

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016 Meeting

2:00 – 3:30

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

Commission members present: Justice Lubbie Harper, Jr. (Chairperson), William Rivera (DCF), Brian Austin (OCSA/DCJ), David McGuire (Majority Leader of the Senate appointee), David Rosado (DESPP), Kimberly Weir (DOC), Hakima Bey-Coon (OVA), Carleton Giles (BOPP), Ronnell Higgins (President Pro Temp of Senate appointee), Preston Tisdale (Governor appointee).

Others present: Deb Fuller (Judicial CSSD), Esther Harris (Judicial), Aileen Keays Yeager (Contractor – IMRP), Troy Brown (Judicial CSSD).

- I. Welcome**
 - a. Meeting commenced at approximately 2:05 PM
- II. Review and approve minutes from May 16th meeting**
 - a. Deb made motion to approve, Hakima seconded it, and minutes were approved by unanimous voice-vote.
- III. Updates on other commissions, committees and task forces**
 - a. [Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee](#) – Judicial
 - a. No update; CJPAC did not meet in July or August.
 - b. [Racial Profiling Prohibition Project](#) (RP3) – IMRP
 - a. RP3 is conducting more in-depth follow-up analysis on the depts identified in the May 2016 report. Follow-up analysis includes mapping all traffic stops and looking to better understand the different factors contributing to racial & ethnic disparities at the department level. It will include an officer level analysis to better understand if any individual officers are driving the department level disparity. RP3 anticipates reporting its finding late Nov./early Dec. Departments that were identified for a follow-up analysis were: Bloomfield, Newington, Norwalk, New Milford, Meriden, Trumbull, West Hartford, Windsor & Wethersfield.
 - b. Also just released first-ever Taser use report. Has received a lot of national attention due to its first-ever method of analysis.

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- c. [CT Sentencing Commission](#) – IMRP
 - a. [Evaluation of Pretrial Release and Detention](#) – The Commission is working with the National Institute of Corrections on a comprehensive evaluation of CT’s pretrial release and detention practices. Their report is due before the next legislative session.
 - b. [Evaluation of Diversionary Programs](#) – The Commission is in the early planning phases of an evaluation on CT’s extensive pretrial diversionary programs. This report is also due before next session.
 - c. [Certificates of Employability \(COE\)](#) – The Commission is working on the 2nd report of its evaluation of the COE program instituted by PA 14-27.
 - d. [Risk and Needs Assessment](#) – The Commission has decided to work with a research team at the University of Maryland to conduct a study regarding the use of risk and needs assessment during sentencing. The Commission is finalizing an MOU.
 - e. [Sex Offenders Registration, Sentencing, and Management study](#) – This evaluation is underway. Recommendations from the study are due December of 2017.
 - f. [Criminal History Record Erasure](#) – The Commission has a draft criminal history record erasure report under review.

IV. Updates on implicit bias campaign

- a. *Pilot project*
 - i. Our next task is to find out whether we can have prospective jurors as study participants
 - ii. Rachel Godsil is reaching out to leading researchers on jury studies to put together a team
 - iii. Received Seattle’s Juror Orientation video script, the model, introduction to instructions, closing instruction, and before jury instruction
 - iv. CT Judicial just created a new juror video, available on Judicial’s website.

V. MacArthur 2016 Safety and Justice Challenge award

- a. As part of the State of Connecticut MacArthur 2016 Safety and Justice Challenge award, the Commission has been awarded \$294,000 to provide implicit bias training in Hartford and New Haven for criminal justice professionals and others. The Commission has created a working group of Commission members and others to assist with planning and implementation of the trainings.
- b. Chief Higgins offered to host one of the larger trainings either at Yale or the former Bayer facility in West Haven.

VI. Biennial report

- a. The report continues to be in-development. It will be read for submission by its deadline of January 2017.

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VII. Other business

- a. [Public Act 16-3](#) established the Commission on Equity and Opportunity and combined the African-American Affairs Commission, Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, and the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission. This resulted in a change of representation from those prior groups on this Commission. The new Commission on Equity and Opportunity shall have three representatives on this Commission – one is the new Executive Director, Subira Gordon, and the remaining two shall be appointed by her.
- b. Aileen & Deb will meet with William Rivera to further introduce the work of the Commission and to discuss the role he might play as representative of DCF.
- c. Brian Austin hosted a half-day introduction to the Fair and Impartial Policing training for Connecticut State’s Attorneys.

VIII. Meeting adjournment

- a. Meeting concluded at approximately 3:15 PM

