

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY**

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Members Present: Kimberly Minniear (Designee of Sheriff John Aubrey); Tony King (Designee of Richard Badaracco); Patricia Boyd-Shaw; Tom Campbell; Sheriall Cunningham; Rev. Charles Duncan; Judge Audra Eckerle; Judge Stephen George; Leo G. Smith (Designee for Dan Goyette); Roger Henderson; Bishop Walter A. Jones; Richard Lewis; Judge Denise Clayton; Judge Kathleen Voor Montano; David Nicholson; Dave Stengel; Councilwoman Tina Ward-Pugh; Lt. Col. Tim Emington (Designee for Chief White); and Clarence Williams.

Excused Members: Patricia Combs; William DeNardi; Elisa Freeman-Carr; Tim Vize; and Louis Willis.

Guests Present: Angie Cornatzer (Pretrial Services); Julie Hayes (District Court Administrator); Carla Kreitman (Circuit Court Administrator); Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Kelly Long (Jefferson Circuit Court Clerk's Office); and Michele Staton-Tyndall and Erin McNee, University of Kentucky Center on Drug & Alcohol Research.

Staff Present: Kim Allen; Faith Augustine; Bruce McMichael; Tracey Neathery and Stephanie Stidham.

I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Judge Montano called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance, introduced guests, and called for introductions. She welcomed two new members, Chief Judge Denise Clayton, Jefferson Circuit Court, and Bishop Walter Jones, citizen representative. Judge Montano recognized the upcoming retirement of Patricia Boyd-Shaw.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF JUNE 28, 2007 MEETING

The meeting summary of the June 28, 2007 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Judge Montano advised that since our last meeting, the Drug Court Program transitioned to operation under the Administrative office of the Courts and moved to its new offices at 717 W. Market Street (new phone number is 595-3378). They are still using the space in the Hall of Justice for groups while they are awaiting final licensure and Fire Marshall approval on the new site.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Michele Staton-Tyndall, Ph.D, University of Kentucky Center on Drug & Alcohol Research – provided an overview of the Criminal Justice Kentucky Treatment Outcome Study.

A 1998 study suggests that as many as 80% of those in the nation's prisons and jails may be seriously involved with illicit drug and alcohol use and abuse. Those numbers are consistent with what is seen today.

Kentucky has a long history of providing prison-based substance abuse treatment. In 1935, the Public Health Service offered a treatment program as an alternative to incarceration. It was not until 1992, that a treatment program for incarcerated individuals was instituted. It was a 50 bed, 60-day treatment program, known as the Substance Abuse Program (SAP), located at the Roederer Correctional Complex. The program has grown into a 180-day program in seven locations throughout Kentucky with a capacity of 1,094 beds. Jail-based treatment programs began in two counties in 2005.

In April 2005, in response to the need for accountability in monitoring the effectiveness of treatment, the Criminal Justice Kentucky Treatment Outcome Study was initiated.

Initial interviews, conducted within two-weeks of admission to treatment, found data that is similar in both prison and jail treatment populations. The demographic is primarily a 32-year old, white male with a 10th grade education; 51% single or employed full-time. Over 95% reported lifetime use of alcohol, marijuana or "any illegal substance." In the twelve months prior to incarceration, over 90% reported use of up to five different illegal drugs. Nearly 82% anticipated a moderate to very good chance of remaining drug free after release.

A follow up study was conducted 12 months after release from jail or prison. Participants self-reported an average 50% decrease in drug use. Following release from incarceration, 80-90% of all participants reported AA/NA attendance. The recidivism rate was approximately 35% for both jail and prison participants.

The implications from these findings suggest that corrections-based substance abuse treatment programs are producing positive outcomes in reducing drug use and criminal activities among Kentucky offenders and should continue to be a priority for legislators and public policy advisors.

The data collection process will continue to be improved. The UK researchers would like to add a non-treatment control group for comparison purposes, as well as a method to verify self-reported information at follow-up.

Tom Campbell reported that the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections (LMDC) does not have a population of long-term inmates to be able to take part in these

treatment programs. LMDC does have an in-house program which has produced its first group of graduates and is partnering with the Healing Place to provide voluntary treatment two nights per week in the jail.

B. Darrell Aniton, Director, Metro Office of Youth Development – addressed the Commission regarding the Mayor’s Youth Cabinet and its potential role as an advisor on youth-related issues.

The Mayor’s Youth Cabinet is a leadership skills program that involves a group of high school students from across the community. The Cabinet uses community service as a learning tool and provides input to many groups like the Criminal Justice Commission. It also performs peer reviews of grant applications from community based organizations offering programs for youth. In addition, the Office of Youth Development will organize focus groups for input on specific issues in our community.

Members briefly reviewed the recommendation for youth input that was relayed by Councilwoman Tina Ward-Pugh. Members agreed that the Cabinet would provide an excellent option for youth input and may also want to consider future focus groups.

C. Faith Augustine, Criminal Justice Commission - presented a summary of the findings from the Criminal Justice System Survey. In comparing our results to those reported by the National Criminal Justice Association, our needs and concerns are consistent with regional and national findings. The areas of most concern include violent crime, gangs, offender reentry and information sharing.

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Kim Allen reported that the Open Society Institute awarded \$50,000 to fund a reentry pilot project to be focused in Newburg. The program will assist 25 individuals released from jail or prison who are returning home to the Newburg area. Case managers will work with individuals and the neighborhood will be engaged in the successful transition of these individuals. Funding for the program will be supplemented with Justice Assistance Grant monies. The Commission will be updated as the implementation phase begins.

Ms. Allen has been requested to participate as a member of the DHS/FEMA Region IV Regional Advisory Committee. These committees were established under the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act. The council will serve as advisors to the Region IV FEMA Administrators. If you have any issues to be relayed to this committee, please advise Ms. Allen.

Next year, the National Forum of the National Criminal Justice Association will meet in Louisville, August 3-5. This will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase local initiatives.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Computerization Project Committee – In the absence of Tim Vize, Stephanie Stidham reported that the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security plans to roll out its E-Warrant technology in January. Testing of the program will begin in October and plans are to have Jefferson County be one of the initial test sites. Additionally, she reported that AOC is working with local Judges to improve domestic violence and other court-related information sharing between the different Courts/databases.

B. Legislative Committee – Stephanie called attention to a copy of the approved legislative items included in the agenda packet. This list has been sent to the Metro Government administration and to Representative Joni Jenkins for review and to determine viable items for the 08 Legislative Session. Stephanie thanked the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Louisville Metro Police Department, Public Defender's Office, Attorney Jim Ellis, Criminal Justice Commission Citizen Representative Richard Lewis and KY Representative Joni Jenkins for their participation with the Legislative Committee.

C. DVPCC Update – Stephanie reported that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. A press conference announcing a program for victims of domestic violence will be held on October 11th. This initiative is a collaborative partnership between ADT Services and the local criminal justice system. A notice will be sent to members inviting them to attend.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Pre-Trial Releases - Dave Stengel raised concern regarding the recent release of a dangerous individual which occurred as a result of an automated recommendation in the Pre-Trial system. The flaw in the system has since been corrected, but concerns remain regarding continuing problems. Mr. Stengel will be corresponding with the AOC and will report back at the next meeting.

Guilty Plea Form – Chief Judge Eckerle reported improvements are being made to the form to assure judges that offenders have been informed of all possible consequences of guilty pleas. The revised form will be reviewed and voted upon by the Jefferson County Planning and Coordinating Council during its October meeting.

VIII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.