

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2015 Meeting

2:00 – 3:30

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

Commissioners present: Justice Lubbie Harper, Jr. (Chairperson), Alok Batt (APAAC), David Rosado (DESPP), Kimberly Weir (DOC), Hakima Bey-Coon (OVA), David McGuire (Majority Leader of the Senate appointee), Glenn Cassis (AAAC), Preston Tisdale (Governor appointee), Ernest Green (OCPD), Patrick Ridenhour (CPCA), Brian Austin (DCJ/OCSA), Tracey Gove (Minority Leader of the House appointee).

Others present: Deborah Fuller (Judicial CSSD), Troy Brown (Judicial CSSD), Subira Gordon (AAAC), Andrew Clark (Contractor – IMRP), Aileen Keays (Contractor – IMRP).

I. Welcome and introductions for new members

- a. Meeting commenced at 2:17pm

II. Review and approve minutes from July 13th meeting

- a. Correction: on p. 3 section V, subsection d.3. Kids now protected from school expulsion are those in grades below the 3rd; age of the child does not matter.
- b. Pending the above-mentioned change, minutes were unanimously approved by voice-vote.

III. Membership update

- a. The Commission has three new appointed members:
 - i. David Rosado, Commanding Officer of the Bureau of Criminal Investigations, designee of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection;
 - ii. Alok Bhatt, Legislative Analyst, designee of the Chairperson of the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission; and
 - iii. David McGuire, Legislative and Policy Director at the ACLU, appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

IV. Updates on other commissions, committees and task forces

- a. [Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee](#) (CJPAC) – Judicial
 - a. Ivan Kuzyk recently presented on a study he performed of special parole and its remand rate, which has been increasing. Mr. Kuzyk also discussed remand procedures using case studies to demonstrate his opinion that those persons may have been inappropriately placed on special parole for

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minor incidents and then were subsequently remanded for minor infractions.

- b. Also during a recent CJPAC meeting, the federal Second Chance Act [grants](#) that were recently awarded to the State for its crime reduction efforts were summarized.
- b. [Racial Profiling Prohibition Project](#) (RP3) – IMRP
 - a. *Data Analysis*
 - i. RP3 is in the process of completing its follow-up analysis on the 11 police departments identified in its April 2015 report as demonstrating significantly disparate treatment of racial and ethnic minorities in traffic stops. RP3 has conducted an officer level analysis and mapped departments' data to try to determine the source of disparities in each department. RP3 is in the process of meeting with all 11 departments to discuss its current findings and request additional information (i.e., accident records, crime statistics, and calls for service.). RP3 plans to produce a deeper level analysis of these 11 departments in early January. They will release additional analysis of all 106 police departments' year 2 data in March 2016. The departments that RP3 has met with so far have been really interested in the data and RP3 understands that data doesn't present the whole story so it's helpful for RP3 to meet with departments to understand the context, impact and local considerations when interpreting data. Program is demonstrating the value of data in understanding systems.
 - b. *Fair and Impartial Policing (FIP) Training*
 - i. Since April 2015, RP3 has trained close to 1,000 officers in FIP. The Department of Justice will conduct a Train the Trainer program at CCSU during the last week of January to train additional facilitators for the FIP program. There are 25 total slots available and members from the Commission that are interested should contact [Ken Barone](#). It is specific to law enforcement but there are some things that would transcend into other like fields.
 - c. *CA Racial Profiling Bill*
 - i. CT has been receiving recognition for the processes it implemented for collecting and analyzing traffic stop data to measure, in-part, racial profiling. Reps from CT's RP3 were asked to present before CA's General Assembly on behalf of a bill there similar to CT's. The bill was ultimately approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor.
- c. [CT Sentencing Commission](#) (CSC) – IMRP

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a. *New Executive Director*

- i. Alex Tsarkov, former Clerk of the Judiciary Committee at the CGA and aide to Senator Gerald Fox, will start as Executive Director this Friday. More recently, Mr. Tsarkov worked at CSSD.

b. *Study of Bail Reform and Diversionary Programs*

- i. During the Nov. 5th UConn Law conference, Governor Malloy requested CSC look into two issues and report back findings in January 2016:
 1. CT's current bail bond system and the possibility for its reform, and
 2. CT's numerous diversionary programs, their efficacy and cost-effectiveness. CSC is beginning to plan for this work.

c. *Victim Notification*

- i. During the 2015 session, the CGA passed Special Act 15-2, An Act Concerning A Study of the Sexual Offender Registration System. The Act requires the CSC to take a comprehensive look at the registration, management and sentencing of sexual offenders in CT. The CSC is required to submit reports to the CGA on February 1, 2016 and December 15, 2017. Proposal is near complete.

d. *Certificates of Employability (COE)*

- i. The COE process that passed in Public Act 14-27 was intended to provide relief from barriers to employment and thereby potentially reduce the rate of recidivism among offenders issued COE. Beginning on October 1, 2014, BPP and CSSD are authorized to award COE to eligible offenders. Starting January 1, 2016, the CSC must post online BPP and CSSD data on the COE process.
- ii. The CSC is also responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of the COE in reducing the barriers to employment faced by offenders. The longitudinal evaluation process begins on October 1, 2015 -- one year after the new law took effect on October 1, 2014 -- and ends on January 15, 2018. CSC is required to submit reports to the CGA on January 15 of 2016, 2017, and 2018.
- iii. CSC's [website](#) has been moved to state website.

e. *Sex Offender Study in progress Strategic Planning in progress*

- i. Formed the Special Committee on Sex Offenders
- ii. During the 2015 session, the CGA passed Special Act 15-2, An Act Concerning A Study of the Sexual Offender Registration System. The Act requires the CSC to take a comprehensive look at the registration, management and sentencing of sexual offenders in

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V. Public awareness initiative with OVA

- a. During an OVA presentation at a REDCJS meeting several months ago, OVA discussed its desire to increase community awareness of crime victim's rights and availability of OVA as a resource, but having a lack of funds to support public awareness efforts. Afterward, IMRP was able to partner OVA with faculty at CCSU and New Britain-based non-profit ParaDYM to create media that intends to increase awareness of victim's rights and showcase OVA. Filming has concluded and video editing is near complete.

VI. Updates on implicit bias campaign

a. *Implicit bias conference*

The conference went well; Troy Brown and others continued to receive positive feedback from attendees in the weeks following. Attendee surveys demonstrated high satisfaction with the conference. Survey results also showed participants' increased awareness of implicit bias by attending the workshop and an increased awareness that implicit bias impacts the community. At least two people have called Troy to request trainings at their locations.

- i. Glenn Cassis was at an Affirmative Action conference three weeks after at-which a presenter borrowed an exercise from the Commission's workshop and cited that it came from there.
- ii. Aileen will forward members Rachel Godsil's presentation from the conference.

b. *Working group update*

- i. Justice Harper is going to speak with Chief Justice Chase Rogers to request that Rachel Godsil make a presentation to all judges during the annual Judges Institute in June. Aileen will send a letter to Chief Justice Rogers with an update on the conference, including some stats from attendee surveys, and indicate Justice Harper's interest in replicating the training at the Judges Institute in June.
- ii. Justice Harper spoke with Rachel Godsil after the conference about performing a pilot program with jurors to create data that could inform policymakers on the impact of implicit biases in juror decision-making. Aileen and Rachel have been playing phone tag in an attempt to follow-up on the idea; Aileen will continue efforts to connect.

VII. 2016 Meeting Schedule

- a. As requested by the REDCJS during the last meeting, Ken Barone of RP3 will present the project's work at the next meeting.

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- b. Commission members considered moving the meetings to a more central location, New Britain was specifically mentioned, in consideration of the members that travel from far away to attend.

VIII. Other business

- a. AAAC hosted its 4th community dialogue on policing in Waterbury last Thursday. Want to piggyback off of the police misconduct training and then begin the dialogues circuit again.

IX. Meeting adjournment

- a. Meeting concluded at approximately 3:15pm

