Jefferson Area

# **Community Criminal Justice Board**

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

Minutes

Quarterly CCJB Meeting

January 11, 2022

4:00 to 5:30 pm

Via Zoom

Members Present: Sena Magill, Hosea Mitchell, Brandy Bischoff, Ross Carew, Amanda Galloway, Clarissa Berry, Avnel Coates, Kaki Dimock, Marny Bentley

Staff Present: Neal Goodloe, Criminal Justice Planner

Susan Morrow, Assistant Director, OAR-JACC

A quorum of at least eight voting members was achieved.

Ratification of the new meeting policy, adopted at the November 9, 2022 CCJB meeting in compliance with Virginia’s revised open meeting laws

The membership ratified the new meeting policy adopted on November 9, 2022, which requires the CCJB to meet in person twice each year (in April and October), and allows for virtual meetings via Zoom in January and July. The change in meeting time (from 6-7:30 to 4-5:30) was also ratified. The vote to ratify the policy was unanimous.

Update on the Albemarle-Charlottesville EBDM Strategic Planning Process

The Albemarle-Charlottesville Evidence-Based Decision-Making Policy Team (EBDM) met with consultants from Rulo Strategies for a full-day strategic planning session on December 5th. Technical assistance was provided by the National Association of Counties. Emerging from this meeting were four primary goal areas for the next three to five years:

***Goal #1: Establish a system that makes employment options easily accessible and applicable for individuals returning to communities after incarceration and for those at risk for being incarcerated.***

***Goal #2: Identify and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities present in the criminal legal system.***

***Goal #3: Identify and improve opportunities to engage with individuals at risk for incarceration through law enforcement diversion programs.***

***Goal #4: Identify and improve opportunities to engage with individuals at risk for re-offending through the establishment of a High Risk/High Need (High Utilizers) Task Force.***

Workgroups have been established to create action steps to achieve these goals, with timelines for progress along the way. Workgroups will finalize their action plans by April, 2023.

Welcoming of Brandy Bischoff to the CCJB as the New Chief of District 9 Probation

Board members welcomed Brandy Bischoff, who was recently promoted into the position of Chief Probation Officer for District 9 Probation. District 9 provides felony probation supervision and prepares pre-sentencing reports for the Circuit Courts in Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fluvanna, Goochland and Louisa. Brandy brings 18 years of progressively-responsible experience to her new role, most recently as the Deputy Chief of the District 9 office.

Opioid Settlement Funds

Significant funds will be available to CCJB member jurisdictions through the opioid abatement settlement, which may allow for improvements in both crisis care and ongoing treatment services. The funds will be distributed over an 18-year period. The funding will be in at least the following total amounts (FY2022-FY2039), with settlement with one opioid distributor still being determined:

Albemarle: $1,512,188

Charlottesville: $809,290

Fluvanna: $339,937

Greene: $311,900

Louisa: $783,765

Madison: $285,617

Nelson: $257,581

Orange: $1,117,934

**CCJB Total: $5,418,212**

The CCJB members in attendance discussed how this funding might be employed regionally to address the substance abuse treatment needs of citizens. This may include initiatives such as crisis response centers that serve multiple jurisdictions.

OAR Funding Applications to CCJB Jurisdictions

Ross Carew reported that he has requested a 5% increase in CCJB member jurisdiction funding for local probation services, pretrial services, and the criminal justice planner’s position.

DCJS workload study

Ross reported that OAR, to meet recommended staffing levels, would need 22 officers (Pretrial and Probation) but is currently funded for 14.  Just received additional position from DCJS.  Local funding supports 4 of the 14 positions.  Currently DCJS is working with VACO/VML to develop statewide funding formula.

Legislative Initiatives

CCJB members in attendance voiced their concern about the following local issues that would benefit from legislative support:

* Marcus Alert ramifications for behavioral health bed space availability
* Transportation issues in the rural counties
* Poor compensation for appointed attorneys in criminal cases
* DOC inmates being released without DMV identification

Virginia Sentencing Commission Data on Probation Violations

Neal Goodloe presented a summary of his research into Virginia new Sentencing Revocation Reports, using data provided by the Virginia Sentencing Commission.

* This analysis uses data from the Virginia Sentencing Commission’s Sentencing Revocation Report (SRR) database for Fiscal Year 2022, the first year of enhanced probation guideline utilization.
* Caution should be used in interpreting this analysis, as first-year data quality issues have been identified.
* The data suggests that the vast majority of SRR’s submitted to the Sentencing Commission were in state probation cases. In these cases, the SRR submission rate was 22.5% of all state probationers under supervision in FY22.
* The most SRR’s were submitted in association with 1st technical probation violations (Conditions 2-11) along with new violations of the law.
* The most common technical violations recorded in SRR’s were Condition #6 (fail to follow instructions), Condition #8 (drug use) and Condition #11 (absconding).
* The most common violations of a special condition of the court were failure to pay restitution, failure to complete substance abuse treatment, failure to complete a court-ordered program, and violation of a sex offender condition.
* The youngest (age 18-24) and oldest (age 50+) state probationer groups had the lowest SRR rate overall.
* The likelihood of having a Condition 1 violation (new law violation) decreased with age, while the likelihood of having a Condition 8 violation (drug use) increased with age.
* Nearly two-thirds of probation violators were incarcerated prior to their revocation hearing.
* Less than 13% of all probation revocation events resulted in one year or more time to serve. More than one third of probation violation hearings resulted in no time to serve. The average time to serve was 180 days.
* Probationers sentenced to 30 days or less time to serve were more likely to be cited with technical violations (most commonly failure to follow instructions and drug use), while probationers sentenced to one year or more were more likely to be cited with a new violation of the law.
* Judges concurred with the recommended sentencing guideline range over 70% of the time.

An Announcement from the Planner

Neal Goodloe advised the CCJB that he plans to retire on or about June 1, 2023. Ross Carew, as the Chair of the CCJB, will be assembling a group of CCJB members to revise the job description, advertise the opening, interview applicants and make a selection for Neal’s replacement.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

The next meeting will be held (in person) on Wednesday, April 12th, from 4 to 5:30 pm.