



PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
Full CJC Committee Meeting
933 45th Street
West Palm Beach, Florida 33407

MINUTES

Monday, April 22, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.

Members Present

Carey Haughwout, Public Defender, 15th Judicial Circuit
Derek Gibson, Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections
Glenn Kelley, Chief Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Gregory Starling, Chief Probation Officer, Circuit 15, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
Jorge Garrido, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Julia Dattolo, President/CEO, CareerSource PBC
Karen Hansen, The Collectives Project
Reverend Kevin Jones, Clergy, and Past CJC Chair
Lauren Whetstone, FPL Energy Services, Inc., and CJC Vice-Chair
Lawrence Gordon, Palm Beach County League of Cities
Leontyne Brown, Black Chamber of Commerce
Marcia Andrews, Palm Beach County School Board Member & CJC Treasurer
Marty Perry, CEO, Perry & Taylor, P.A.
Michael Barnett, County Commissioner
Oswald Newbold, Reentry Coordinator, The Reentry Center of Riviera Beach
Dr. Rachel Docekal, CEO, Hanley Foundation, and CJC Chair
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr., CEO of Communications by Johnson
Shania Grant, Student, Florida Atlantic University
Vanessa Klein, Director of Reentry Services, The Lord's Place

Members Absent

Demetrios Thomas, Special Agent Supervisor at Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Frank Adderley, Chief, West Palm Beach Police Department
Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the PBC Circuit Court & Comptroller
Katherine Waldron, State Representative, District 92
Kathleen Kroll, Administrative Judge, Juvenile Division
Nellie King, Attorney, PBC Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Maria Antuna, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Ric Bradshaw, Palm Beach County Sheriff
Earnie Ellison, Managing Partner, Ellison Consulting Group, LLC
Matt Pawlowski, Next Era Energy, and CJC Secretary
Michelle Suskauer, Attorney, Diamond Kaplan & Rothstein, P.A.

Guests Attending

Andrea Rocha, Palm Beach County Clerk's Office
Allison Jimenez, Hanley Foundation
Brett Taylor, Center for Justice Innovation
Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Florida Atlantic University



Chris James, Burns Institute
Gwen Wight, MacArthur Foundation
Jamie-Lee Bradshaw, Chief Strategy Officer, Community Partners of South Florida
Dr. James Green, Director of Community Services Department
Dr. Jennifer Copp, Assoc. Prof. College of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Florida State University
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
John Hulick, Palm Beach County Community Services Department
John Port, Public Safety, Financial Analyst
Laurie Garduque, MacArthur Foundation
Maria Albertorio
Marianela Diaz, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Public Safety
Shantel Drayton, Manager of Court Services, Public Safety
Stephanie Sejnoha, Director of Palm Beach County Public Safety
Timothy Alvin, Rivera Beach Firefighter
Winter Jones, Palm Beach County Victim Services

CJC Staff Present

Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager
Rosalind Murray, Community Engagement Coordinator
Dawn Caveness- Davenport, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Stephanie Moliere, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Margo Smith, Criminal Justice Analyst
Christopher Slydell, Criminal Justice Analyst
Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Analyst
Todd Bonlarron, PBC Assistant County Administrator
Helene Hvizd, Palm Beach County Attorney

I. Call to Order – Dr. Rachel Docekal, Chair

II. Roll Call – Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager

- Completed rollcall and quorum was established to start the meeting

III. Approval and/or corrections to the Agenda

- A motion was made to approve the Agenda and approved unanimously.

IV. Approval and/or Corrections to the March 25, 2024 Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the Minutes and approved unanimously.

V. Chair's Comments

- Congratulations and welcome new CJC members.
Seat 32 – Returning Citizen: Oswald Newbold (**present**)
Seat 33 – Crime Survivor: Karen Hansen (**present**)
Seat 34 – Youth 17-22 years old: Shania Grant (**present**)
Seat 35 – At Large: Vanessa Klein (**present**)
 - Each new member was present, including Jorge Garrido and Leontyne Brown.
- Welcomed Dr. Laurie Garduque, Director of Criminal Justice, MacArthur Foundation, and Brett Taylor, JD, Director, Center for Justice Innovation. They are conducting a



site visit of the CJC from April 22nd – 23rd, 2024. **A meet and greet will be held after the full CJC meeting with members from 9 am to 10 am.**

- Congratulations to Maria Antuna for winning the Wellington Village Council for Seat 4.
- Congratulations to Michelle Suskauer for being recognized as the Suzanne and John Foley Serving Justice Honoree.

VI. Executive Director Updates

- Congratulations to the Delray Beach Police Department for receiving a federal grant in the amount of \$963,000 to enhance their Real Time Crime Center - *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*
 - This is the advanced license reading program in Delray Beach. This grant was made possible due to a special community request from various organizations and made possible by the efforts of Congresswoman Lois Frankel; trying to provide funding for various organizations, such as the Health Care District of Palm Beach County who were grant recipients last year.
- Jail Trends presentation by Research and Planning Manager Damir Kukec will be held on the May 28th CJC meeting at the Hanley Center – *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*
 - Postponed due to the engaging presentation & conversation by the Path to College Students at our last full CJC meeting.
- Reinvestment and FDLE grant updates – *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*
 - A \$1.2 million dollar grant was submitted on March 22, 2024 and is pending.
 - To be in compliance with statutory law, the Corrections Task Force was changed to the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) with a benefit of applying for grants throughout the State of Florida (i.e. the reinvestment grant), hoping the funding will expand some of the local mental health courts currently being worked on.
 - For the FDLE grant, the CJC applied and secured \$322,342, specifically for law enforcement agencies garnering equipment, and to support some of the local reentry programs.
- CJC Executive Director Search Update - *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*
 - Selection Committee was thanked for their efforts. Their selection, Dr. Vaughn Crichlow, is going through the hiring process. The hope is for the decision to come back to the full CJC body at the next meeting for approval. Regardless, the CJC will be updated as the process moves forward and unfolds.
- Community Engagement Contract Update - *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*



- The scope of work in the contract for this project has been updated, which increased some of the pricing; we're ensuring the budget allocation at this time and look to have everything wrapped up in about a week.
- Mini Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy 2024 update – *Rosalind Murray, Community Engagement Coordinator (see attachment)*
 - **Rosalind Murray**- Instead of having our traditional 12- week Academy, for the first time the CJC hosted a mini academy that took place over four (4) weeks with a total of 38 graduates. A satisfaction survey was utilized for the first time at the CJC to gauge which session held the most interest (30 out of 38 attendees responded via a QR Code created by Research & Planning Manager, Damir Kukec). The experience was interactive and the public got the opportunity to interface directly with elected officials, law enforcement and more.
 - CJC staff, Christopher Slydell, Brad Allen and Damir Kukec were also acknowledged for their support with data and periodically attending the CCJA with Ms. Murray.
 - 4.7 out of people 5 had a positive experience per survey results and attendees also included CJC Board members.
 - Part two of this session will resume in June with tours of the local jail, medical examiner, courthouse, and the coroner's office. There is one last scheduled session after Part two; engaging citizens and ensuring awareness on the criminal justice system.
 - **Marcia Andrews**: While she knew a good amount of the information presented, she was also educated on a number of issues. Ms. Andrews thanked all the presenters and staff who made the sessions possible.
 - **Leontyne Brown**: Echoed statements made from Ms. Andrews regarding the need for the CCJA and recounted her own story on how her late father attended the CCJA and was proud to be in attendance, learning various matters that directly affected him.
- MacArthur Foundation invitation to grant application, and the GAINS Center Learning Collaborative on Transition Age Youth Diversion & Supports - *Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator.*
 - This is an invitation to apply for the final two (2) year Capstone Grant in the amount of \$234,000 and we have until June 12, 2024 to submit the application. Awards will be announced sometime in October of this year.
 - We've been selected to participate in the GAINS Center's Learning Collaborative on Transition Age Youth Diversion and Supports. Katherine Shover, Randy Taylor, Dawn Davenport-Caveness and Dr. Barbara Gerlock are on the planning team for Palm Beach County.
 - We have stakeholders throughout Palm Beach County that have been invited to participate with goals centered around supporting local jurisdictions in identifying or implementing strategic action plans to build or improve diversion and support services for transition aged youth in the criminal justice system, providing access to subject matter experts on important topics within the



theme of the Learning Collaborative, and to provide intense technical assistance upon request.

- **Todd Bonlarron:** Recognized Senior CJC Analyst, Stephanie Moliere, on being the 2024 recipient of the Steven D. Ford Memorial Award, recognizing her as an emerging leader from the National Forum of Black Public Administrators of South Florida.

VI. Presentations

A. Narcan presentation – *EMS Division Chief Timothy Alvin, City of Riviera Beach and Alli Jimenez, Hanley Center*

- Presentation will be rescheduled due to a school shooting near Suncoast Community High School (Chief Alvin had to attend the site due to the shooting).

B. Bond Schedule Evaluation – *Dr. Jennifer Copp, Florida State University (see attachment)*

- Provided an overview of what the bond schedule is, why we are studying this portion of the systems (to determine any pre-trial/release impacts of any individual based on the new bond schedule and its requirements). More data is needed to truly provide an update on the impact(s) of the new bond schedule. Dr. Copp will provide an update in the fall once more data is analyzed.
- Suggested looking into a range of pretrial outcomes associated with the change in bond schedule by rolling this work into a grant from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). They'll review the following for the next few years:
 - If the change in bond schedule resulted in changes to rates of pretrial detention and/or lengths of pretrial detention.
 - The rates of individuals on pretrial that aren't in compliance (pretrial failure).
 - Changes to the bond schedule (increase in bond amounts).
 - Post exhibition outcomes (case disposition).
- They anticipate questions and conversations centered on how bond amounts correlate to particular charges with the main actors who make those type of decisions on the front end, as the bond schedule removes that level of communication with the Prosecutor's Office, Judiciary, and other groups of decision makers involved in pretrial matters.

C. The Impact of Housing Stability on Recovery and Recidivism Reduction presentation – *PBC Community Services Director II James Green and Senior Program Manager John Hulick (see attachment)*

- In 2019 Palm Beach County successfully received funding from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Comprehensive Opioid Stimulate and Substance Use Program, Substance Abuse Program (they are currently in the second no cost extension of this grant due to barriers posed by Covid-19). The grant allowed for 30 percent of its funding to be used for housing (education on how substance use and housing are



intertwined had to be provided to participants). Dr. Heather Howard of Florida Atlantic University has directly supported these efforts. Housing stability, along with employment/strong family or societal connection/spirituality with an altruistic component were proven to be major drivers (especially housing stability) in long-term recovery (briefly mentioned Harm Reduction in comparison to the idea of complete abstinence from drug use).

- Elements of recovery, such as stable housing regardless of the ability to pay, Recovery Capitol, Recovery Planning, Peer Support, employment with an ability to save money for future expenses, support/involvement from the housing team (house manager) along with the impact of the social determinants of health were discussed as well.
- At this time there are only two federally funded (2) programs dedicated to recovery Building Communities for Recovery (BCOR) and Recovery Community Services Program (RCSP) funded by Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) totaling only \$16 million dollars in comparison to their \$8 billion dollar budget.
- Dr. Howard mentioned the element of safety as the only predictor of 63 variables that drive re-arrest (individuals feeling safe in their community/home/environment until they're housed in a program that provided stable housing).
- Chair, Dr. Docekal thanked Dr. Green and his team for their presentation and commitment to this initiative.

VII. Old Business - NONE

VIII. New Business

- A. Approval of Proposed FY 2025 Budget – *Marianela Diaz & John Port, CJC Finance Reps. (see attachment)***
- Members of the CJC were provided with an overview of the CJC's budget.
 - Chair, Dr. Docekal, requested a motion to approve the FY 2025 Budget, motion was made by Dr. Andrews, seconded by Ms. Davis, and approved unanimously.

Questions, Answers & Comments:

Ms. Haughwout: Has concerns over the lack of data available on the results of programs we have an ability to make changes/updates to (i.e. Frequent User System Engagement Program (FUSE)/Battered Women's Program, Drug Court, etc.) and would like evaluations on those programs in comparison to the Bond Schedule's impacts.

Ms. Shover: Dr. Copp completed a preliminary evaluative report on the Next Steps Program, formerly referred to as FUSE, and will have a final report soon.

Cassandra Atkin-Plunk: FAU completed an evaluation on the FUSE that was funded by the CJC and can share the report to the members (results of the pilot program) and are also completing an evaluation on the Common Forum Initiative. The Executive Director the Selection Committee chose, Dr. Crichlow, has an extensive background in data, research, criminal justice and more with plans to strengthen our programmatic data.



Chair, Dr. Docekal: Acknowledged Carey’s concerns and will have Dr. Atkin-Plunk present her FUSE findings on a later date. In the interim, the CJC has worked diligently to bring in subject matter experts to present data/research/findings on matters that need to be addressed by the CJC.

Marcia Andrews: Suggested a bi-annual meeting to determine the barriers, progress and success of initiatives along with their financial expenses (what has been spent, what’s left, possibly to reallocate funds, etc.; the Chair stated this will be implemented).

B. FY 2024 Grant to Improve the Criminal Justice Response – Continued Partnership with Victim Services presentation – *Stephanie Sejnoha, Director II, Public Safety Department. (see attachment)*

- Discussed the partnership between the CJC and Victim Services in 2017 via the Batter Women’s’ Project, looking at system associated with domestic violence and the response along with the holding offenders accountable for their actions. The project reviewed internal policies, protocols, and worked to ensure a consistent practice enhancements in place in response to victims. This groundwork allowed for them to apply and receive grant funding from the Office of Violence Against Women coined, Improving Criminal Justice Response. Victim Services is seeking a continued partnership with the CJC on their efforts.
- Chair, Dr. Docekal, requested a motion to continue the partnership with Victim Services. The motion was made by Commissioner Barnett, seconded by Ms. Whetstone and approved unanimously.

Questions, Answers & Comments:

1. Lauren Whetstone: Is this [program] in the budget or separate?

A: Stephanie Sejnoha: This is a part of the Public Safety budget.

2. Jorge Garrido: Is there a document provided to victims by the police on site detailing services available to them?

A: Winter Jones: Victim Services isn’t the first on scene when the police are arrive for a potential Domestic Violence call, but there is an assumption that law enforcement has training/protocols in place to provide support to the victim and this may not be mandatory. Part of the current grant includes working with law enforcement and providing them with point cards (provided to all law enforcement agencies)...this should be provided to every victim.

Karen Hansen: The first few times the police appeared at her home for a domestic violence call, no information was provided to her on supports in the area. At some time, information was provided on how to obtain an injunction. There is law enforcement training taking place in Palm Beach County and Ms. Hansen has been asked to speak with law enforcement and the State Attorney’s Office.

IX. Member Comments- NONE

X. Public Comments- NONE

XI. Adjournment- Meeting Adjourned



Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 - 8:00 AM

Hanley Center
(Sits directly West of St. Mary's Hospital)
933 45th Street
West Palm Beach, FL 33407