Jefferson Area

# **Community Criminal Justice Board**

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Albemarle ● Charlottesville ● Fluvanna ● Goochland ● Greene ● Louisa ● Madison ● Nelson ● Orange

Minutes

Quarterly CCJB Meeting

April 13, 2022

6:00 pm

(Via Zoom)

Members Present: Hon. Richard Moore, Hosea Mitchell, Tommy Barlow, Amanda Galloway, Avnel Coates, Amy Morris, Clarissa Berry, David Wells, Ted Voorhees, James Jewett, Jim Hall, Marney Bentley, Sena Magill, Susan Morrow, Ross Carew, Martin Kumer, William Logan

Members Absent: Hon. Dale Durrer, Marie Durrer, Tripp Martin, Nic Reppucci, Jesse Rutherford

Guests Present: Hon. Jay Swett, Members of the 2021-2020 UVa Systems Engineering Capstone Team (Nora Dale, Lee Corbin, Katherine Korngiebel, Paige Krablin, Emma Wilt, Atmika Deshpande) and academic advisors (Dr. Michael Smith and Dr. Preston White).

Staff Present: Neal Goodloe, Criminal Justice Planner

**Introduction of New CCJB Members:**

* **Amanda Galloway**, Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney, Fluvanna County
* **Major David Wells,** Chief Deputy,Fluvanna County Sheriff’s Office
* **Lieutenant E. “Tripp” Martin,** Albemarle Police Department, Albemarle County Representative
* **William Logan,** Citizen Representative, Orange County
* **James Jewett,** Supervisor, Madison County Government Representative

**Presentation by the 2021-22 UVa Systems Engineering Capstone Team**

Over the past decade, the University of Virginia Department of Systems Engineering has partnered with the CCJB to conduct research on its behalf. Over the past five years, that research has focused on the preponderance of serious mental illness in the inmate populations at the Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail and the Central Virginia Regional Jail. Under a protocol established by UVa’s Institutional Review Board, the Capstone research team was able to obtain and analyze personally protected information from ACRJ, CVRJ, OAR and Region Ten Community Services, to advance our understanding of this sizeable and challenging population.

Among this year’s Key research findings were the following:

* **The return-to-custody rate of the general inmate population is the same at both ACRJ and CVRJ.**
* **Over the years, more inmates at both jails are meeting the screening criteria for serious mental illness, primarily because of increases in “yes” responses to Question #7 on the Brief Jail Mental Health Screener (“Are you currently taking any medication prescribed for you by a physician for an emotional or mental health problem?”).**
* **Over 36% of inmates screened (by a health professional) at ACRJ met the BJMHI screening criteria for serious mental illness, while only 17% of inmates at CVRJ did (CVRJ administers the screener at booking by an intake officer).**
* **Every CVRJ inmate is screened as part of the booking process (no matter how long they stay), while ACRJ only screens inmates who have made it far enough into the intake process to be medically screened (roughly 68% of all inmates booked 24-48 hours into their stay).**
* **The percent of people screening in increases with the number of arrests for both jails.**
* **Females account for a larger portion of the screened-In group than expected at both jails, while Black inmates account for a smaller portion.**
* **Black female and White male proportions in the screened-in population were as expected. However, Black males accounted for a smaller portion than expected, and White females a larger one. This was true for both ACRJ and CVRJ.**
* **A large proportion of the individuals screening in have received or are receiving mental health treatment.**

**Election of New CCJB Chair and Vice Chair**

Having achieved a quorum under the CCJB bylaws, Ross Carew was placed in nominated and seconded to serve as CCJB Chair for fiscal year 2022-23. The vote in favor of the nomination was unanimous among CCJB members present.

Clarissa Berry was placed in nominated and seconded to serve as CCJB Vice Chair for fiscal year 2022-23. The vote in favor was unanimous among CCJB members present.

**2011-2021 ACRJ/CVRJ Comparative Study**

Neal Goodloe, the Criminal Justice Planner, presented findings of a comparative study of key jail utilization metrics for the two jails, including the COVID era. Those findings included:

* From 2011 through 2021, intake volume dropped 21% at ACRJ and 34% at CVRJ.
* The difference in the rate of decrease between the two jails was largely associated with an 80% drop in intakes of Federal inmates at CVRJ, where they represented a much larger percentage of intakes than at ACRJ.
* Once Federal inmates and inmates from non-member jurisdictions were excluded, there was no difference between the decrease in intake volume among member jurisdictions affiliated with the two jails (both down 23%).
* 2,480 inmates were taken into ACRJ from member jurisdictions during 2021, compared to 2,192 at CVRJ. These represented 53% and 47% of the combined intake volume of the two jails, respectively, and were fairly reflective of the differences in general population.
* ACRJ’s intake rate per 1000 residents of member jurisdictions was 23.7 in 2011, falling to 14.3 in 2021 (a decrease of 40%). At CVRJ, the intake rate per 1000 dropped from 24.2 to 16.2 (a decrease of 33%).
* The decrease in ACRJ intakes of Black inmates from 2011 to 2021 (down 24%) was roughly comparable to the decrease observed among White inmates (down 21%). At CVRJ, the decrease in intakes of Black inmates (down 46%) was more than twice that of White inmates (down 20%).
* Intakes of male inmates dropped more significantly than did intakes of female inmates at both jails from 2011 to 2021.
* Intakes of the youngest inmate group (age 18 to 24) fell sharply at both jails (down 62% at ACRJ and down 58% at CVRJ), a significant factor in the overall reduction in intake volume at both jails from 2011 to 2021.
* From 2011 to 2021, booking volume at ACRJ fell by 2%, a far less significant drop than the 19% decrease in booking volume at CVRJ. Nearly all of the decrease observed at both jails occurred during 2020 and 2021. A sharp decrease in bookings of Federal inmates at CVRJ was partially responsible for the difference.
* Over the decade, the number of bookings per intake increased 26% at ACRJ and 23% at CVRJ. At ACRJ, there were an average of 2.06 bookings per intake in 2021, compared to 1.87 at CVRJ.
* Decreases of 23% in misdemeanor booking volume at ACRJ were offset by a 27% increase in felony bookings from 2011 to 2021. At CVRJ, both misdemeanor and felony booking volume dropped, 23% and 12% respectively.
* During most of the decade, misdemeanor bookings outnumbered felony bookings by a considerable margin at ACRJ, while remaining roughly comparable at CVRJ. However, the gap at ACRJ began closing in 2019, and by 2021, there was no longer any appreciable difference in the ratio of misdemeanor to felony booking volume at either jail.
* From 2018 to 2021 (encompassing two pre-pandemic and two pandemic years), booking volume decreased to a similar extent at both jails, down 43% at ACRJ and down 41% at CVRJ.
* However, the quarterly data from those four years suggest that CVRJ’s “COVID dip” in the spring of 2020 was deeper than observed at ACRJ, followed by a more significant rebound.
* Significant drops in both felony and misdemeanor bookings were observed at both jails from 2018 to 2021.
* It is interesting to note that booking volume was already falling at both jails during the two years prior to the onset of the pandemic. COVID-19 served to amplify decreases that were already underway.
* From 2011 to 2021, the fastest-growing charge type at booking was, by far, in the category of weapons offenses at ACRJ (up 129%) and probation violations at CVRJ (up 204%).
* Smaller, but still significant, increases were observed at ACRJ in assaults, narcotics offenses, probation violations and contempt of court violations. Other that probation violations, only narcotics bookings increased in volume at CVRJ during the decade.
* Decreases were observed among all top ten charge categories at both jails between 2018 and 2021.
* The percent of all ACRJ bookings represented by probation violations increased 51%, from 6.09% in 2011 to 9.29% in 2021. Meanwhile, the percent of all CVRJ bookings represented by probation violations increased 312%, from 2.85% in 2011 to 12.79% in 2021.
* At the felony level, probation violation bookings increased 55% at ACRJ and 200% at CVRJ from 2011 to 2021, while rising 30% at ACRJ and 12% at CVRJ at the misdemeanor level.
* Probation violation bookings were suppressed at both jails during 2020 and 2021 compared to 2018-19.
* The average length of an ACRJ inmate’s jail stay exceeded that of CVRJ inmate’s stay in every year studied. In 2021, ALOS for ACRJ inmates was 53.3 days, 77% higher than the ALOS at CVRJ of 30 days.
* However, the average length stay for CVRJ inmates increased 35% from 2011 to 2021, nearly twice the rate of increase at ACRJ (up 18%).
* Significant increases in ALOS were observed at both jails during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021.
* Average length of stay dropped 9% among Black inmates at ACRJ from 2011 to 2021, while increasing 55% among White inmates. ALOS increased among both Black and White inmates at CVRJ, up 34% and 36% respectively.
* Black inmates served significantly longer average lengths of stay than did white inmates at ACRJ, although that difference narrowed from 25 days in 2011 to 10 days in 2021. At CVRJ, there was less difference in ALOS by race in every year studied, with Black inmates averaging stays that were 5 days longer than White inmates.
* Increases in average length of stay were steeper for female inmates (up 32% at ACRJ and up 45% at CVRJ) than for male inmates (up 16% at ACRJ and up 31% at CVRJ). Males served considerably longer average sentences than did females at ACRJ than at CVRJ.
* Age group trends in average length of stay differed between the two jails. At ACRJ, the greatest increases in ALOS occurred among the youngest age group (18-24) and the oldest (50+). At CVRJ, there were sizeable increases in ALOS among all age groups *except for* 18-24 year olds.
* Bed day expenditures are a product of intake volume, multiplied by length of stay, and can be useful in estimating the total cost per inmate bed day (currently $112.68/day at ACRJ and $99.69 at CVRJ).
* Decreases in ACRJ and CVRJ intake volume were partially offset by increases in length of stay, resulting in a modest decrease of 11% in overall bed day expenditures at ACRJ and 12% at CVRJ.
* At ACRJ, bed day expenditures among black inmates dropped 31%, compared to a 15% increase among White inmates. Bed day expenditures also dropped significantly among Black inmates at CVRJ (down 29%), while remaining essentially flat among White inmates.
* Male inmates expended 13% fewer bed days at ACRJ and 16% fewer at CVRJ, as opposed to 11% and 8% increases in bed day expenditures among female inmates at ACRJ and CVRJ, respectively.
* At both jails, the youngest age group (28 to 24 year-olds) expended far fewer bed days in 2021 than in 2012 (down 47% at ACRJ and 55% at CVRJ), representing the single greatest downward influence on bed day trends in the region. Meanwhile, inmates age 50 or older expended 53% more bed days at ACRJ and 16% more at CVRJ. These factors contributed to the aging of both jail populations.
* ACRJ member jurisdictions expended nearly twice the bed days per capita on its inmates than did CVRJ member jurisdictions.
* However, ACRJ member jurisdiction bed day expenditures dropped 27% from 2012 to 2021, compared to a 19% decrease among CVRJ jurisdictions.
* As was the case with intakes per capita, there was considerable variance in BDE/1000 among jurisdictions within each jail authority’s footprint. Charlottesville and Madison County had the greatest reductions in BDE per 1000 (comparing 2012 to 2021), while Nelson County was the only jurisdiction to experience an increase.
* The number of inmates spending 30 days or fewer in ACRJ and CVRJ custody decreased 26% and 38%, respectively, from 2012 to 2021, compared to smaller decreases among inmates staying 31 days or longer (down 1% at ACRJ and down 9% at CVRJ).
* Consequently, the percentage of inmates at ACRJ and CVRJ with lengths of stay exceeding 30 days increased 31% and 38% from 2012 to 2021. By 2021, 28% of ACRJ inmates were staying longer than 30 days, compared to 24% of CVRJ inmates.
* These longer-serving inmates accounted for 93% of all bed days expended at ACRJ and 86% of all BDE at CVRJ in 2021. That percentage has held remarkably stable at both jails over the decade.

Conclusions: Similarities between ACRJ and CVRJ

* + Significant drops in intake volume were observed at both jails from 2011 to 2021, especially among inmates age 18-24. In addition, both jails had significant decreases in the rate of intakes per 1000 residents of its member jurisdiction footprint.
	+ Drops in booking volume occurred among all top ten charge types at both jails during the pandemic.
	+ Both jails experienced a similar increase in their ratio of bookings to intakes.
	+ Probation violations as a percentage of all booking volume increased significantly at both jails (although CVRJ’s increase was far steeper than ACRJ’s, especially at the felony level).
	+ Significant increases in the average length of stay were observed at both jails, particularly during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021.
	+ Bed day expenditures dropped at both jails from 2012 to 2021, and at a similar rate. Much of the drop at both jails was associated with reductions in BDE among Black inmates, and inmates age 18-24. These reductions were partially offset by increases in BDE among female inmates and inmates age 50 or older at both jails.
	+ Bed day expenditures per 1000 residents of ACRJ and CVRJ member jurisdictions fell significantly, comparing 2012 to 2021.
	+ Approximately one in four inmates at both jails had lengths of stay of greater than 30 days.

Conclusions: Differences between ACRJ and CVRJ

* + CVRJ had nearly twice the rate of decrease in intakes of Black inmates, compared to ACRJ.
	+ There were significant increases in felony booking volume at ACRJ, while felony bookings decreased at CVRJ.
	+ CVRJ’s increase in probation violation bookings was more than six times greater than at ACRJ.
	+ CVRJ’s “COVID dip” in booking volume was deeper than that observed at ACRJ, but the subsequent rebound at CVRJ was stronger.
	+ The average length of an ACRJ inmate’s jail stay exceeded that of CVRJ inmate’s stay by a considerable margin in every year studied. However, CVRJ’s rate of increase in ALOS was nearly twice that of ACRJ from 2012 to 2021.
	+ ACRJ jurisdictions expended nearly twice the bed days per capita than did CVRJ jurisdictions, both in 2012 and 2021.
	+ The average daily population fell at ACRJ over the past five years, while rising at CVRJ. This is at least partially a result of a falling number of pretrial inmates at ACRJ, compared to an increase in pretrial inmates at CVRJ.

**Next Steps**

The CCJB strategic plan is in need of an update. The trends noted above will be the topic of discussion at the next meeting in the preparation of an action plan for the CCJB’s work in FY2023-2025.

The CCJBmeeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the CCJB will be held on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 (location TBD).