

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2016 Meeting

2:00 – 3:30

Community Court Conference Room, 80 Washington St., Hartford, CT

Commission members present: Justice Lubbie Harper, Jr. (Chairperson), Kimberly Weir (DOC), Hakima Bey-Coon (OVA), Glenn Cassis (AAAC), Preston Tisdale (Governor appointee), Patrick Ridenhour (CPCA).

Others present: Deborah Fuller (Judicial CSSD), Troy Brown (Judicial CSSD), Esther Harris (Judicial).

- I. Welcome**
 - a. Meeting was called to order at approximately 2:10pm
- II. Review and approve minutes from March 14th meeting**
 - a. Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote
- III. Updates on other commissions, committees and task forces**
 - a. [Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee](#) – Judicial
 - a. No update was provided
 - b. [Racial Profiling Prohibition Project](#) – Judicial
 - a. The Project has just released its latest report. The report may be found here <http://www.ctrp3.org/>.
 - c. [CT Sentencing Commission](#) – Judicial
 - a. The Commission continues to work on its Legislative and Gubernatorial mandated projects.
- IV. Updates on implicit bias campaign**
 - a. *Jury instruction*
 - i. Proposed pilot project seeks to study jury instruction and its efficacy; the Commission intends to hold off on pursuing additional language until results of demonstration project are secured.
 - b. *Judges Institute*
 - i. No update at this time
 - c. *Pilot project*
 - i. Phone meeting with Dr. Rachel Godsil and Jessica MacFarlane from the Perceptions Institute. They will propose a study design that the Commission can then present to CT Judicial Branch for consideration.
 - ii. Attendees discussed ideas for the pilot study

Commission on Racial & Ethnic Disparity in the Criminal Justice System

Connecticut Judicial Branch

V. MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge award

- a. As part of the CT MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge award, this Commission has been granted funds for “Implicit Bias Training: Expand the CT Commission of Racial and Ethnic Disparity Implicit Bias training for police, prosecutors, public defenders, community providers and key decision makers in the cities of Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven.”
- b. Attendees discussed ideas for the trainings

VI. Legislative update

- a. Commission membership was discussed. Under [Senate Bill 502](#), the African American Affairs Commission, the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, and the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission were eliminated and replaced with the newly created Commission on Equity and Opportunity. These changes impact membership of this Commission as each of those three entities held seats on this Commission.

VII. Biennial report

- a. The report continues to be worked on

VIII. Other business

- a. None

IX. Meeting adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:48pm

