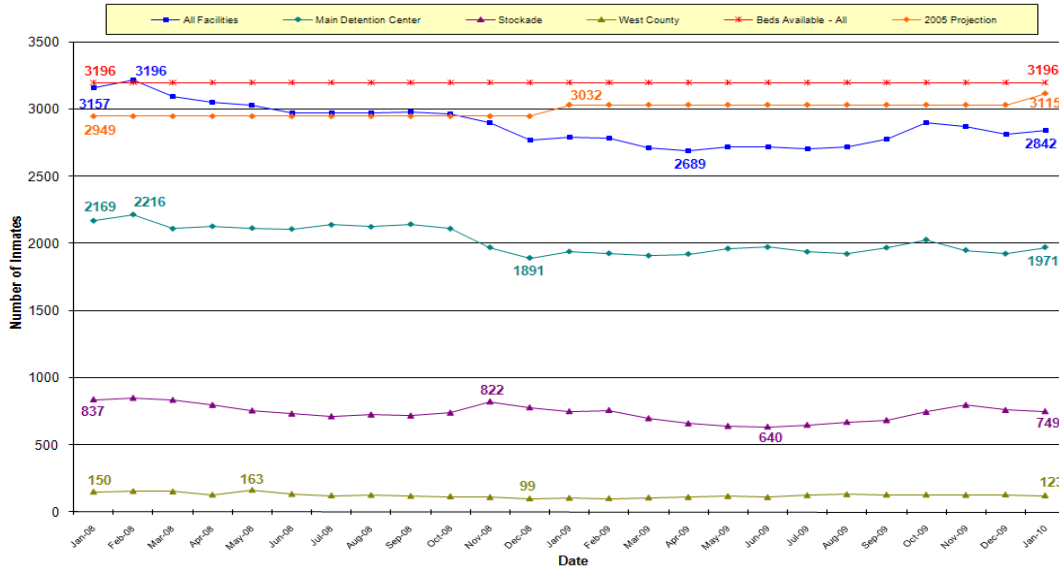
Major Kneisley reported that the average population of the jail in February was 2,867 which is under the current capacity. He reported that February 2009 the average population was 2,823 and February of 2008 the population was up at 3,151. Commissioner Vana inquired as to the whether the low jail population can be attributed to the prevention programs we have in place in the county. She also asked why there is an increase in crime in light of all the prevention efforts. Ms. Parker noted that due to the current economic conditions, crimes such as domestic violence, thefts, and drug offenses have increased and Major Kneisley added that the oxycodone issue is comparable to the crack explosion of the late eighties.

See charts/graphs following from previous month:

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council							
Palm Beach County Correctional Facilities Monthly Population Report January 2010							
Data Source: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Department							
Facility	January Average Daily Population	January Average Daily Population	EXISTING CAPACITY			FUTURE CAPACITY	
			Number Beds*	January Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)	January Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)	Number Beds*	January Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)
Main Detention Center	1,971	1,971	2,114	93%	93%	2,114	93%
Stockade Detention Center (Including 96 bed Drug Farm)	749	749	944	79%	79%	944	79%
West County Detention Center	123	123	138	89%	89%	262	47%
<b>COUNTYWIDE TOTAL</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>3,196</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>3,320</b>	<b>86%</b>

\*Does not include 106 beds for medical.

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission  
 Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council  
**Average Daily Populations by Date and Facility**  
 Data Source: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Department



**B. Jail Counselor Report**

The Jail Counselor, Mr. Fondiller, provided a report that showed the status of DCF transfers and misdemeanor booking averages. Mr. Fondiller reported that the total average of days misdemeanants spent in jail in February was 3.22 days. He added that the average number of days for misdemeanants between booking and sentencing was 4.48 days. Mr. Fondiller reported that 6 inmates were waiting to be transferred to the state hospitals and 8 inmates were transferred to the state hospitals in February. He also reported that 2 inmates were waiting to be returned from DCF and 7 inmates were returned from DCF last month. He reported that there were a total of 136 evaluations and assessments ordered for January 2010. There were 101 SAAP evaluations, 32 mental health assessments and 3 drug farm evaluations.

**C. Juvenile Detention**

Department of Juvenile Justice Superintendent, Mr. Flowers was not present at the meeting but forwarded a monthly report of the detention center's population which showed the monthly average in January was at 60 juveniles and in February was at 56 juveniles.

**D. Pretrial Services Report**

The Pretrial Services Manager, Mr. Trotta, provided members with a printed report detailing the Supervised Release Pretrial Services Program. The report notes that it is current as of March 1<sup>st</sup>. He reported that there are a total of 972 individuals on Supervised Own Recognizance (S.O.R.) and that 888 of these are out of custody; 726 defendants are on S.O.R. only; 246 defendants are on S.O.R. with a bond. Eleven individuals were on S.O.R. and were in custody for the following reasons:

Violation of Probation	4
S.O.R. to Treatment	2
Bonds or No Bonds on Other Charges/Holds	5

---

Mr. Trotta noted that the number of individuals on S.O.R. is down but the amount of individuals released O.R. is up and that the amount of S.O.R.'s with a monetary bond attached has decreased.

**V. Updates**

**A. Jail Expansion Phase II**

Ms. Wolf provided an update of the Jail Expansion Project. She reported that the West County part of the jail expansion is approximately 55% complete and occupancy is expected by the end of January 2011. The phasing for the court renovations will begin February through November 2011 (the plans for the court renovations have not been completed yet). As part of the West expansion, video units have been implemented for visitation.

Ms. Wolf reported that the redevelopment of the Stockade design is underway and the funding is in place for the design. Regardless of when the construction is funded, we will have the plan for when the go ahead is given. The earliest that the construction could begin is the summer 2011 but it is not anticipated this will happen as the funds are not available during fiscal year 2011. The plan has been revised for the stockade. It was originally proposed that the entire building would be redeveloped on one time. They are in the process of redesigning this so that sections of the building can be developed at different times. This will allow them to wait to use the facility until the inmate population increases and there is an appropriate use for it.

Chairman Duncan inquired as the availability of the number of beds when the West County facility is completed. Ms. Wolf responded that when the new expanded west county facility opens and the section of the Stockade closes, there will be no overall increase or decrease in beds. 432 usable beds would remain at the Stockade that could be opened and staffed if needed.

Judge Colbath asked what happens to the Stockade after the West County is opened. Ms. Wolf commented that the buildings no longer used will be demolished and the site improvements would be made. It would then remain dark until it was needed for occupancy. This is necessary from an operating cost perspective and staffing cost perspective. It is more cost efficient to use the newer facility in West County. The two courtrooms that are currently at the Gun Club location will be relocated to the Stockade facility.

Ms. Wolf commented that we are ahead of the projected jail population and provided that it is because of the efficient criminal justice system that we have in the county that we have not met the jail capacity.

Chief Crane inquired on the possibility of the state closing the Jimmy Ryce facility and moving those inmates into county facilities. Ms. Link commented that she has not noted any legislative action on that issue this year. Chairman Duncan added that there have been no developments on legislative actions for placing some third degree felony offenders in county jails.

---

Ms. Wolf explained that one other outstanding issue was the Department of Corrections' office space request for probation and parole. The State has informed the county that they will be leasing a building in Belle Glade for these offices.

**B. Alternatives to Incarceration**

Major Kneisley provided an update on the Sheriff's Office In-House Arrest Program that will allow an expansion of the amount of sentenced offenders into the program. He reported that they are currently drafting a request proposing an administrative order that will address expanding the pretrial defendants.

Pretrial Legislation letters (HB 445/SB 782):

Ms. Link stated the letters were sent to the legislature and were also sent from the Criminal Justice Commission in opposition of HB 445 and SB 782. In addition the Law Enforcement Planning Council was in the process of sending opposition letters. Mr. Rodriguez commented that county legislative staff is continuing to work on the issue and stated that the bill is still being reviewed by committee. Commissioner Vana stated that she spoke with Representative Snyder about the bills. She noted that when there are issues such as this and they are spoken about only as a public safety issue, then it is more difficult to oppose it. Chairman Duncan noted that the letter from Law Enforcement should help in that regard.

Chairman Duncan reported that a sub-committee has been appointed to review viability of misdemeanor book and release program and will be meeting in the upcoming weeks. Chairman Duncan made an additional appointment to the sub-committee and added Chief Crane to represent law enforcement.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Housing of juveniles adjudicated as adults at the county jail**

Chairman Duncan opened by stating this issue was referred to the Task Force by the Chief Judge earlier this year. Major Kneisley reported that in an effort to clarify their policy, the Sheriff's office correctional unit obtained an opinion from their legal department. While their current procedure is lawful, they did conclude that a revision to their policy was necessary. The Sheriff has made the determination that their policy will now dictate that post conviction juveniles will remain housed with the juvenile population unless the juvenile specifically request to be housed with the adult population. The Sheriff's office stated that this adjustment will also aide with the school system and their issue of delivering services to juveniles. Chairman Duncan directed staff to prepare a response letter to the Chief Judge.

**VII. New Business**

- A.** Members postponed discussion of approving a motion to draft a support letter regarding In House Arrest Program to Chief Judge Blanc until the State Attorney's office has an opportunity to review the details of the proposal. Ms. Richstone expressed concerns with the order.

---

**VIII. Additional member and guest comments**

Chief Crane asked if the court fast track was still operating. Judge Marx commented that it has not been used recently however there is a process for improved dialogue between counsel that has been used. Ms. White noted that the judges at the Gun Club courthouse have been extremely helpful in getting cases on the docket.

Chairman Duncan asked the status on the VOP hearings. Judge Marx stated that the First Appearance judges are hearing all VOPs for felonies and misdemeanors at Gun Club and are resolving the ones that have a technical violation, the ones with new charges are being set in 12 working days on the court docket.

Ms. Link reported that the county has recently submitted a federal reentry grant for the Second Chance Act.

Chairman Duncan informed members that the next meeting is scheduled for April 7th at noon.

**IX. Adjournment**

JL, CJC 3/3/10