

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, October 18, 2007**

**Members Present:** Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Dave Stengel; Sheriff John Aubrey; Tom Campbell; Patricia Combs; Richard O'Malley (designee for Walker Cunningham III); William DeNardi; Rev. Charles Duncan; Judge Audra Eckerle; Judge Stephen George; Dan Goyette; Roger Henderson; Bishop Walter Jones; Richard Lewis; David Nicholson; Carla Kreitman (designee for Tim Vize); Lt. Col. Tim Emington (Designee for Chief White); and Louis Willis.

**Excused Members:** Justice Denise Clayton; Sheriall Cunningham; and Richard Badaracco.

**Guests Present:** Carolyn Gatz (Greater Louisville Project); Allison Kern (Jefferson County Attorney's Office); Tina Messer (Jefferson County Drug Court); Marty Meyer (Congressman Yarmuth's Office); and Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools).

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

**I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of Judge Montano, Mr. Dave Stengel, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance, introduced guests, and called for introductions.

**II. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2007 MEETING**

The meeting summary of the September 20, 2007 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

**III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Stengel presented Mr. Louis Willis with a Criminal Justice Commission Certificate of Appreciation, thanking him for six years of service as a citizen representative on the Commission Board. He also presented new citizen representative, Bishop Walter A. Jones, with a Criminal Justice Commission lapel pin.

Mr. Stengel reported that commission staff will be reviving the annual tradition of hosting a holiday reception. The reception will be held on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Office.

#### IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

**Carolyn Gatz, Director, Greater Louisville Project** – provided an overview of the Greater Louisville Project – *“Advancing a Competitive City”*.

The Greater Louisville Project (GLP) is a civic initiative started just after merger. Its purpose is to create a civic agenda for long term improvement of Louisville Metro. The purpose of the second edition of the Competitive Cities Report (2007) is to project where Louisville will be ranked among peer cities in 2010 and to determine how to become one of the top 5 cities.

The Project identified the following three primary areas for future improvement called “Deep Drivers of Change.”

1. **Become more educated at all levels** - The goal is to have all students performing at or above grade level, increasing the number of high school diplomas, associate degrees and technical certificates and to double the projected growth (to 10%) for bachelors degrees. Ms. Gatz reported that Louisville is making good progress in this category.
2. **Grow 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs (more high-skilled, high wage jobs)** - The goal is to create at least 140,000 new professional and technical jobs and increase median family income. The progress toward this goal is steady.
3. **Strengthen Metro Core** - The goal is to maintain Louisville as a strong regional hub. This involves creating balanced growth in the region (MSA) while strengthening the Metro core through stronger neighborhoods, increased homeownership and median assessed values and protecting a healthy balance of jobs and population.

Of particular interest, Ms. Gatz called attention to a peer city comparison on crime rate per 1,000 population included in the report. Louisville has a favorable ranking near the bottom of the list. Kim Allen noted that the data included in the 2007 report provides valuable information for planning councils like the Criminal Justice Commission. As an example, she reported that the indicators for “disadvantaged neighborhoods” closely tracked data compiled by the Justice Reinvestment Project.

For additional information or access to GLP data, visit their website at:  
[www.greaterlouisvilleproject.org](http://www.greaterlouisvilleproject.org)

#### V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**A. Drug Court Transition Process, Allison Kern, Court Services Director, Jefferson County Attorney’s Office** - reported that last Monday all of the Drug Court operations have moved to the Market Street location. She introduced Ms. Tina Messer, Regional Supervisor, Administrative Office of the Courts, for Drug Court. Ms. Messer reported that the court is fully staffed (7 employees) and that the transition has been smooth. She encouraged members to contact her if they have questions or need any additional information.

**B. Justice Reinvestment Newburg Pilot Project, Faith Augustine, Criminal Justice Commission Staff** – reported that Mayor Abramson hosted a press conference on October 12 which officially announced the Justice Reinvestment Newburg Pilot Project. Over the next 12 months, the offender reentry project plans to assist 25 individuals released from either jail or prison who are returning home to the Newburg community. A project pamphlet was included in the agenda packet. Project Coordinator, Steve Smith, meets with the Project Team every other week to monitor program implementation progress. The first participant has been identified, but is not eligible for parole until December.

**C. Pretrial Release Process, David Stengel, Commonwealth’s Attorney** – reported that he has been in contact with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) regarding the automated pretrial release process and that corrections to the process have been put into place. A process has been created to allow input by prosecutors. Jason Nemes, AOC Director, was unable to attend today’s meeting but will try to attend the November Board meeting.

**D. Guilty Plea Form, Chief Judge Audra Eckerle, District Court** - distributed copies of a draft of the Guilty Plea Form. She reported that the form is more logical in its flow and has been revised to ensure more knowledgeable guilty pleas. District Court is prepared to begin use as soon as a few minor changes are complete.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**Warrant Process Committee** – Mr. Richard O’Malley, Jefferson County Attorney’s Office, reported that there are recurring issues with the current warrant system that need to be addressed as well as potential new ones with testing of the E-Warrant program set to begin in Jefferson County. He recommended that the Commission reconvene the Warrant Process Committee and Ms. Allen agreed. Commission staff will contact members to reactivate the committee at the earliest opportunity.

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

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.