

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, May 18, 2006**

**Members Present:** Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Judge Donald E. Armstrong, Jr.; John Aubrey; Tom Campbell; William DeNardi; Judge Stephen George; Leo Smith (Designee for Dan Goyette); Richard Lewis; Marjean Martin; Judge Ann O'Malley Shake (Designee for Judge Steve Mershon); Harry Rothgerber (Designee for Dave Stengel), Major Dave Wood (Designee for Chief White), Tracy Reinhold; Elisa Freeman-Carr, Carla Kirby (Designee for Clarence Williams) and Walker "Crit" Cunningham (Designee for Irv Maze).

**Excused Members:** Dave Stengel; Joni Jenkins; and Patricia Combs.

**Guests Present:** Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Julie Hayes (District Court Administrator); Peggy Kidwell (Criminologist); Allison Kern (Jefferson County Drug Court), Harriette Friedlander (ElderServe Inc.); and Sandy Hamilton (ElderServe Inc.).

**Staff Present:** David Nicholson; Stephanie Stidham; and Faith Hartlage.

**I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

Judge Montano, Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance and asked for introductions. As new members of the Board, Walker "Crit" Cunningham, representing the County Attorney's Office, Elisa Freeman-Carr, citizen appointee, and Tracy Reinhold, new Special Agent in Charge of the FBI were presented with Criminal Justice Commission lapel pins. Judge Montano welcomed all to the Board and noted that Ms. Freeman-Carr had presented to the Commission at the February meeting on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association.

**II. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Judge Montano referenced a press release in the agenda packets announcing that "Louisville was the first in the Nation to Demonstrate Emergency Communication Capabilities to Federal Officials". Federal officials reviewed communication activities during "Thunder over Louisville". This "first" was the result of Commission staff and others working with our federal and state homeland security partners to address first responder interoperability. The second item noted by Judge Montano was an article "Keeping Seniors Safe from Telemarketing Fraud" – especially timely given the day's meeting presentation from ElderServe. Judge Montano called on Stephanie Stidham for an announcement. Ms. Stidham stated that on behalf of Jennifer Leibson, Chair of the Louisville Metro Elder Abuse Services Coordinating Committee, who could not attend today's meeting; members were invited to attend an elder abuse, neglect and exploitation awareness event to be held on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Americana Community Center. The event, sponsored in recognition of May as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Kentucky, will focus on whether awareness of these issues is reaching all areas of our culturally diverse community.

Judge Montano recognized David Nicholson for his primary election success for the Office of Circuit Court Clerk. Judge Montano noted that during the primary campaign many unfounded and misleading remarks were made concerning the Commission and she hoped that the public recognized that the Commission was not derelict in any responsibilities. She stated that she did respond on occasion in an attempt to correct the misinformation being provided to the public.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 16, 2006 MEETING**

The meeting summary of the March 16, 2006 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

### **IV. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Harriette Friedlander and Sandy Hamilton, ElderServe, Inc.** – provided a brief overview of the organization’s history and services provided. Commission members were reminded that our community is aging and the focus of ElderServe is to provide services to keep individuals in their homes and communities. ElderServe provides services to approximately 8,000 seniors within Jefferson County. Sandy Hamilton gave an overview of the organization’s Crime Victim’s Program funded through Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funds. Services provided include court services, referrals, etc. Last year 847 elderly victims were given assistance. ElderServe’s Emergency Crisis Response program allows for emergency home care or safe place assistance to elderly victims within one hour of a call (primarily from the police or Adult Protective Services (APS)). A new emergency protective order (EPO) program (a team approach comprised of Sheriff Deputy, clerk, APS, ElderServe, and a Judge) allow medically fragile homebound clients to obtain a protective order within their homes. ElderServe’s innovative programs allow elderly victims to receive specialized vital services. ElderServe also offers a TeleCare service which calls approximately 400 seniors a day to see if they are in need of assistance. David Nicholson stated that he recently toured ElderServe and obtained a first hand view of its programs and services. David encouraged others to contact ElderServe and do the same.

**B. Allison Kern, Jefferson County Attorney’s Office Drug Court Program** – provided an update of the local Drug Court program. Ms. Kern stated that the program began in 1993 and is one of the original ten Drug Courts in the country. The program has approximately 120 clients at any given time and there is a waiting list to participate. There have been many success stories resulting from the Drug Court program and a graduation is scheduled for next week. She encouraged those who had not attended a graduation to do so. In addition to the Drug Court, there is also a Family Drug Court Program and a Juvenile Re-entry Court. She noted the federal grant for the Family Drug Court Program is ending soon. Ms. Kern reported that discussions are continuing with Administrative Office of the Courts to obtain more assistance for the program. The Jefferson County Drug Court is the only non-AOC funded program in the state. Members discussed possible funding opportunities to support the program, including a statute that authorizes fees. Clients within the program currently pay \$10 a week to assist in program costs.

### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Legislative Committee – Stephanie Stidham** reported that the Criminal Justice Commission tracked a total of 136 House Bills (HB) and 51 Senate Bills (SB) related to criminal justice and public protection. Of these, 18 House Bills and 8 Senate Bills were signed by the Governor. The most notable of these signed bills was HB 3 – the comprehensive sex offender bill. Judge George noted that one bill signed into law would make confidential any divorce proceeding with a child’s social security number, name and birthdate. The Judge stated that they are working out how the sealing of these records can be accomplished. David Nicholson invited any interested Commission members to participate in the Legislative Committee. He noted the Commission’s Legislative Committee will meet over the next few months to prepare for next year’s session. Mr. Nicholson reported that Representative Gross Lindsay, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, was defeated in the recent elections. As in the past, whoever is

appointed as Chair of this Committee will have a great deal of influence over pending criminal justice bills.

**B. Jail Policy Committee – Tom Campbell** reported the jail's population is holding in the mid-to-low 1800s. The Misdemeanant Intensive Probation (MIP), Home Incarceration Program (HIP), Pretrial Programs, and reducing state inmates held in jail have all assisted in keeping the jail population manageable. The Jail Policy Committee has not met recently but will reconvene in the near future. Metro Corrections developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an evaluation/assessment of the jail population including forecasting of future populations. The responses to this proposal are being reviewed by members of the Jail Policy Committee. Judge Armstrong took the opportunity to thank members of the team that participated in the extra courts for Derby. This effort greatly assisted the local criminal justice system. Marjean Martin, Pretrial Services, stated that the conditional release program is continuing to work well and the program oversees approximately 100 participants who have been released from jail. Participants are given conditions of release, such as home incarceration, drug testing, counseling, etc., and are monitored until the case is adjudicated.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

David Nicholson reported staff has been busy working on various grant applications. Stephanie Stidham was invited to participate in the Federal Homeland Security grant review in early April and Bruce McMichael is currently serving on a State Homeland Security grant review panel in Frankfort. Mr. Nicholson reported that federal funding for criminal justice projects is becoming scarcer and competition for the limited available funds is substantial. Even finding match funding to apply for grant opportunities is creating a challenge for many governmental and non-governmental entities.

## **VII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.