

# COMMISSION ON RACIAL & ETHNIC DISPARITY IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

## MINUTES

### July 9, 2012 Meeting

*Commissioners and staff present: Justice Lubbie Harper, Jr. (Chair), Deborah Fuller (Judicial), Andrew Clark (Contractor – IMRP), Aileen Keays (Contractor – IMRP), Paul Fitzgerald (Municipal Police Chiefs), Glenn Cassis (AAAC), Werner Oyanadel (LPRAC), Maureen Price-Boreland (Speaker of the House appointee), Brian Austin (OCSA), Hakima Bey-Coon (OVA), Sarah White (Contractor – IMRP).*

- I. Welcome
  - a. Meeting commenced at 2:08pm
  
- II. Working Group and Subcommittee Updates
  - a. Education, Training and Cultural Competence Working Group
    - i. No update
  - b. Media Working Group
    - i. Within the next 2 weeks will have electronic survey dispensed to CT police chiefs. Chief Fitzgerald offered to ask Chief Daley about assisting in the distribution of the survey to chiefs.
  - c. Pre-Arrest, Prevention, Diversionary and Community-based Programs Working Group
    - i. No update
  - d. Legislative Subcommittee
    - i. Brian Austin provided an update
    - ii. Commission will make the group an ad hoc entity that will meet prior to legislative sessions and as-needed
    - iii. For Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, Commissioners were asked to bring ideas for potential legislation
  
- III. Updates on other Commissions, Committees and Task Forces
  - a. Access to Justice (A2J) Commission
    - i. After its first year of work, the A2J Commission has made recommendations to increase consumers' access to equal justice. Aileen Keays provided a brief review of those recommendations and offered to send the full document to interested members.
  - b. Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee – CSSD Update on Juvenile Justice
    - i. Deb Fuller reviewed CSSD's PowerPoint "Review of Judicial Branch Activities in "Raise the Age"", June 28, 2012
      1. Overall juvenile caseload has actually gone down. A lot of that is due to FWSN

- ii. Something that was very unique about the Raise the Age initiative was how collaborative, inclusive and successful it was.

#### Discussion

Commissioner asked about Restore Project targeting gun and gang violence in Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven.

- Deb will ask CSSD for more information on the initiative

#### c. Racial Profiling Project

- i. Andrew Clark provided an update. “An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information”, S.B. 364, passed in regular session. In special session, some additional language that the Racial Profiling Advisory Board recommended passed. This included language instructing police depts. to continue collecting data as they have been, but to send the information to OPM as opposed to AAAC.
- ii. At Under Secretary Lawlor’s direction, the project applied for a federal grant for approx. \$2 million to be used on equipment, training and staff. Money will be used to recommend model policies and training, as well as to hopefully conduct trainings.
- iii. The Advisory Board has created four working groups that meet more regularly to pursue specific areas of focus.
- iv. Full Advisory Board, chaired by Bill Dyson and John DeCarlo, has its next full meeting on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. Most of the work will be done in committee until the 6<sup>th</sup>. Advisory Board will present work-to-date and plan for moving forward to Judiciary Committee in January.
- v. If want more information, OPM has a [website](#) on the project, as does [IMRP](#)

#### IV. Legislative Update from Special Session

- a. Deb Fuller provided update. All of Judicial Branch’s juvenile bills were included in the special session including juvenile competency. One thing this bill stipulates is that if a child is under 7-years old they will not be prosecuted. Some other juvenile bills address guardianship and juvenile transfer procedures.
- b. Judicial Branch’s budget provided new money for youth violence prevention efforts to be initiated in cities. \$250,000 for each Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven for half a year. Local governments are supposed to provide matching funds for 25%.

#### V. Event with Marc Mauer

- a. Establishing an event planning committee to assist in the designing of the event
- b. Will host its first meeting immediately following this full Commission meeting. Commissioners were invited to stay to participate in that subgroup meeting.

#### VI. Other Business

- a. Werner Oyanadel had three items he wanted to address with the Commission:

- i. CT just created an [Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission](#). Executive Director is Mui Mui Hin-McCormick. Werner will ask if she would like to attend the next Commission meeting.
- ii. Judicial Selection Commission recommends judges for appointment by the Governor. Does not see anyone on Judicial Selection Commission who is Latino. Believes that is something that the REDCJS should be aware of.
- iii. A lot of Latino immigrants are concerned with the federal initiative [Secure Communities](#). They are afraid of coming forward to report crime because, if they are undocumented, they are worried they will be deported.

Discussion

Commission will conduct a brainstorming session during its September meeting to reset the Commission's agenda and reevaluate the focus of its subgroups.

VII. Adjourned at 2:45pm